

Morrow County Citizen's Economic Develop Task Force
April 4, 2017
Boardman City Hall
Boardman, Oregon

Attendees: Edie Ball, Sheryll Bates, Melisa Drugge, Janett Eldrige, Kymberli Erevia, Julie Gisi, Melissa Lindsay, Carla McLane, Karen Pettigrew, Don Russell.

The meeting started at 9:05am. Minutes from March 7 – approved without changes. Introductions were made.

Housing as Economic Development: Carla provided handout for Buildable Lands Inventory (BLI) comparison, Wasco County has done an internal review of lands. Goal 9 piece of comp plan re: economic element. 3 county area include UMA, MOR, BEN/WA (because of transient populations working in the area). Received 1 consultant proposal and Wasco County project outcome. Wasco included unincorporated areas. Wasco update estimated at \$50k, including rewrite of code. Ours could easily be \$10-12k with all billable hours (See Angelo Planning handout). State budget money no longer available that group was anticipating (\$10k). Planning Dept. has budget for comp plan/zoning, may be able to include this project into something also in plan with BOC permission. Chair Lindsay suggested CREZ funding, advocates jurisdiction buy-in be small.

Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC): Bylaws were not finalized at March 28 meeting. Association of Counties hired LPSCC coordinator, who is working for grants, providing legislative updates and working with judicial system for improvements. Missing city representatives for committee. Will be put on next agenda for action to identify representative.

Roundtable:

Don: Recent news about large dairies, Confine Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) permits, etc. NW Public Radio interested, took tour of Threemile Canyon Farms; CAFO permit has been issued, next appeal may be of water transfer; Animal advocates are on payroll; Lost Valley Farms hopefully will be operational soon with approximately 150 jobs for the area.

Melisa: Her position has assumed a new role as lead, which means she now also trains other regional development officers; made offers to two candidates for Eastern Oregon vacancies; very active resource for any level to help problem solve.

Melissa: Equity fund for GEODC is active again, with funds available (\$160k approx.) now; there is a county web page for the equity component. Attended BCDA recently put new perspective for alternatives to college for upcoming students through the BMCC Work Force Center.

Julie: BMCC business center opened April 3; Economic Development wants to move to Boardman due primarily to the rec center; April 10th luncheon with corporate gala will focus on corporate membership for the rec center; Frostbite golf tournament earned \$5.5k for senior scholarships; Oregon State Chamber of Commerce will be in Hermiston on the 21st of April.

Sheryll: Economic Development meeting will be moved to the 4th Wednesday each month 8 a.m. at the Chamber office for WCVED; Still focusing on housing, subcommittee being formed to look at housing template in order to help improve some homes, also working on the family wage job rentals with push for investor support if possible; Chamber disbursing tickets for the Harlem Ambassadors game.

Edie: Budget preparations in progress; doing waste water treatment upgrade, funding One Stop program will be presented by Business Oregon for buckets of funding that may be available, received bids last week; TSP update in progress with county support.

Karen: Leak in collector 2 has been repaired but it's not back online yet; getting ready for final water permit from OR Water Resources Dept.; going out for bid for block grant for Migrant HS building on April 20, 2017; streets will require major work with no funding available; Sgt. Morris move from Boardman PD to the County Sheriff; Tradewinds plans to expand, will be brought before the planning commission on April 19th, they are planning a large subdivision; starting build on new condominiums; apartment complex build is on hold because funding from state was not received by builder; rec center slated to open July 1st.

Janette: Have work day scheduled for council to work on park; budget in progress; thank Heppner Mayor for providing Public Works person to assist in water sampling process; city council is rotating as chair until elected position can be filled, hoping to have that taken care of when new term begins; have two applicants for city maintenance position.

Kym: Update on NHMP spring meeting, small group represented but have plan forward for 2021 update.

Carla: NHMP reaching back out to cities for the representative for this group, growing membership by at least 2 people and will reach out to those entities.

Next meeting: Currently set for May 2, but group preference to move regular meeting date to second Thursday and push time back time to afternoon (1-3 p.m.). Carla will send out an email poll to get consensus. May 2 or May 11 in south county.

Agenda Build: final action to BLI, LPSCC, roundtable

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.