



ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
COLLABORATIVE

MINUTES

EDC-VC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

July 6, 2022

Location: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87303913667pwd=U0pQYUItZnNLa3lZRmhQY0R6WnlhQT09>

Attendance: Andy Sobel—City of Santa Paula
Dee Dee Cavanaugh, *Vice Chair* – City of Simi Valley
Kristen Decas – Port of Hueneme/Oxnard Harbor District
Harold Edwards, *Board Chair* – Limoneira Company
Bob Engler – City of Thousand Oaks
Kelly Long – County of Ventura
Peter Zierhut, *Secretary/Treasurer* – Haas Automation

Legal Counsel: Nancy Kierstyn Schreiner – Law Offices of Nancy Kierstyn Schreiner

Staff: Bruce Stenslie - EDC President/ CEO
Tracie Schneider – EDC Communications and Marketing Manager
Alondra Gaytan- EDC Director of Strategic Relations
Monica Estrella- EDC Grants and Contract Manager
Ray Bowman – EDC SBDC Director

Call to Order: 3:31 p.m. Vice Chair Dee Dee Cavanaugh thanked everyone for attending.

Roll Call: Alondra Gaytan

Amendment to the Agenda: None

Adopt a Resolution, Subject to Government Code 54953, Subdivision (e)(3), for the EDC-VC Board of Directors to Hold Virtual Meetings Due to COVID-19 Emergency:

Vice Chair Dee Dee Cavanaugh requested a motion to adopt a Resolution, Subject to Government Code 54953, Subdivision (e)(3), for the EDC-VC Board of Directors to Hold Virtual Meetings Due to COVID-19 Emergency. Bob Engler moved to approve the motion and Kelly Long Seconded the motion. All members in attendance in favor, motion carried.

Executive Committee Meeting, June 1, 2022

Approval of Executive Committee Minutes:

Vice Chair Dee Dee Cavanaugh requested a motion to approve the minutes of June 1, 2022, Executive Committee meeting. Bob Engler moved to approve and file the minutes of June 1, 2022, Executive Committee meeting. Kelly Long seconded the motion. All Executive Members listed in attendance in favor, motion approved.

Public Comment: None

Administration:

A. Authorization for the President/CEO to Submit a Proposal for EDC to Serve as Fiscal Agent, Grant Recipient and Regional Partner, Representing the Uplift Central Coast Coalition, for Securing up to a \$5 Million Planning Grant through the CA Community Economic Resilience Fund. Recommendation to Approve.

Bruce Stenslie provided an overview of the EDC's representation in the Uplift Central Coast Coalition, for securing up to \$5 Million Planning Grant through the CA Community Economic Resiliency Fund. The funding is to be distributed through 13 regions defined by a governing partnership of three state agencies: Governor's Office of Planning and Research, Governor's Office of Business & Economic Development and the State Labor & Workforce Agency. Our region is comprised of the six counties on the central coast, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito.

The funding will be distributed in two phases, planning and implementation. Each region will be eligible for up to \$5 million in planning funds, to be granted to a single entity or consortium, called a "High Road Transition Collaborative" or HRTC.

Once funded, the HRTC will gather input from a broad and inclusive network of stakeholders and develop priorities for implementation projects. Once the state has accepted the HRTC's regional plan, local entities of all kinds may apply for project funding, consistent with the regional plan, though requiring both the HRTC's endorsement and state review and approval. The planning funds are good through 12/2024. Implementation projects may have another two to three years after that.

The solicitation for planning grants was released on May 26 and [may be accessed here](#). Proposals are due July 25, with funding awards in August. With that said, Dee Dee opened a discussion and board members shared their comments.

Dee Dee Cavanaugh called a motion to formally authorize the EDC to serve as a Fiscal Agent, Grant recipient, and regional partner, representing The Uplift Central Coast Coalition, for Securing up to a \$5 Million Planning Grant through the CA Community Economic Resilience Fund. Kelly Long moved to approve the motion and Peter Zierhut seconded that motion. All board members in attendance in favor, motion was passed.

B. Update and Status Report on the Digital Upskilling Initiative

Bruce Stenslie provided an overview on the Digital Upskilling Initiative. He mentioned that Assembly member Jacqui Irwin has long been among the state's leading advocates for investing in digital skills, promoting cyber-security and advancing for our region a robust and competitive high technology economy. She has been instrumental in securing resources for Cal State University Channel Islands to launch its own Engineering program, with a concentration in Mechatronics. Bruce mentioned that Assembly member Irwin was introduced to a CARES Act funded digital skills training pilot program in the Sacramento area. She quickly organized discussions in Ventura County about replicating the program. While we were not able to turn around a program immediately, even better, she was able to secure a \$5 million Trailer Bill (AB/SB 129) allocation for the launch of a program in Ventura County.

Back in October 2021 the EDC Board approved the receipt of the grant funding from the State Labor and Workforce Agency to be the program operator. The EDC has assembled a diverse team of program leads and partners, held a project kick-off meeting on January, and an overview for the board back in February 2022.

There was no action for this item it was for informational purpose.

C. Membership Report

Bruce Stenslie provided an update on the EDC's board membership. The EDC's bylaws, Section 2.2, identify the full board as a maximum of 36 members, including up to 24 from the private sector (which may include up to four members from other public or special district organizations, such as CSUCI and the Port of Hueneme) and 12 from the public sector. Bruce shared the definitions of the categories for each seat which include Public Sector, Private Sector, and Board Liaisons.

Bruce shared that with the continuing downturn in business owing to the coronavirus pandemic, the EDC remains cautiously concerned about membership dues and retention. A detailed update on the current membership involvement and risk of potential turnover was provided. The EDC continues to be interested in recruiting new board members. Recruitment and considerations include not only distribution and diversity by industry sector but also by region, significance of the business and sector as well as the personal and professional characteristics of the individuals representing the industries and firms we recruit. A review of our roster reveals several under-represented sectors Such as; Agriculture/Food Systems, Wholesale & Retail Trade , Transportation & Warehousing, Leisure & hospitality, Manufacturing Production, Real Estate, Development , Engineering Services , Biotech & Life Sciences. These sectors listed are some that the EDC is looking to add to existing representation, given the sectors' critical importance to the region.

There was no action for this item, this item was for informational purpose.

D. President's Report

Bruce Stenslie reported Local, Regional and Other Community Meetings/Partnerships that the EDC has been actively working on. In addition mentioned that the EDC goes dark in August there will be no Executive Committee, ED Roundtable meetings, and General Board meetings till September.

New and Unfinished

Business: N/A

Executive

Committee

Comments: Peter Zierhut shared that Cal Lutheran University will be holding a forum called "[The Great Resignation](#)" scheduled for September 22nd.

Adjournment:

Dee Dee Cavanaugh thanked everyone for attending and adjourned at 4:32pm next meeting is scheduled on September 7th at 3:30pm.