

**Regular Meeting of the  
San Juan County Economic Development Council  
Board of Directors – Approved Minutes**

Wednesday January 14, 2009, 8:30-11:00 @ EDC Conference Room

**Attending:**

Conference Room: Ralph Hahn, Bruce Gregory, Peggy Long, Marilyn O'Connor,  
David Jones, Liz Illg  
Phone: Patty Miller, Eric Youngren, Denise King, Lia Nordeen, Lance Evans  
Recorder - Bill Watson

**Excused:** Scott Webster

**Absent:** Bill Evans

**Guests:** Larry Green

**Agenda,**

Meeting Called to Order  
Any Additions/Changes to the Agenda??  
There were no changes to the agenda.  
Introductions of Guests

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes (Dec)  
**M/S/P** Approve Dec meeting minutes without modification
2. Review of Financials and Budget Expenditures (Dec)  
**M/S/P** Approve Dec financials.
3. Correspondence
  - None
4. Operational Issues
  - President's Report
    - Board Resignations: Matt Trifiro's resignation was accepted as a Leave of Absence and we'll keep him on as an Ex-officio member. Brent Snow's name is also removed from our board list.  
A.I. Ralph – will contact Gretchen to discuss.  
**M/S/P** Accepted Matt and Brent change to Board membership.  
**M/S/P** Send thankyou notes to Brent and Matt for their service.
    - WSF – Ralph updated the board on the letter the SJC Ferry Advisory Committee and SJC Council sent to David Moseley.
    - Ralph is still working on the SJC Community White Paper which articulates the community position on WSF strategy.
  - Program Coordinator's report

- Sidney Ferry Run update and dissemination of the Program Coordinator's assessment of the Eric Hovee Economic Impact Study of the Sidney Ferry Run on the N/W Regions economy.
- The Northwest Agricultural Business Center whose funding was totally cut for the last 6 months of the current biennium, had sufficient funding restored to maintain their matching for Federal Grants that they were still working on.
- Business Contacts report
  - Marilyn – Expansion opportunity for a Port Business
  - Liz – New Tourism business by Naomi Serres – Agri-tourism and Friday Harbor Walking Tour
  - Ralph – Island Medical Center expansion – EDC was contacted by the IMC committee requesting the EDC assistance on an Economic Impact Analysis.
  - Bruce – Island Grown Farmers Cooperative – holding talks about expanding their current capacity.
  - Lance – Dinner Theater in Eastsound opened
  - Lia – two new arts studios on Lopez and a new Affordable Healthcare insurance agent.

## 5. Continued Business

1. Nominating Subcommittee Report  
(**Scott**, Marilyn, Liz, Bruce, Bill E)  
No Report
2. Sustainable Economy Sub-Committee Report  
(**Eric**, Jill, Liz, Patty, Bill E)

We had a guest – Larry Green – who presented information about past efforts such as “Navigating Our Future” symposium. There was much discussion about visioning versus Actionable Tasks, broad perspectives versus narrow focus, and what was best for the current environment.

One Idea – gather 6-10 folks to brainstorm ideas and then take the leading idea and drive via specific actions.

**A.I.** Ralph, Liz, Eric, Patty will get together to flush out ideas and make a proposal to the entire board.

3. Cell Tower Ordinance Study Committee – Patty  
At our previous meeting, Patty was asked to ask the Cell Tower Committee how the EDC might be able to assist to move this effort forward. Ron Henrickson responded that \$1200.00 could be used by CDPD to complete the Cell Phone Ordinance (a required uplift in CDPD Staff job classification from what was budgeted to be able to complete writing the ordinance).

**M/S** Allocate \$1200.00 to fund this effort. During discussion, the motion

was withdrawn pending the resolution of how/whether EDC can actually provide this funding.

**A.I.** Bill – investigate if/how EDC could provide the funding.

4. Almanac update idea.

Ralph presented the idea of answering the question: “What do we “import” into our community?”. This came from a discussion Ralph had with Charles Richardson as they wondered what is our food, fuel, energy, etc critical imports to our community.

**A.I.** Ralph – will pull together a proposal on a research project with deliverables and cost estimates.

6. New Topics

1. PFM Feasibility Report Review

EDC Board discussed the current status of the Permanent Farmers Market Feasibility Study developed by the San Juan Islands Agricultural Guild via a sub-contract to the EDC in service of a CTED Grant. The Board members were encouraged to review the feasibility study – primarily the Executive Summary and the Study Conclusions sections.

2. 2009 Project Commitments for Municipal Contracts

Deferred until the next meeting.

3. 2008 BRE Results Review

The Board was previously sent the results of the 2008 Business Retention and Expansion surveys, completed by our contractor Amy Anderson. 42 companies were interviewed and the summary results are posted on the EDC web site.

4. Community Foundation Request: The EDC was asked to participate on the Critical Needs Task Force. With Liz and Denise already on the task force, the board quickly agreed that they could represent the EDC as well as their other roles.

5. Q2 CTED Financial Reports Review

The Board was informed of the CTED report submitted for the quarter ending December 31, 2008.

7. Announcements

1. Next mtg Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, teleconference  
8:30-11:00 EDC Conf Room

