

Cities-County Economic Development Committee (CCEDC)

Notes for Meeting: August 24, 2017, at the Glenn County Board of Supervisors Conference Room

Meeting Facilitated By: Dwight Foltz

Attendees: Dwight Foltz, Charlie Gee, Pete Carr, Gary Hansen, Larry Mello, Matt Gomes, Ian Ledbetter, Christine Zoppi, Jody Samons, Yassi Lam

Summary:

Dwight Foltz calls meeting to order at 3:05pm

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Self-introductions not necessary
- 2) Public Comment
 - a. None
- 3) Meeting Notice and Posting Date (as required by the 1994 Brown Act)
 - a. Posted August 21, 2017, at Glenn County Memorial Hall
- 4) Review Notes from the Prior Meeting (on February 23, 2017)
 - a. Emailed on August 17, 2017
 - b. Hardcopies available at the meeting
 - c. No corrections
- 5) Ongoing Efforts/Round Table Reports/Projects
 - a. Business Services Office activities
 - i. Yassi Lam
 1. Jobs and recruitment
 - a. Hosted 6 hiring events since start of fiscal year. Already have 2 scheduled for September
 - b. Tight labor market. Multiple employers experiencing challenges finding eager, work-ready, qualified job-seekers. In preparation for harvest, some ag-related employers started recruiting earlier than usual (e.g. employer started recruiting in May for jobs that commenced in mid-August)

2. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
 - a. Funds housing programs, economic development, public infrastructure, community facilities and services, and planning grants and feasibility studies
 - b. State Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) is hosting a series of listening sessions, seeking feedback from local jurisdictions on what's worked, challenges with administering programs, areas for improvement, etc. HCD required to address multiple issues, including limited staffing/capacity, ongoing budget constraints, low expenditure rates, and unspent Program Income
 - c. In Glenn County, still have CDBG funds for Microenterprise Technical Assistance, Business Assistance Loans, and Housing Assistance (CDBG-2014 grant sunsets October 31, 2017)
 - d. In the process of closing out CDBG-2012 grant
3. Orland Chamber of Commerce General Meeting on September 6
 - a. Everyone invited to attend. Jody Samons and Yassi Lam will be presenting information about Business Services, latest economic development updates, update on the business incubator
4. Northstate Economic Forecast Conference
 - a. Save the Date- January 17 and 18, 2018, at Oroville
 - b. Pre-conference workshops (e.g. grant writing 101, food safety and good agricultural practices, etc.) on January 17. Main conference on January 18. Breakout sessions will cover topics such as ag-technology, healthcare, small business, local government, and real estate

b. Local Economic Development Highlights

i. Gary Hansen

1. Mercado Meats Project moving forward (processing, wholesale distribution, and retail counter), interior work/renovations, exterior security fencing going up
2. Request for Proposals for Cold Storage Feasibility Study has been released, posted on City of Willows website
3. US Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant for South Willows Development Project still moving forward

- a. EDA application packet will be hand-delivered to Seattle by September 5. Project costs have gone up to address multiple issues and challenges (e.g. environmental, designated federal waterway, endangered species, etc.)
- b. Will use CDBG Over-The-Counter (OTC) funds and have contingency financing plan in place
- c. Rumiano Cheese will be relocating to site, plan to be operational by 2019, will retain 200+ jobs in Glenn County
- d. Phase 2 of Project includes housing north of proposed Rumiano Cheese location

ii. Pete Carr

- 1. La Quinta Hotel Project still moving forward, Environmental Impact Review portion completed, City waiting for development application
- 2. Plans for annexation of property south of Pilot Flying J Travel Center moving ahead. Developer interested in building truck wash and restaurant
- 3. Pete suggests Cities and County having discussions about tax sharing agreements
- 4. Mead (honey wine) processing facility planned for property north of R&R Sales. "The Hive" will also offer wine tastings, sales, and other honey and bee products
- 5. "Bee Summit" went well, representatives from City, Orland Economic Development and Arts Commissions, Chamber of Commerce, Glenn County Fairgrounds, schools, private businesses attended and exchanged ideas

iii. Jody Samons

- 1. Walls going up at Glenn County Farm Supply in Artois. 5 new employees already on payroll, goal of 30 new employees by Year 5. Still working through rail access issues
- 2. Crop Production Services (at old Holly Sugar plant in Hamilton City) hosted a "Meet and Greet" on August 1. Primary concern was traffic; CPS has already addressed matters
 - a. CPS is committed to restoring the historical site and keeping the Holly Sugar name for now
 - b. Still working through rail access issues and priority use

