

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION COMMITTEE (EDAC)**

Wednesday, November 6, 2019, 4 p.m.
Tenth Street Place
1010 10th Street, Basement Training Room (B300)
Modesto, CA 95354

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Supervisor Jim DeMartini (District 5/Seat 1); Toby Wells (Ceres/Seat 2); Harold “Bud” Hill (Hughson/Seat 3); Doug Ridenour (Modesto/Seat 4); Becky Arrellano (Turlock/Seat 7); Cherilyn Bairos (Oakdale/Seat 9); Joshua Naranjo (Patterson/Seat 10); Katrina Kidd (District 1/Seat 11); Cecil Russell (District 4/Seat 14); Harpreet Singh (Community/Seat 15); Rosalinda Vierra (Community/Seat 16); David White (Community/Seat 21)

Members Absent: Representatives of Newman (Seat 5), Riverbank (Seat 6), and Waterford (Seat 8); Jeff Rowe (District 2/Seat 12); Dillon Olvera (Community/Seat 18); Bob Hondeville (Community/Seat 20). Vacant: District 3/Seat 13; Community/Seat 17; and Community/Seat 19

Others Present: Tera Chumley (Secretary/Chief Executive Office); Maryn Pitt (Turlock alternate); Charlie Haase (City of Modesto); Wil Marshall (EDA Regional Representative)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Committee Vice-Chair, Jim DeMartini, in the absence of Chair, Jeff Rowe.

A quorum of members to conduct business was present (quorum equals 12).

Public Comment Period – No one from the public was in attendance.

I. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Committee Vice-Chair, Jim DeMartini, welcomed everyone to the meeting; those in attendance introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes of **June 4, 2019** Meeting

A quorum of members attending the June meeting was not established (Quorum = 9 | 15).

*Minutes may be voted on by those Members in attendance at the date of the Meeting
(Voting Members Present: Supervisor Jim DeMartini, Toby Wells, Harold “Bud” Hill,
Katrina Kidd, Cecil Russel, and Harpreet Singh.)*

III. Secretary Report:

- a. Secretary Transition

Secretary Chumley explained the transition and new assignments for the CEO Strong Communities Team. Kelly Covello will be taking over as the new Secretary of

STANISLAUS COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION COMMITTEE (EDAC) – MINUTES
November 6, 2019
Page 2

this Committee in 2020. Tera will be taking on a larger role with the cannabis program and will serve as the backup for the Committee.

b. Committee Vacancies

Secretary Chumley reported there are currently three vacancies on this Committee:

- District #3/Seat 13 (previously Jon Rodriguez – Agriculture)
- Community/Seat 17 (previously Jennifer Carter – Utilities)
- Community/Seat 19 (previously Lance Boullion – Private individual/business owner)

She mentioned the application is on the Clerk of the Board's website. If members have any suggestions, please refer them to Tera.

IV. Roundtable Discussion – Update on Economic Development Administration (EDA) Projects

- Opportunity Stanislaus/Dave White – OS worked with SCOE and MJC (through community college school system/support) to get \$1 million EDA grant to use as the local match to enhance the VOLT training center to add new training equipment mechatronics (PLC coding and automation; MIMS; full scale electrical program; robotics; and CBD plus). Graduates of the program begin earning approximately \$50,000/year. Dave shared his experience with the EDA application process and offered his expertise in assisting others interested in pursuing EDA grants. Other potential projects Opportunity Stanislaus is working on include:
 - City of Modesto/Stanislaus State/OS – Degree completion program – working on a space in downtown Modesto to meet need for the program. OS is helping with the application process.
 - City of Turlock – Sports and wellness center located near the freeway for high school to attract sports such as indoor basketball, soccer, etc.
- City of Modesto/Charlie Haase – Fiber project update – fiber already exists in the ground. Putting together an RFP – first goal is to determine assets (conduit) and develop partnership with another entity to help “connect the dots.” The EDA grant has been put on hold; the City has been unable to meet jobs requirement for this project to qualify for grant.
- City of Ceres/Toby Wells – Two capital related projects: Interchange project and a joint service water project with Turlock – creating jobs. The Walmart project at Service & Whitmore is on schedule.
- City of Turlock/Maryn Pitt – Two projects in CEDS: rail revitalization project, and infrastructure for water and sewer loop for Main and Washington – a source for the match has been identified.
- Stanislaus County/Supervisor DeMartini – Crows Landing project – County committed \$22 million; environmental impact report and engineering for storm drainage, roads, and infrastructure. Keith has discussed with Wil potential EDA grant for this project.

STANISLAUS COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION COMMITTEE (EDAC) – MINUTES
November 6, 2019
Page 3

V. Annual EDA Regional Update Visit:

- a. Overview of the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and Funding Opportunities Based on Stanislaus County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Document – Wil Marshall, EDA Regional Representative

Mr. Marshall shared a recent project from Stanislaus County to receive EDA funding was for Opportunity Stanislaus, VOLT Institute (Dave discussed under Roundtable). This is only the second EDA grant awarded in Stanislaus County in over 50 years. He reminded members projects seeking EDA funding should be discussed at this Committee.

b. Q & A

- Katrina mentioned the infrastructure/roads needs in the Beard Industrial Park area in Modesto and the area near the Riverbank ammo plant and potential impacts when new businesses are added in these industrial parks. Roadwork would be considered for EDA grant; project must take five years or less. Wil encouraged cities to be more proactive in seeking EDA funding for these types of projects.
- Maryn inquired about applying for an EDA planning grant for Turlock's rail revitalization project for commercial/industrial. The match would start at 50% up to 80% in an opportunity zone or if there was significant job loss over last 18 months (i.e. 500 jobs in your county) would increase the grant to 80%.
- Cecil asked about EDA grant eligibility for the recent closure of the Seneca plant that resulted in job loss. Gallo purchased the property to repurpose – would this qualify? Must be a public entity to be eligible for funding; however, the County could apply for infrastructure improvement or roads.

The CEDS document is updated annually – the current document expires June 30, 2020. Kickoff of the CEDS revision will begin at the next meeting on February 6th.

VI. Other Information

a. Upcoming Meetings:

- 2020 tentative meeting schedule:
 - Thursday, February 6
 - Thursday, May 7
 - Thursday, November 5

All meetings will be held at 4 p.m. in Suite 1013 (HR/Training Room located on the first floor between the elevators).

Point of clarification: Meeting appointments went out in error and will be corrected.

VII. Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.