

Marion County Economic Development Advisory Board
February 23, 2016 Meeting Minutes
555 Court St NE, 5th Floor Salem, OR

Members Present: Bill Cummins, Kevin Cameron, Chad Freeman, Jose Gonzalez, Bob Hill, Jay Kemble, Nate Levin, Allison McKenzie, Angie Morris, AJ Nash, and Renata Wakeley.

Staff and Guests Present: Sarah Cavazos, Tamra Goetsch, Danielle Gonzalez, Annie Gorski, Brandon Reich, and Mary Stewart.

Call to Order: 3:38pm

Agenda Item: Welcome, Introductions & Announcements

Information/Discussion: Morris called the meeting to order, asked for introductions and welcomed new member Jose Gonzalez. **Action:** *None.*

Agenda Item: January Minutes

Information/Discussion: Morris presented the minutes and called for comment; no discussion held.

Action: *A motion was brought forth by Kemble to approve the January minutes; a second was made by Hill. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.*

Agenda Item: Legislative Update

Information/Discussion: Danielle Gonzalez presented the legislative update (see agenda packet). Morris shared that HB4146 passed the House. **Action:** *None.*

Follow Up: Request was made to report back on the Department of Labor bill that would set the minimum salary at \$56,000 to qualify as an exempt employee.

Agenda Item: SEDCOR and GROW EDC Second Quarter Reports

Information/Discussion: Freeman presented SEDCOR's second quarter report and McKenzie presented GROW's second quarter report (see agenda handouts). Discussion held on impacts of minimum wage increase, need to explore how to track impact, check with Tolleson to see if they are tracking, continue discussion with SEDCOR on what strategies are needed to mitigate the wage increase and remain competitive. **Action:** *None.*

Follow Up: *Send EDAB members an invitation to the Rural Tourism Studio Workshops on March 29th and April 12th when the e-invite becomes available.*

Agenda Item: Grant and Loan Committee Update

Information/Discussion: Hill shared that the committee has met to review data on existing grant and loan programs and begin discussion on how funds are targeted. Discussions included a loan fund and establishing a long-term strategic fund for business recruitment. The group will continue to meet over the next few months. A recommendation was made to implement a second grant application cycle for FY15/16 using existing criteria but streamlining the RFP to a summary sheet.

Action: *A motion was brought forth by Cummins to hold a second grant application cycle for FY15/16; a second was made by Kemble. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.*

Follow Up: *Cavazos to work with the Grant and Loan Committee to issue a revised format for the RFP with an open date of March 15 and due date of May 2, 2016.*

Agenda Item: FY16/17 Oregon Lottery Budget

Information/Discussion: Cameron presented the FY16/17 Oregon Lottery Budget (see agenda packet). Members responded positive to receiving the information and to the increase in funds being allocated for distribution through grants to encourage economic development. Cameron called for a motion to support the budget recommendation to the Commissioners.

Action: A motion was brought forth by Nash for EDAB to support the budget recommendation for FY16/17; a second was made by Hill. The motion was voted on and approved unanimously.

Follow Up: Cavazos to work with the Grant and Loan Committee to issue a revised format for the RFP with an open date of March 15 and due date of May 2, 2016.

Meeting adjourned: 4:50 p.m.