



ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
COLLABORATIVE

MINUTES

EDC-VC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

January 7, 2026

- Location:** 4001 Mission Oaks Blvd. Suite P, Camarillo, Ca 93012
- Attendance:** Dr. Cynthia Herrera, *Vice Chair* — Community Colleges of Ventura County
Dee Dee Cavanaugh—City of Simi Valley
Bob Engler, *Board Chair* — City of Thousand Oaks
Janice Parvin—County of Ventura
Peter Zierhut, *Secretary/Treasurer* — Haas Automation
John Bandek—*Economic Development Roundtable Chair*, City of Moorpark
Renee Delgado—City of Moorpark
- Absent:** Harold Edwards—Limoneira Company
Kristin Decas —Port of Hueneme/Oxnard Harbor
- Guests:** Dr. Sevet Johnson—County of Ventura
- Staff:** Bruce Stenslie--EDC President/CEO
Alondra Gaytan—Director of Strategic Relations
Stephanie Gonzalez—Accounting and Marketing Assistant
- Call to Order:** 3:35 p.m. Chair Bob Engler welcomed everyone and expressed thanks for attending.
- Amendment to the Agenda:** N/A
- Public Comment:** N/A

**Approval
of Executive
Committee
Minutes:**

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, December 3, 2025

Chair Bob Engler requested a motion to approve the minutes of December 3, 2025, Executive Committee meeting. Supervisor Janice Parvin moved to approve and file the minutes of December 3, 2025, Executive Committee meeting minutes. Dr. Cynthia Herrera seconded the motion. All members in attendance approved the motion; Renee Delgado and John Bandek were not yet present.

Administration

A. Consideration for the Nomination of EDC Officers, 2026.

Bruce Stenslie reviewed EDC Bylaws related to the Annual Meeting, officer nominations, and Executive Committee composition. The Annual Meeting is required to be held as the board's first meeting of the year (Section 2.4c) and is scheduled for **January 15, 2026**.

Per Section 2.8, the Executive Committee serves as the Nominating Committee and will present a slate of officers to the full Board at the Annual Meeting.

Section 3.1 identifies the officers and establishes annual elections for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer. The President is appointed by contract through **November 25, 2027**. Consistent with past practice, the incoming Chair for 2026 is anticipated to be the current Vice-Chair, **Cynthia Herrera**.

The Committee reviewed the requirement that the Chair and Vice-Chair alternate between public and private sector representatives (Section 3.1a), noting that the 2026 Vice-Chair nomination will be drawn from the public sector.

Section 3.3 regarding annual Executive Committee appointments was reviewed, including the requirement for an Economic Developers Roundtable representative. The Committee discussed potential Executive Committee composition changes for 2026 to support leadership succession planning. No action was taken on the Executive Committee composition beyond the 2026 officers.

Renee Delgado moved to approve the motion for the slate of 2026 officers: Cynthia Herrera Chair, Janice Parvin Vice Chair, Peter Zierhut Secretary/Treasurer, Bruce Stenslie President/CEO. Dee Dee Cavanaugh seconded the motion. All Executive Members listed in attendance in favor, motion approved.

B. Annual Meeting Planning, Discussion on Executive Committee Membership

The Committee discussed the location, format, and general flow of the 2026 Annual Meeting. Governance-related matters to be addressed at the Annual Meeting were noted as covered in a separate memo. The meeting will be held at the Moorpark Country Club, utilizing the ballroom and a side meeting room. This will be a new venue for EDC, and staff reported positive collaboration with Country Club staff and City of Moorpark officials. The Annual Meeting will include a brief Board meeting from 3:00–3:30 PM to

