

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

Wednesday June 10, 2008, 8:30-11:00 @ EDC Conference Room & Teleconference

Attending:

Conference Room: Ralph Hahn, Bruce Gregory, Liz Illg, Peggy Long,
Scott Webster

Phone: Patty Miller, Jon Kobayashi, Lance Evans

Recorder: Bill Watson

Excused: Eric Youngren

Absent: Lia Noreen, Marilyn O'Connor, Denise King, David Jones

Guests: Jim Hooper

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 (May)
M/S/P Approve May meeting minutes without modification
2. Review of Financials and Budget Expenditures (May)
M/S/P Approve May financials.
3. Consent Agenda - None
4. Correspondence - None
5. Operational Issues
 - President's Report
Washington State Ferries Update
Ralph discussed with the group the operational expense analysis distributed by Bill prior to the meeting. Everyone was also reminded of the WSF public Meeting coming up on June 11th. Major issue is the Fall Schedule as a result of the expiring waiver of the US Coast Guard touring watch regulation.

A.I. Lance – provide Bill with the email distribution list for the Ferry Advisory Committee.
A.I. Bill – provide Jim with the WSF Expense analysis report.
 - Program Coordinator's Report
Rogers Weed – Bill informed folks of the upcoming Rogers Weed, Department of Commerce meetings on June 15&16th in

Burlington. All were encouraged to attend, to provide input to Rogers about the services the new department needs to make. Comments suggested to Bill to make included: GMA Department – keep this in the Dept, How will new department support cottage industry (as compared to large business). CAO – How can Depart help resolve Land Use conflicts?

- Business Contacts:
 - Bill – Company looking to expand but has questions about capability to do so on Lopez. Bill is following up. Also received interests from two new startups on San Juan Island to assist with forms and consulting.
 - Scott – new entrepreneur in the renewable energy field – looking for potential financing and access to stimulus monies. Potential new board member.

6. Continued Business

1. Nominating Subcommittee Report
(**Scott**, Marilyn, Liz, Bruce) - Scott indicated that we have two new applicants; Peggy Long and Jim Hooper. Both presented a little background about themselves.

M/S/P: Approve Peggy and Jim as new members of the San Juan County Economic Development Council Board of Directors.

A.I. Ralph – public outreach (press release) soliciting interested parties to apply.

A.I. Bill – get Conflict of Interest policies for Jim and Peggy to sign and have on file.

A.I. Bill – provide Jim and Peggy with a copy of the 990 EZ.

2. Cell Tower Ordinance Study Committee – Patty
Committee will resume meeting to wrap up recommendations, pending Patty to schedule. Patty was asked to ensure that the new ordinance will cover all wireless/radio technologies (Wireless Broadband, Voice Radio, etc).
3. Tech Grant – Ralph/Bill
The Committee is reviewing wireless versus “in-ground fibre” options.
4. ARC Coordinator – Ralph
The County Council voted to fund the ARC Coordinator out of the County’s .09 Funds.

M/S/P: Accept responsibility for the ARC Coordinator as a member of EDC Personnel with general responsibilities for Economic Development within the Agricultural Industry Segment, as long as the County continues to fund via the EDC Annual Contract.

A.I. Ralph – put a Memo of Understanding in place to outline responsibilities and deliverables for the ARC Coordinator between EDC and County and Conservation District.

5. Budget Proposal

A.I. Bill – pass out to the entire board the draft of the next biennium budget proposal.

7. New Topics

1. Sustainable Connections – Liz

Liz suggested that the EDC explore ways to engage with the Bellingham organization of Sustainable Connections.

A.I. Liz – arrange for a Sustainable Connections presentation to the Board.

2. CAO - Scott

Scott requested that the EDC Board consider taking a stance on the Critical Areas Ordinance. His recommendation included:

A. EDC Recommend that the county council consider all 14 factors of the Growth Management Act when considering CAO Policy.

B. EDC Recommend that the county council NOT operate under an accelerated process simply in the interest in receiving \$30K in grant monies.

C. EDC Recommend to the county council to direct the current Permit Organization to implement current ordinances in a “balanced” fashion, not in the “most restrictive” fashion.

Discussion followed Scott’s recommendation and it become some what clear that there were current “unknowns” about the CAO process and restrictions. One quote was that even the unknowns about potentially new CAO restrictions have depressed local property value by \$100M county wide.

It was agreed by consensus that we all needed to learn more about the CAO process and have a structured conversation at the next EDC meeting in July to understand the potential impact to businesses and the economy.

3. August Meeting

M/S/P: August meeting is cancelled.

8. Announcements

1. Next mtg Wednesday, July 8th, EDC Conference Room
8:30-11:00