

Executive Committee
Economic Development Council Meeting ♦ April 7, 2016
NACET Accelerator, Flagstaff, AZ

Members:			(Absences YTD)			Members:			(Absences YTD)		
Rich Bowen	Present	0				Karalea Cox	Present	0			
Jodie Filardo	Present	0				Casey Rooney	Present	1			
Paul Watson	Present	1									

Guests:

Staff: Teri Drew, Regional Director
Julia Sawyer, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions

Chairman Karalea Cox called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM and read the mission statement.

2. Approval of Minutes

- **February 4, 2016 – Regular Meeting**
- **March 2, 2016 – Special Session (Spring Tourism Forum Agenda)**

Chairman Cox asked for questions and comments regarding the minutes from February 4, 2016 and March 2, 2016. There were none, and Chairman Cox asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written. **Casey Rooney moved to accept the minutes as written, Rich Bowen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

3. Chair’s Report

- **EDC Communication Recommendations**

Chairman Cox moved to her report, and expressed a need to inform the Committee about the events leading to the cancellation of the Spring Tourism Forum. She felt that it was a matter of inadequate communications. Chairman Cox shared her perception of what happened, and expressed appreciation for the hard work that the Tourism Committee did to get the Forum going, despite difficulties brought about by the resignation of the chairman of the Tourism Committee and the late re-vamping of the agenda, as well as the cancellation of other key speakers. Teri Drew also commented that another retreat was being held in Pinetop a short time later that may have impeded registration for this Forum. Discussion followed regarding the reorganization of the Tourism Committee, following the resignation of three members. Chairman Cox commented that the members of the Tourism Committee need to have their finger on the pulse of the communities, and there needs to be strong leadership and representation from the EDC. The recommendation from Chairman Cox was to have an EDC member chair Tourism. She recommended a pending member applicant, Evelyn Racette, noting her qualification to chair the committee. Paul Watson noted that Ms. Racette was no longer employed at Pinetop-Lakeside. The committee agreed to seek volunteers at the General EDC meeting, following this meeting of the Executive Committee.

There was also discussion regarding distribution of the Tourism Committee meeting minutes. Ms. Drew will make a recommendation to the Tourism Committee at their next meeting.

4. Director's Report

Chairman Cox turned the meeting over to Teri Drew, Regional Director, for her report. Ms. Drew passed out a calendar that correlated the remaining 2016 EDC meetings and the Tourism Sub-Committee meetings, for the Committee to use.

- Assessment Considerations

Teri Drew passed out the Fiscal Year 2017 Assessment Schedule. She reminded the Committee that assessments are required as local match for the Economic Development Administration funding in order to maintain the Economic Development District. The NACOG EDD is made up of 24 communities and collects \$49,000 in assessments, and has seen great returns on investment with a successful Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and job-generating projects. Ms. Drew commented that there had been a big change in assessments about 5 years ago, requiring a minimum of \$500.00 for all communities, and a \$0.09 per capita requirement and it has been the same ever since. The EDC is meeting its match requirement. She related that there had been discussion previously about assessing other entities, but the EDD has not moved to that level of discussion as of yet. She will be going to Regional Council at the end of April, and would like to take the recommendation to continue at the same rate this year as was approved last year. Ms. Drew commented that the total budget for the EDD is \$124,000. Chairman Cox asked for a recommendation from the Committee. **Casey Rooney made a recommendation to ask the General Committee to recommend to the Regional Council to leave the assessments the same this year as last year, Paul Watson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

5. Member Considerations

Ms. Drew reported three membership renewals.

- Renewals

Supervisor Art Babbott

Steve North

Sharon Adams. Ms. Drew said that she had received communication from Sharon Adams regarding her possible resignation from the EDC and would verify with her today.

- New

Evelyn Racette

Paul Watson announced that Evelyn Racette is no longer employed at the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside, therefore her application will be withdrawn from consideration.

6. Member Comments

Chairman Cox called for member comments, there were none.

7. Public Comments

Chairman Cox called for public comments, there were none.

8. Adjournment

Chairman Cox then called for a motion to adjourn the Executive Session of the EDC. **The motion to adjourn was made by Rich Bowen, seconded by Paul Watson. The meeting adjourned at 9:53 AM.**