

J O I N T M E E T I N G

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MADERA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AND

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MCEDC BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AS THE CEDS COMMITTEE

M I N U T E S

July 13, 2022

This meeting was conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order which suspends certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act. Social distancing per the Executive Order were used at the meeting. Members of the public were advised at posting of the agenda that comments were accepted via email at info@maderacountyedc.com.

PRESENT: Rob Poythress, Ron Flores, Ollia Ridge, Tracie Scott-Contreras, Waseem Ahmed, Santos Garcia, Laura Young, Brad Ditton

ABSENT: Wade Wheeler, Darin Soukup, Paige Hill, Anthony Corales, Brett Frazier

STAFF: Bobby Kahn, Lois Leonard

1.0 **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Poythress.

2.0 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

3.0 **INTRODUCTIONS & RECOGNITIONS**

Laura Young was introduced as the Coarsegold Chamber representative.

4.0 **CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA**

On motion by Chair Poythress and seconded by Commissioner Flores, Item 6.25- Collective Partnership Agreement Letter will be added to the agenda due to a need to take immediate action. Motion carried.

5.0 **CONSENT CALENDAR**

5.1 Madera County Economic Development Commission Minutes
-April 6, 2022

5.2 Madera County Economic Development Commission Financial Report
- June 2022

On motion by Commissioner Scott-Contreras and seconded by Commissioner Ridge, the consent calendar is approved as presented. Motion carried.

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Madera County Economic Development Commission 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Audit

On motion by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Scott-Contreras, the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Audit cost of \$4750 for Ralph McKinnis, CPA is approved. Motion carried.

6.2 Changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act Opening Meeting Laws

On motion by Commissioner Frazier and seconded by Commissioner Ridge MCEDC will adopt Resolution 2022-07 authorizing Remote Teleconference for all Commission and Executive Committee Meeting in accordance of Assembly Bill 361 for a period of 30 days. Motion carried.

6.25 Collective Partnership Agreement Letter

On motion by Commissioner Scott-Contreras and seconded by Commissioner Ridge, MCEDC Executive Director will sign the Collective Partnership Agreement Letter. Motion carried.

6.3 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

On motion by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Ridge, MCEDC Board of Commissioners will adjourn to the CEDS committee meeting at 3:12 pm. Motion carried. Returned to the MCEDC Board of Commissioners meeting at 3:27 pm.

7.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None.

8.0 WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

None.

9.0 OPEN DISCUSSION/REPORT/INFORMATION

9.1 Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Poythress -(Madera Chamber)- *reported once all the jurisdictions approve the plan for Measure T, it will be on the ballot in November. SIGMA has allocations in place and will begin work on the penalties associated on over pumping. MID has begun delivery of water and will continue for 6-8 weeks. The county approved using ARPA funds for expansion of Madera Community Hospital Pharmacy.*

Commissioner Ridge -(Golden Valley Chamber)- *reported on their successful fire works sales. The chamber has four new members. They recently held a ribbon cutting for the Liberty High School Ag building. A new restaurant, 3 Animals BBQ opened in the Ranchos.*

Commissioner Scott-Contreras- (Workforce Investment Corporation)- reported the business services team completed 35 in person hiring events, assisted 230 local businesses with recruitment, produced 20 videos for businesses, 30 email campaigns, marketed 17 employer workshops, and 84 social media business posting during program year. They have 6,000 face book followers with a maximum post reach of 17,000. Will soon increase video content on their YouTube channel. Participating on two regional grant programs, 2GoodJobsChallenge and CERF. Other grants include youth transition and at Valley State Prison working on exit programs for prisoners. Asked to apply for dislocated workers grant. And are working on reentry services for work readiness within the local jail and probation.

Commissioner Flores- (Industry at Large)- reported business is hanging in there. Still having difficulty filling jobs, finding suppliers especially with the highest inflation in 40 years. Businesses are lowering hiring expectations to fill jobs.

Commissioner Garcia- (City of Madera)- reported on river clean up that was completed in partnership with MID, Cal Fire, and City staff. Received 28 applications for cannabis businesses. Hoping to issue permits beginning in September for 6 retail and 2 for productions/manufacturing. They continue to work on the 145/Yosemite project.

Commissioner Young -(Coarsegold Chamber)- reported she is the new president for the chamber. They continue with their Peddler Fairs with a big event planned for Labor Day weekend. They held a great event for Flag Day.

Commissioner Ahmed -(City of Chowchilla)- reported Project Sunset (Auto Zone) will have a groundbreaking on August 19th. Housing is moving forward. Weekends are busy with a Farmers Market and Movies in the park on Fridays. Saturdays they have music and science camp in the park.

Commissioner Ditton -(Bass Lake Chamber)- reported the Bass Lake fireworks were great. The annual cleanup is tonight at 6pm. July 23rd will be comedy night at the Pines. La Casa is doing the vacation rentals in the area. The water is high at the lake and is busy with lots of boats.

- 9.2 **Executive Director-** Reported on the ICSC show in May. It was well attended compared to the December show. The SIOR event was good networking. He attended a mission in Atlanta/South Carolina. He did the South Carolina leg, where he met with 4 site selectors. Then spent 2 days in Atlanta. Attended the Sacramento Host Breakfast and the CAL Chamber Legislative committee conference. Worked with the CALED legislative action committee and were able to kill the large warehouse legislation. Has a tour with a client in Freedom Industrial Park on Friday. Working with a potential cannabis facility on a build to suit site. Thanked the commission for the 20 years of support. This will be his last meeting as he will retire before the next meeting. Commissioner Flores thanked Bobby for all of his accomplishments.

9.3 **Manager of Business Development & Marketing-** Report as presented.

9.4 **Business Assistance/Office Manager-** Lois reported there are funds available for both the City of Madera Micro Program and the County Micro Program. The county and EDC will soon start another grant program with less restrictions than the other two grant programs.

10.0 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Commission will be held October 12, 2022.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Leonard
Recording Secretary