

M A D E R A C O U N T Y
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION
E x e c u t i v e C o m m i t t e e

March 10, 2021

MINUTES

(This meeting was a Zoom meeting)

PRESENT: *Rob Poythress, Brett Frazier, Waseem Ahmed, Brad Ditton, Santos Garcia*

ABSENT: *None*

STAFF: *Bobby Kahn, Lois Leonard*

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 a.m. by Chair Poythress.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3.0 INTRODUCTIONS & RECOGNITION

None.

4.0 CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA

None.

5.0 PRESENTATION

Presentation by Banannrman Farms

Chris Kammer, COO Banannrman Farms gave a presentation of their company, highlighting the community tax benefits and water savings of cannabis growing.

6.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

6.1 Madera County Economic Development Commission Executive Committee Minutes- February 2021

6.2 Madera County Economic Development Commission Financial Report- February 2021

On motion by Commissioner Frazier and seconded by Commissioner Ahmed, the consent calendar is approved as presented. Motion carried.

7.0 ACTION ITEMS-

7.1 Support of SB74

On motion by Commissioner Frazier and seconded by Commissioner Garcia, MCEDC will send a letter in support of SB74. Motion carried.

7.2 Opposition of the Office of Management and budget change to Metropolitan and Metropolitan Statistical Area Standards

On motion by Commissioner Frazier and seconded by Commissioner Ahmed, MCEDC will send a letter in opposition of the Office of Management and budget change to Metropolitan and Metropolitan Statistical Area Standards. Motion carried.

7.3 Discussion on EDCMC Membership

It was the consensus of the Committee that Bobby do some fact finding to create a membership for the EDCMC and share information at the next Executive Committee meeting.

8.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – None.

9.0 WRITTEN COMMUNICATION- None.

10.0 OPEN DISCUSSION/REPORTS/INFORMATION

10.1 Executive Committee Members

Commissioner Poythress (Madera Chamber) – reported the Chamber continues to assist membership with regulatory information.

Commissioner Garcia (City of Madera) – reported council has provided small incentives to encourage the employees to get their vaccines. And they have provided extra leave time for employees to care for their families so not to burn up all their sick leave.

Commissioner Ahmed (City of Chowchilla) – reported they are reviewing a regulatory code for smoke free areas in the City.

Commissioner Ditton (Bass Lake Chamber) – reported power has been off and on all day. Real Estate Market in the area is hot. The Elderberry House is having a drive through event on March 20th.

10.2 Executive Director- reported on active projects. Office Development project, creating a small business park in the City of Madera. Project Ram, a residential project, meeting with brokers and a major builder from Fresno. Project Ocean, food processing company meeting with Span Construction and the Cities of Chowchilla and Madera. Banannrman Farms Project, cannabis. Project Lumber, logistics project in the City of Madera. Project Sunset, ongoing project in the City of Chowchilla. Met with real estate broker, Jim Merrill to do research on a project on Hwy 41. Had a meeting with the new owner of the Ice House and the City and County of Madera. CCVEDC Lead, shared properties in both the City of Chowchilla and the City of Madera for a plastic manufacturer. Project Sky Park in the south part of the county. Had a meeting with ICC Stravinski on their properties. Attended the Alliance Meeting and a CALED meeting. Meeting with Mark Hamilton for help on properties in Chowchilla. Attended Tom Wheeler’s Town Hall meeting and did a piece with Amanda Venegas for Channel 30. Zoom Marketing mission, had 4 meetings with 9 contacts.

10.3 Manager of Business Development and Marketing-

10.4 Business Assistance/Office Manager- reported the City of Madera Micro Grant Program will begin March 15th. The program requires businesses must have no more than 5 employees and owners must be low to moderator income earners. We will do a promo in Spanish for Spanish speaking business owners.

10.0 CLOSED SESSION- No action was taken.

11.0 NEXT MEETING- The next meeting will be held on March 10, 2021.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT- The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lois Leonard, Recording Secretary