- c. CPS' application for California Competes Tax Credit moves pass Phase 1
 - d. Conditional Use Permit hearing planned for September 20
- 3. CalAg Rice Straw Fiberboard in Willows should be operational in 2019. Project expected to create 200+ construction jobs and 80-90 long-term full-time positions
 - a. CalAg's application for California Competes Tax Credit moves pass Phase 1
 - b. Already have Conditional Use Permit, other permits in progress
 - c. Trying to identify cost-effective solutions to address electricity and power needs
- 4. Recently showed 7 Glenn County sites to a business interested in expanding into northern California. Stockton based business already operates a cold storage network. Business eager to see results of Willows' Cold Storage Feasibility Study.
 - a. Exploring "expandable" operation, i.e. energy source is set up in the center (hub) and the rest of the facility is built-out as the "spokes"
- 5. Brewery starting in Glenn County at County Road 64 and WW (Farmers Brewery)
 - a. Processing plant expected to be operational 2019. Working on septic permits, wells, etc. Already have brewing equipment, labels. Plan to start with 5 products (e.g. beers made with rice, wheat, etc.) Will create approximately 40 new jobs.

iv. Charlie Gee

- 1. With all this development in Glenn County, we need to start talking about residential/housing

c. Status of Grant Applications

i. Jody Samons

- 1. City of Willows received US Department of Agriculture (USDA) grant to complete feasibility study for cold storage
 - a. City expected to award contract to consultant to complete feasibility study/analysis at September 12, 2017, Council meeting

2. USDA grant application for Glenn Grows Producers already submitted, expect notification in September
 3. 3Core applied for \$50,000 grant from Redding Bank of Commerce to build-out business incubator
 4. Glenn County Health and Human Services Agency seeking proposals from professional consultants with economic development and business assistance expertise
 - a. Received 2 proposals
 - i. Chabin Concepts and Community Development Services
 - ii. Grants Management Associates, Geographic Information Center, Public Health Institute, and Social Ink
- d. Incubator/Maker Space Update
- i. Jody Samons
 1. Wallboard going up, getting bids from furniture companies, possible November move-in
 2. Retained Nicole Andrini of Studio 22 for branding, communications, and messaging expertise
- e. Proudly Produced Logo Update
- i. Jody Samons
 1. Still in trademark process
- f. Rail Project
- i. Jody Samons
 1. Engaging with state and federal legislators to help with access concerns
 2. Communicating with Carol Pranka of USDA to help with ongoing issues (e.g. access, use, costs, etc.)
- g. California Competes Program Continuation
- i. Jody Samons
 1. Glenn County Farm Supply awarded \$400,000 last year
 2. Crop Production Services and CalAg applied this cycle
 3. Asking state legislators to continue to make this tax credit available in rural areas, offer more incentives to rural communities

h. Any Other

i. Jody Samons

1. Introduced discussion about possible Business Cooperation Program in Glenn County
 - a. Master tax-sharing arrangement between County and Cities
 - b. Objective is to keep/recapture sales tax revenue locally
 - c. Jody welcomes feedback/input about proposed Program

ii. Ian Ledbetter

1. Proposal to participate in wood stove change-out program (state program) will be introduced to County Board of Supervisors in September/October
 - a. Voucher program, replace old stoves with energy-efficient wood stoves

iii. Christine Zoppi

1. Jody Samons and Grinnell Norton updated capitol display in Sacramento

6) New Business:

- a. Played CalAg Project video

7) Next Meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2017, at 2pm at the Glenn County Board of Supervisors Conference Room.

8) Meeting adjourns at 4:23pm

Next Meeting Date: November 2, 2017, at 2pm at the Glenn County Board of Supervisors Conference Room *(CCEDC will meet 4th Thursday in February, May, August, and 1st Thursday in November)*

Contact Teresa Chavez at (530) 934-1413 or tchavez@countyofglenn.net if you have information to disseminate to the CCEDC