

Summary

Meeting of the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District

Board of Directors

Wednesday, January 5, 2011

Puget Sound Regional Council Boardroom

Call to Order/Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Economic Development District Board of Directors was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Clare Petrich, President. Roll Call was taken via sign-in on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates present for all or part of the meeting included:

Mr. David Allen, McKinstry Company, VP
Ms. Sue Ambler, Snohomish Workforce Dev. Council
Councilmember John Chelminiak, Bellevue
Councilmember Richard Conlin, Seattle
Deputy Mayor Jake Fey, Tacoma
Commissioner Charlotte Garrido, Kitsap County
Councilmember Dave Gossett, Snohomish County
Mayor Patty Lent, City of Bremerton, via *phone*
Mr. Daniel Malarkey, WA State Dept of Commerce
Mr. Jeffrey Marcell, EDC of Seattle/King County/
enterprise Seattle
Commissioner Clare Petrich, Port of Tacoma
Councilmember Chris Raezer, Other Cities
Snohomish County (Arlington)
Mr. Stan Sorscher, Organized Labor

Mr. Bill Stafford, Trade Development Alliance
Councilmember Catherine Stanford, Other Cities in King
County (Lake Forest Park)
Councilmember Ed Stern, Other Cities Kitsap County
(Poulsbo)
Mr. Bill Stewart, Kitsap EDA
Councilmember Jason Whalen, Other Cities in Pierce
(Lakewood)
Mr. Chad Wright, Puyallup Tribe
Commissioner Roger Zabinski, Port of Bremerton
Mr. Ray Moser, Executive Office, King County
Mr. Ralph Pease, VP, Argosy Cruises
Councilmember Linda Kochmar, Other Cities in King
County (Federal Way)
Ms. Susan Seuss, Tacoma/Pierce County EDB

Members Absent:

Executive Dow Constantine, King County
Councilmember Reagan Dunn, King County
Councilmember Leonard Forsman, Suquamish Tribe
Commissioner Rob Holland, Port of Seattle
Mr. Bruce Kendall, Tacoma/Pierce County EDB
Ms. Deborah Knutson, Snohomish County EDC
Executive Pat McCarthy, Pierce County
Ms. Betty Nokes, Bellevue Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Jake Repin, Snoqualmie Tribe
Mr. Skip Rowland, Urban Enterprise Center

Ms. Susan Sigl, Washington Technology Industry Assoc.
Deputy Mayor Sue Singer, Other Cities in King County
(Arlington)
Ms. Susan Sigl, Washington Technology Industry
Association
Mayor Ray Stephanson, City of Everett
Mr. Bill Stewart, Kitsap Economic Development
Association

A list of guests present for all or part of the meeting is included with the official record of these minutes.

[To watch a video of the meeting go to: http://psrc.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=169
(Best in IE) or contact the PSRC Information Center, 206-464-7532; e-mail info@psrc.org.]

Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments or communications for the Board.

President's Report

President Petrich reviewed the accomplishments of the November 3rd, 2010 meeting, and welcomed Councilmember Linda Kochmar's participation as a new EDD Board alternate, representing the Suburban Cities of King County.

Director's Report

Director Chris Endresen has been working on the 2012-2013 biennial budget, which will be reviewed at the March meeting. She stated that she was elected to serve on the Washington Clean Tech Alliance Board, and she brought to the board's attention the Seattle Times and Crosscut articles on member Bill Stafford, who will be retiring in June. On January 14th, the Puget Sound Business Journal will report on the Arts Fund report on the impact of the arts on the economic vitality of the region. The meeting today will have updates on the Regional Economic Strategy and the staff trip to Chicago to report on the Metropolitan Business Plan project. She welcomed the guest speakers from the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma.

Staff Report

Eric Schinfeld, PSRC Economic Development Program Manager, reported that the two main projects staff has been working on are the Regional Economic Strategy and the Higher Education Fund, both of which will be discussed later in the meeting. The staff trip to Chicago to report on the Metropolitan Business Plan was a very good next step. The report was presented to an international group. The White House also followed up with a federal commitment to the project. In March, the Brookings Institution has set up a briefing for Administration and Congressional staff on the plan. The International Regions Benchmarking Consortium meeting will be in Vancouver, B.C. at the end of September this year and will focus on the sustainability issues of solid waste, water quality and electricity usage. Military Cluster developments include the City of Lakewood's completion of a Joint Base Lewis-McChord growth coordination study, which is available on the City's website. In addition, there is a new commander for the Navy Region Northwest, Admiral Bezel, who is very interested in working with the Prosperity Partnership on the growth of the region's economy.

Introductions were made around the room.

Consent Agenda

President Petrich asked for a motion on Approval of the Minutes of the November 3rd, 2010 Meeting.

ACTION: It was moved and seconded (Raezer/Garrido) to approve the minutes of the meeting held November 3, 2010. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Items

6. Approve 2011 Prosperity Partnership Action Items (*Chris Endresen, PSRC*)

Chris opened the discussion with a handout on staff priorities regarding the list of action items that was included in the agenda packet. A board member had requested that information. She walked through the handout with her best estimate on costs for each item.

There was discussion regarding support of enactment of the Governor's proposed higher education recommendations. The recommendations include linking funding by the state to tuition levels. If state finding increases, tuition levels fall, and vice versa. This gives educational institutions flexibility that they don't have right now.

ACTION: It was moved and seconded (Garrido/Stanford) to approve the 2011 Prosperity Partnership Action Items. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

7a. Review of the Governor's Higher Education Task Force Proposal *(Chris Endresen, PSRC)*

The Governor's Higher Education recommendations were handed out. There are 3 main elements – tuition flexibility for 4 year schools; finding new sources of revenue including creating a state scholarship program; and strengthening accountability and performance by the State's public universities. Chris stated that staff will be in Olympia on Tuesdays and Wednesdays during the Legislative Session, and will sponsor weekly updates via conference call on Friday afternoons. There will also be a weekly, open bi-partisan discussion on Higher Education in Olympia, sponsored by Rep. Larry Seaquist.

7b. Update on the Regional Economic Strategy Development Process *(Eric Schinfeld, PSRC)*

Eric's report was succinct due to time constraints. An update was included in the agenda packet. In addition he stated that there was a first meeting of the Technical Advisory Group but that there has been no further activity because the funding from the EDA has not yet been received.

7c. Presentation on Competitive Threats to Port Business *(Patricia Akiyama, Port of Seattle and Julie Collins, Port of Tacoma)*

Julie presented a power point on competitive threats to the ports, coming from east coast and Gulf ports, and from Canada's Prince Rupert port. State regulations, labor and rail contracts all affect the competitiveness of the local ports in relationship to those nationally and internationally. West Coast ports' marketing is based on their "greener" approach - there is a smaller carbon footprint when shipping west to east. Assistance from the EDD Board could include ensuring that the implementation of T2040 maintains a freight focus, ensure freight friendly regional and state policies, support lowering fees on manufacturing and industry, promote WA state products and export initiatives, and encourage the location of warehousing and distribution centers. Support a Federal freight policy in the re-authorization of a Surface Transportation Bill. The presentation can be found at http://psrc.org/assets/5424/2011_01-05_POS-POT_Competitive_Threats.pdf

Next Meeting Date and Time: Wednesday, March 2nd, 2011; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., in the PSRC Board Room.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m...

[To listen to the discussion, please go to the video of the meeting: (best in Internet Explorer)
http://psrc.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=169

You may also review any of the presentations from the discussion items at the PSRC website, <http://psrc.org/about/boards/edd> or contact the PSRC Information Center, 206-464-7532; e-mail info@psrc.org.]