

CEDS COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 28, 2015

M I N U T E S

I. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Elan Vallender called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bill Bolin, Sam Hosler, Elan Vallender, Terry Strain, Marissa Garnett, Jennifer Evans, Bobby Davis (Debra Galbraith substitute), Chris Collopy.

Staff Present: Brad Mecham, Alan Urban

Guests:

A quorum was established.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, February 24, 2015

Mr. Hosler made a motion to approve the February CEDS Committee minutes as presented. Ms. Evans seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. CEDS Committee Roundtable

Each CEDS Committee member participated in a roundtable discussion to outline current economic development activities in their respective area(s).

One of the highlights of the discussion was that many areas are receiving calls and requests from retail companies. This uptick includes grocery stores, downtown buildings, and other retail activity.

B. SWOT Analysis and Project Review and Discussion

Mr. Mecham presented the regional SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) analysis, after evaluating each community's submission and merging general themes. The CEDS Committee provided feedback on the SWOT analysis and added an opportunity, "Develop stronger relationships with Economic Development Organizations (EDOs)". The original text

mentioned the Greater Phoenix Economic Council only. There are many EDOs throughout Gila and Pinal Counties so the generalized language was included in the opportunity section.

Mr. Mecham then presented the CEDS Committee with the 2015-2016 project listing for the CEDS. Previous projects remained and new projects were gathered from member localities and Indian Communities. Mr. Mecham pointed out that there may be a few more projects that will be included as they are received.

Mr. Davis made a motion to approve the CEDS update, and to incorporate the SWOT Analysis and new project listing into the CEDS with the understanding that the project listing can grow before adoption of the CEDS. Ms. Evans seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Intermediary Lending Program Update

Mr. Mecham provided an update on the USDA Intermediary Relending Program. Central Arizona Governments has been attempting to find a bank that will agree to sign the third party agreement that is mandatory based on federal legislation. Multiple banks have been contacted, but none have agreed to sign the document. CAG is also not in the position to absorb defaulted loans, which CAG would have to pay back to USDA. Ms. Evans suggested some banks in Pinal County to contact. CAG staff will contact those banks and seek guidance from Regional Council.

D. 2016-2017 Five Year Update

Mr. Mecham reviewed the changes that will take place in next year's CEDS Five Year Update, highlighting the new guidelines set forth by the Economic Development Administration (EDA).

E. Additional CEDS Committee Membership

Mr. Mecham presented three names to be included as new members of the CEDS Committee. They include:

- Denyse Airheart, City of Maricopa
- Bobby Davis, City of Payson
- Melissa Rabago, Resolution Copper

Mr. Hosler made a motion to approve all three members to be included on the CEDS Committee. Mr. Bolin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. CALL TO THE PUBLIC/MEMBERS

There were no comments from the public.

VI. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next CEDS Committee meeting will take place August 27, 2015 at 2:00 PM, to be held in the main CAG office in the City of Apache Junction.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Elan Vallender adjourned the meeting at 3:25 PM.

Approved by: _____ DAY OF _____, 2015