

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE OF LINCOLN COUNTY (EDALC)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, February 6, 2020, 3:30pm, Columbia Bank upstairs conference room

Members Present: Tracy Bailey, Kerry Kemp, Lesley Ogden, Curt Abbott, Doug Holbrook, Linda Roy, Bryan Fitzsimmons via phone, Guest – Wayne Belmont

Staff: Absent

1. New Year – New Direction: Wayne Belmont, *Collaboration with the County*

Doug Hunt is sorry he couldn't be here, Katie Jacobsen & Claire Hall offered to meet anytime with the EDALC board.

Wayne presented that it is a great time to take a pause -given the open Executive Director position- to make sure that the county is developing an economic development strategic vision that also reflects a community-wide vision, checking that appropriate resources are allocated and whether additional county and other resources are needed, and verifying that accountability and deliverables are tightly narrowed/defined. Wayne has been looking at what other counties have done with economic development and county commissioners would like to see forums across the county to assess community vision. What would be the role that EDALC board plays in this process? Can the EDALC board buy in to this vision?

Discussion ensued about challenges related to economic development across the county including housing, cities and other entities that have disparate objectives, rules, and expertise, etc.

Wayne concluded by inviting the EDALC board to begin by helping with forums and moving forward with this vision.

The EDALC board agreed to be co-partners with the County in this vision moving forward.

Aside - Kerry Kemp is stepping down as Waldport City Manager on April 30th and they are looking for a replacement. He will remain on the EDALC board.

Wayne Belmont left the meeting.

2. Discussion about our role as EDALC board given the pause while the County develops strategic planning, community-wide vision, and resource allocation.

Next steps:

- Do we want to start meeting with other people in the County like Greg Wolfe (Association of Counties) who has previously spoken with the County?
- Coordinate our own economic-related community get-togethers?

- We need to modify overly complex administrative processes

3. **Executive Director Search Committee Update** – 20 applicants for the Executive Director position, 8 finalists interviewed with 2 exceptional candidates emerging. These 2 will be brought in for a day of continuing interviews. Both have economic development experience, strategic planning skills, and a history of engaging members. One candidate is out of Michigan and has family ties to Oregon, the other is from Roseburg and is running a similar organization and has wanted to move to the coast for a while. This will be a contracted position through the EDALC and not a County-employed position.

Discussion ensued about whether the County intended the pause to include a slow-down in hiring a new Director, but we all agreed that we need a new director in order to facilitate this new vision and the County did not request a pause with hiring and they do not want to be the employer. Also, communication between the EDALC and County Commissioners needs to be more open, and a new director could be a valuable communicator between the two parties. The EDALC board wants to be careful not to mislead any candidates about upcoming new direction or vision and our intent is to employ for at least a year as compensation for that time period is guaranteed.

Curt Abbott and Lesley Ogden will work on a communication to the County Commissioners and their legal counsel to be transparent and inclusive concerning upcoming interviews. Important points to include: a new Executive Director will help with the new vision and execution, EDALC & County should partner, and both have approval and buy-in on the person who fills this position, and there are currently 20 qualified candidates with 2 impressive finalist candidates which has not been the case in the past.

4. **Policy to increase check signing authentication**

We need to increase the two-signatory check requirement from \$500 to \$750 because of increasing rent amount and the administrative burden the current policy creates given this scenario. A skeleton new policy provided by Tracy in the packet. Kerry Kemp moved and seconded by Doug Holbrook to adopt policy 05-13-03 that “the EDALC shall require one check signer for amounts under \$500; or two signers over \$750.” Motion passed unanimously 6-0.

5. **ACTION:** Minutes approved from Dec 5, Nov 7, and Sep 5, 2019 board meetings. Correction to Dec minutes (last paragraph) by Kerry Kemp – “Kemp reported that 150 acres in Waldport has been designated by Business Oregon as a regionally significant industrial park site.” Curt Abbott motioned, and Linda Roy seconded, minutes approved unanimously.

6. **Communication to membership**

Previous newsletter wasn’t successful due to lack of content, so discussion ensued about what we might want to communicate and how. For now, we will pause on this communication.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.