

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS SERVICES COMMITTEE**

*“Pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20, the Committee meeting was held via teleconference and a publicly noticed location was provided for public observation and comment.”*

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020 – 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Present</b>
Anita Tuckerman (Chair)	X
Phil Cothran	X
Mike Gallo	X
*Peggi Hazlett	X
*Audrey Mathews	
B.J. Patterson	
William Sterling	X

*\*Public Members*

<b>Staff to WDB</b>	<b>Present</b>
Devra Bell	X
Marlena Sessions	X

**OPENING**

- 1) **Chair called meeting to order** at 1:03 PM
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance** – Peggi Hazlett led the Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) **Introductions** – The Board Secretary took roll call attendance.
- 4) **Adoption of Agenda** – The Chair requested a motion to adopt the agenda. Peggi Hazlett motioned; Mike Gallo seconded the motion.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54953 (b)(2), a roll call vote was called as follows:

Anita Tuckerman, Chair: Aye  
Phil Cothran: Aye  
Mike Gallo: Aye  
Peggi Hazlett: Aye  
Audrey Mathews: Absent  
B.J. Patterson: Absent  
Will Sterling: Aye

Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

- 5) **Approval of Minutes from the September 23, 2020 Economic Development and Business Resources (EDBR) Committee Meeting**

The Chair requested a motion to approve the minutes from the September 23, 2020 meeting. Will Sterling motioned; Peggi Hazlett seconded the motion.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54953 (b)(2), a roll call vote was called as follows:

Anita Tuckerman, Chair: Aye  
Phil Cothran: Aye  
Mike Gallo: Aye  
Peggi Hazlett: Aye  
Audrey Mathews: Absent  
B.J. Patterson: Absent  
Will Sterling: Aye

Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**6) Comments from the General Public in Attendance** - No public comment cards were presented.

## **PRESENTATION**

### **7) Recent Merger of High Desert Chambers**

The Chair, Anita Tuckerman, introduced Mark Creffield of the Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce. He provided an overview of chamber history in the region and those that currently participate; the benefits of combining these chambers to create the Greater High Desert Chamber, which they hope to have them all combined by the end of the year; and how these chambers will function post-merger. A discussion ensued about how this merger will assist businesses in the area. Also discussed were staff at the existing chambers, but due to the pandemic, many of the staff had already been laid off.

### **8) Supporting Job Growth in the High Desert Region**

The Chair introduced Curtis Compton, who discussed the services that are currently offered to businesses, so the chamber members present would have this additional information. This information included: customized recruitment services; customized training programs; labor market information; on the job training; layoff aversion; workshops and rapid response services.

## **WORKSHOP**

### **9) Working Together: Collaboration to Strengthen our Region**

The Chair led the workshop and asked the chamber members present how the EDBR committee could assist them. Peggi Hazlett noted her chamber currently utilizes the services we offer and it would be beneficial to continue deepening the relationship. A discussion ensued about showcasing success stories and having Business Services do a presentation to the various chambers, to teach them about the services we offer. Also discussed the customized sharing of costs to train employees for firms that move into the region and don't have a pool of individuals to hire, due to the specific nature of their business.

### **10) EDBR Committee Goals**

One of the potential goals discussed was the collaboration with the Chambers and how to join forces with the Business Services unit. Meeting attendees were asked to submit their ideas to the Chair or Board Secretary to discuss at a future meeting.

## ADJOURNMENT

The Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Mike Gallo motioned. Peggi Hazlett seconded. None opposed; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:26 PM

The next WDB Economic Development and Business Resource Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, 2020 at 8:30 AM and will be held via Zoom Conference.



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Devra Bell, WDB Secretary