

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

Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 4 p.m.
Tenth Street Place
1010 10th Street, Basement Training Room (B300)
Modesto, CA 95354

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Toby Wells (Ceres City Manager – Proxy for Steve Hallam); Harold “Bud” Hill (Hughson); Doug Ridenour (Modesto); Sean Scully (Riverbank); Maryn Pitt (Turlock Alternate); Cherilyn Bairos (Oakdale); Jeff Rowe (District 2); Cecil Russell (District 4); Supervisor Jim DeMartini (District 5); Harpreet Singh (Community); Bob Hondeville (Community); David White (Community)

Members Absent: Representatives of Newman, Waterford and Patterson; Katrina Kidd (District 1); Rosalinda Vierra (Community); Jennifer Carter (Community). Vacant: District 3/Seat 13; Community/Seat 18 and Community/Seat 19

Others Present: Tera Chumley (Secretary/Chief Executive Office); Charlie Haase (Chief Information Officer, City of Modesto); Jaylen French (Economic Development, City of Modesto); Bryan Whitemyer (Oakdale City Manager); Kelly Covello (CEO); Dillon Olvera (Beard Land); Wilfred Marshall (Economic Development Administration); April Henderson-Potter (Opportunity Stanislaus)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m. by Committee Chair, Jeff Rowe.

A quorum of members was present.

Proxy voting privilege for City of Ceres Primary Member Steve Hallam, assigned to Toby Wells, City Manager.

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

I. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Committee Chair, Jeff Rowe, welcomed everyone to the meeting; those in attendance introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes of **May 29, 2018** Meeting

A quorum of members attending the May meeting was established.

Note: Sean Scully’s name was spelled incorrectly; correction noted in final document.

Motion to approve the Minutes of May 29, 2018.

Motion: White | Second: Ridenour | Unanimous (11/13) | Abstain/non-attendees (Cecil Russell – not in attendance)

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III. Secretary Report:

a. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2019-2024

Secretary Chumley reminded members there will be a discussion at the spring meeting (February or March) for updating the 2019-2024 CEDs document. The plan is to send out to cities for updates in preparation for committee review and approval, then present to the Board of Supervisors for adoption by end of June to have a final document by the new fiscal year.

b. Committee Vacancies

Secretary Chumley welcomed Dillon Olvera with Beard Land who recently submitted an application and will become a new Community Member representative upon Board approval; he is filling Community/Seat 18 previously held by Ron Jackson representing Private Sector Executive. Aside from Seat 18, there are currently two other vacancies: District 3/Seat 13 (Supervisor Withrow) vacated by Jon Rodriguez representing Minority Group, and another Community/Seat 19 previously held by Lance Boullion representing the Private Sector. Tera will discuss with Supervisor Withrow the vacancy in District 3; Supervisor DeMartini will also mention the opening to MJC.

Ms. Chumley shared member criteria as listed on the EDAC Fact Sheet. Members discussed composition of committee, and application and Board appointment process. Members agreed that a representative of a downtown association or partnership could meet the eligibility criteria under the developer category. If members know of potential candidates that meet these criteria, please direct them to Tera.

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

- Opportunity Stanislaus/Dave White – Opportunity Stanislaus has partnered with Modesto Junior College (MJC) and Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE) to submit an application for the VOLT Institute expansion to offer various courses including mechatronics, CNC assisted robotics, and an expanded electrical course. They have received a \$1 million grant from the State to use as a 50% local match along with an in-kind match from several corporations and companies. The program is sponsored through the City of Modesto CEDS. Opportunity Stanislaus has received a letter of good standing from the State and now needs a letter of support from the City of Modesto. Dave anticipates submitting the application next week.
- City of Turlock/Maryn Pitt – Turlock has been working on a revolving grant through the State on water and sewer. Unfortunately, there was a glitch with the water component, so the project is on hold.
- City of Modesto/Charlie Haase – Modesto is working on validating data for the fiber master plan. They have been working with Wil for a grant and need to come up with matching funds. Charlie anticipates submitting an application in approximately six months.
- Stanislaus County/Supervisor DeMartini – The Crows Landing Industrial Business Park development CEQA document was recently certified at the Planning Commission. The project will be going to the Board of Supervisors next Tuesday. The project anticipates 12-14,000 jobs at build out.

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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

EDA Regional Representative, Wil Marshall, described some of the projects EDA funding is available. He indicated EDA has plenty of money today and encouraged application for projects where there is opportunity to create living wage jobs.

Wil discussed two major programs in effect:

- Disaster Recovery – Applicants must have a disaster resulting in negative impacts. Stanislaus is one county in the valley that is eligible for EDA funds. He expects two projects from Stanislaus County.
- Planning/Construction – Standard EDA projects including construction, infrastructure, design, planning for next negative disaster event, fiber-related projects and equipment for training centers if public non-profit associated. Project must be completed in five years. Maximum funding is approximately \$3 million for regular programs, and \$10 million for disaster programs.

b. Q & A

Q: If a city wanted to do a project that would mitigate a disaster in the future, such as a reservoir or lock system to prevent flooding (i.e., recent ag and road washout, not so much structural damage), would that be eligible for Disaster Recovery EDA funding?

A: If you can show negative effects as a result of the disaster, such as drainage to prevent a future larger washout.

Q: The City of Modesto condemned and removed an old dam on the Tuolumne River to reduce city liability. Would this type of project qualify?

A: Was the incident eligible for FEMA or negatively affected industry or commercial activity? The project must be in strong relationship with a disaster. EDA will require specifics of what occurred.

Q: Are there any rumors regarding changes to the loan program under the current administration?

A: EDA is in the same mode as the last 15 years (going out of business)! Wil does not anticipate any changes in the program in the next six months.

Q: What is the competition like relative to the number of applications?

A: EDA has received several applications. Wil anticipates \$60 million for regular program; he has several potential applications for disaster recovery. He stressed applicants must be serious due to the cost involved in submitting an application.

General Comments:

- If the City or County has had a major company leave the area within the last 18 months resulting in job loss/increased unemployment, potential funding eligibility increases.
- Disaster Fund allocation for the Country was \$800 million; Seattle Region (eight states and trust territories) received \$93 million.

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- If your city is considering a project or you would like to discuss possible funding opportunities for your project, contact Wil: 310-261-6005.

VI. Other Information

- a. Upcoming Meetings:
 - Spring Meeting – February/March
- b. Reminder – 700 Forms (annual/assuming office/leaving office) will be due April 1.
- c. EDA Funding Suggestion – Dave White mentioned the County may qualify for EDA funding for a “brick and mortar” component to the access center or training center for homeless – although the project would need a local match. Tera will discuss with Focus on Prevention Deputy Director.
- d. City of Modesto Councilmember Ridenour welcomed Jaylen French as the new Economic Development Director for the City (replacing Cynthia Birdsill).

VII. Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheryl Swartz, Confidential Assistant
Chief Executive Office