

Morrow County Citizens Economic Development Task Force

Meeting Notes for August 2, 2016

Boardman City Hall

Boardman, Oregon

Attendees: Sheryll Bates, Jevra Brown (DSL), Kim Carter, Susan Christensen, Kim Cutsforth, Jeanette Eldrige, Skip Matthews, Carla McLane, Aaron Palmquist, Karen Pettigrew, Leann Rea, Don Russell, Jerry Sorte and Terry Tallman.

The meeting started at 10:05 a.m. Introductions around the table for the benefit of Jevra Brown, Department of State Lands. No meeting minutes were available for review and approval.

Community Reports:

Karen: Recreation Center and BMCC Building are both moving along; Council meets tonight with a busy agenda; new apartments are coming.

Skip/Kim: Ruckus in the Boonies was a success; fair and rodeo in another two weeks or so; chip seal taking place along highway through town; fire hall nearing completion; waste water exploration continues.

Aaron: Refinancing USDA loans; awarding CREZ public and community enhancement funds; land swap with the library pending; new Sheriff contract appears to be working.

Sheryll: WCVEDG: housing funds helping, but still struggling overall. Needs to see new housing development to meet continuing needs.

Leann: Work continues on the B2H project; Leann shared about her experience after the recent ODA public hearing about the Lost Valley Ranch dairy.

Jerry: Reviewing processes; lots of turnover the last few years; Bartholomew Building landscaping underway; August 10 County Court meeting will have a discussion about north County facility.

Kim: Provided an update on Linda and the pending service; work on waste water issues is temporarily on hold.

Terry: Carty I is online as of Friday, July 29. Others shared about PGE actions, including pending updates to the site certificate for Carty II, III and solar.

Don: Provided a summary of the Farm Worker Housing public hearing held the week before. Discussion continued.

Susan: Introduced herself at the Interim Executive Director, and has applied for the job on a permanent basis. Can assist with grant writing and administration. Discussion continued with a focus on housing.

Coordination with the Department of State Lands: Jevra Brown attended the meeting to provide an update and answer questions about DSL and the services they provide. The DSL is the oldest state agency, formed at statehood to manage lands for the common school fund. Discussion ensued on a variety of state lands issues.

Coordinated Human Services Public Transportation Plan: County Court public hearing scheduled for Wednesday, August 24, 2016.

Initiative Petition 28: Aaron shared that the Irrigon City Council will be reviewing this item at their August meeting. Several chambers have come out in opposition to the petition. The County Court has invited proponents to present at a future meeting. Discussion continued.

Regional Travel Shed Planning: Appears to have stalled at this point.

Business Initiative/Incentives: Carla provided a short update of what this discussion has been. Aaron suggested that a better title for this discussion item would be Business Initiative or Incentive, not Business Incubator.

Items for the Good of the Order: Kim Cutsforth brought up the Local Public Safety Committee meetings, indicating that she has been representing cities, continuing participation by Dave DeMayo, the previous city manager. She wanted to know if others wanted to attend or if they want to attend. Irrigon is represented by the Sheriff; Boardman is represented by the Chief. Kim plans to continue attending to represent Heppner. Lone and Lexington appear to be the only communities not represented.

Agenda Build: Army Corp of Engineers; waste water options; housing as economic development.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 6 at 10:00 a.m. at in Heppner at the Heppner City Hall.

Adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

Future Meeting Agenda Build: Commercial Space Inventory; Commercial Recruitment Measures; Population Coordination; ACOE MOU; Willow Creek Dam Tour; Comprehensive Plan, Development Code and Transportation System Plan updates; Special Transportation Updates; and Joint Management Agreements.