conduct formal actions, including officer elections, Executive Committee appointments, and other administrative items. The Board will recess at approximately 3:30 PM to join networking with staff and guests. Guests will be invited to arrive beginning at 3:00 PM, with an anticipated attendance of approximately 200 participants. The formal program will reconvene at 4:00 PM and conclude around 5:15 PM, followed by networking and a buffet dinner through 8:00 PM. The meeting theme will focus on Ventura County's film industry, highlighting its historic role and EDC's convening role as the Ventura County Film Commission in strengthening a film-ready ecosystem that supports jobs, small businesses, and workforce development. The program will emphasize regional best practices, public-sector coordination, business engagement, and the economic impact of film production. Rather than a single keynote, the event will feature a panel of speakers representing governance, leadership, and practitioner perspectives. Sponsorship levels for the event will remain unchanged from the prior year, as reflected in the "Save the Date" flyer. It was noted that this event represents EDC's primary annual fundraising effort beyond membership dues, with a target net revenue of approximately \$30,000 to \$40,000 to support flexible, non-restricted organizational needs. This item was for informational purposes, no action needed.

C. Membership Update and Discussion

Staff reviewed Board composition requirements under Section 2.2 of the Bylaws, which authorize up to 44 Board members, including up to 28 private sector members (with limited public or special district representation) and 16 public sector members. In 2023, the bylaws were amended to expand Board size from 36 to 44 to better reflect EDC's expanded service territory, including Santa Barbara County.

All Ventura County public sector seats are currently filled. Recruitment of public sector representatives from Santa Barbara County is ongoing. The Board currently includes 23 private sector members out of 28 authorized seats, including two in-kind members. VCEDA was noted as a voting, non-dues-paying Board member per the bylaws.

The Committee also reviewed Section 2.7, which allows for up to five non-voting Board Liaisons representing key regional economic interests. EDC currently has three Board Liaisons.

The Committee discussed priorities for recruiting additional private sector Board members across a range of industry sectors to strengthen representation. Vacant Board seats are filled by majority vote of a quorum, and per Section 2.8, the Executive Committee serves as the Nominating Committee. No action was taken.

D. Sports/Games Readiness Roadmap, EDC in Partnership with Ventura County Coast

The Committee discussed upcoming national and global sporting events, including the FIFA World Cup and the 2028 Summer Olympics, and noted Ventura County's growing role as a host location for sports training and competitions. These events were identified as significant economic opportunities for local businesses through procurement,

tourism-related sales, and partnerships with teams and event organizers. Staff shared that EDC is working closely with regional tourism partners, particularly Ventura County Coast, to develop information, resources, and business participation opportunities. A draft Games Readiness Roadmap (2025–2029) was presented, outlining strategies to communicate opportunities to the business community, strengthen coordination among economic development partners, and ensure both near-term readiness and long-term preparedness. The discussion focused on sharing proposed strategies and partnerships and gathering input on regional opportunities. No action was taken.

E. Uplift Central Coast Industry Concentration in Advanced Aircraft/Autonomous Systems, Business Attraction and Retention, Update and Discussion

Staff provided an update on CA Jobs First (formerly CERF), a state initiative originally funded at \$600 million and later adjusted to \$450 million, focused on advancing inclusive, sustainable economic development through a triple-bottom-line framework. The program includes three phases. The Planning Phase funded 13 regions at \$5 million each; EDC serves as fiscal agent and co-convenor for the Uplift Central Coast six-county region. The Catalyst Phase, active through September 2026, provides \$14 million per region, including \$9 million in predevelopment grants. The region has funded 42 projects and is advancing work in precision manufacturing workforce development and autonomous systems/advanced aircraft, including industry analysis, prospectus development, and outreach planning. The final Implementation Phase includes two statewide competitive funding rounds. While the region was not successful in Round 1, EDC is collaborating with regional partners on a Round 2 proposal focused on autonomous systems testing, evaluation, and production. The proposal is under development and intended to strengthen long-term regional capacity regardless of funding outcome. No action was taken.

F. Presidents Report

Bruce Stenslie provided an overview of the various local, regional, and other community meetings and partnerships. A few updates for board members included upcoming events, and grant opportunities. With interest in the partnership and leveraging of resources.

New and Unfinished

Business: N/A

Executive

Committee
Comments: N/A

Adjournment:

At 4:36pm Board Chair Bob Engler thanked everyone for attending and announced the meeting adjourned to February 4, 2026.