

# Cities-County Economic Development Committee (CCEDC)

**Notes for Meeting:** March 29, 2018 at the Business Incubator Conference Room in Orland, CA.

**Meeting Facilitated By:** Glenn County Supervisor Dwight Foltz

**Attendees:** Glenn County Supervisor Dwight Foltz, HHS Community Development Director Jody Samons, Orland Mayor Charlie Gee, Orland City Manager Pete Carr, Director of Planning & Community Development Don Rust, Willows City Council Member Jeff Williams, Willows Vice-Mayor Larry Mello, Ag Commissioner & Air Pollution Director Marcie Skelton, Glenn County Supervisor Keith Corum, Orland City Council Member Bruce Roundy, Glenn County Director of Public Works Dr. Mohammad Quoreshi, HHS Business Services Coordinator Yassi Lam, Associate Director of 3-CORE Marc Nemenic, Willows Fire Chief Wayne Peabody, and HHS Employment & Training Worker II Connie Scott.

## **Summary:**

Glenn County Supervisor Dwight Foltz called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

- **Welcome and Introductions**
  - a. Self-introductions not necessary
  
- **Public Comment**
  - a. Bruce Roundy reported on the meeting yesterday for the Continuum of Care. Funding will be coming for staffing and for emergency/transitional housing. Funding will eventually be available for permanent and emergency housing. Technology is being developed for connecting clients with the services they need.
  
- **Meeting Notice and Posting Date (as required by the 1994 Brown Act)**
  - a. Posted April 21, 2018, at Glenn County Memorial Hall
  
- **Review Notes from the Prior Meeting (on November 2, 2017)**
  - a. Emailed on April 20, 2018
  - b. Hardcopies available at the meeting
  - c. Jeff Williams commented that he appreciated the thorough job Mrs. Scott did on the minutes.
  - d. Jeff Williams made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Charlie Gee. The motion was approved unanimously.

- Ongoing Efforts/Round Table Reports/Projects

- a. **Pete Carr – City of Orland**

Mr. Carr reported:

- The City of Orland has four pending annexations-three on the west side and one on the east side of the freeway for Simplot (for four acres in the county).
- West Mitsubishi opened recently, and the city is happy to have a new car dealership in town.
- The Queen Bee Festival, originally scheduled for June 23, 2018, has been postponed for one year.
- In October, the city will hold an Octobeefest, a one evening event.
- The 76 station in town has been purchased by a franchisee of Chevron, and they have purchased all the property from there to Walgreens. This will be a larger facility, and will feature a restaurant and a car wash.
- The hotel project is not dead, contrary to what has been reported in the paper. They are in regular contact with the developers and their legal counsel. Challenges have been resolved. The city is awaiting the submission of the building plans.
- Charlie Gee added that Gary Campbell’s R&R Sales is undergoing remodeling to house the new Mitsubishi West car dealership.
- Eddy’s Wild Wings just opened, due in part to the county employees moving to the Success One Plaza.
- Keith Corum asked if the Master Tax Sharing Agreement helped the annexation process. Charlie added that it is on the agenda for Monday night’s meeting for final approval.
- Bruce Roundy noted that the CHIP development held the “key ceremony” for the seven new family homes that were just finished. CHIP is building between twenty to thirty homes per year. When this area is developed, they will then move to the Benson Estates area. The community is clean and looks good, and the families are very appreciative of their homes.

- b. **Wayne Peabody – City of Willows**

Mr. Peabody reported:

- The EDA project is coming together. They just had a meeting on the web site and the marketing for the outreach.
- Two new businesses are coming to Willows.
- Blue Line Tactical is moving to the Wood Street area.

- The main focus is residences for the new Cal Plant #1 which will bring 100 new jobs to Willows. Housing is needed in Willows before those folks look for housing in Orland. They are working with Basin Street to get some residential housing available.
- The city of Willows had a meeting Monday with an industrial developer from Stockton.

**c. Marc Nemenic from 3 CORE commented on the EDA project:**

- In 2015, 3 CORE received 2.5 million dollars from the EDA, which was matched by a little over a million dollars, for about 3.6 million dollars, of which they are in the process of working through the special conditions.
- There was an environmental review that had to be done, particularly from the California Fish and Wildlife, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which was the most comprehensive review.
- They are currently working through about ten special conditions for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Marc and Wayne Peabody will be traveling to Seattle in April to close the deal in respect to the special conditions and get confirmation that the special conditions have been satisfied.
- One of the special conditions was that when the project was approved, the cost estimates for construction costs were lower than they should be.
- A second application has been sent to the Housing and Community Development Department for the Over the Counter Program through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for 2.9 million dollars- application is pending now.
- Marc expects an award letter in May. He hopes to start construction in August.
- Rumiano Cheese will be putting in a new building there and consolidate their operations at that new site.
- Rumiano Cheese will be making a four million dollar investment, and with the 6.4 million dollar investment of public money, it will retain over 100 jobs.

**d. Connie Scott - Employment & Training Worker II gave an update:**

- At the November meeting, Connie reported that she did not have any participants in the Subsidized Employment Program, but now has ten participants.
- The SEP program is aimed at assisting CalWORKS participants in job placement.

- Food Service, car dealerships, county agencies, and area dairies are some of the types of companies who use this service.
- Teaching folks how to go to work is the main focus of this program.

**e. Yassi Lam – Glenn County Business Services Activities**

- Two new businesses are set to open in Willows.
- Glenn Made hopes to be open in May, and Town Central Deli will open in June.
- There will be minimal or no job creation, as these two businesses are operated by spouses.
- Unemployment in the county is under 8%, and was 2% higher a year ago.
- The clients we deal with have multiple barriers, and are at risk for homelessness or are homeless.
- Glenn County will be rolling out CalWORKS 2.0 in May, and we will be able to address these basic needs.
- On the training side, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) department welcome referrals for youth and adults.
- WIOA was recently awarded funding for programs targeted at Veterans, folks with disabilities, those who are on probation, and WIOA also has construction and pre-apprenticeships grants.
- The projected move in date to the Success One Plaza in Orland for Business Services is April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**f. Jody Samons - HHSA Community Development Director**

- With the help of Marc Nemenic from 3CORE, Jody has drafted a response to the State on Opportunity zones. Orland has had two zones. Jody wanted Willows and Hamilton City included in these Opportunity zones, but the state did not accept that recommendation.
- Jody has written to Congressmen Garamendi and La Malfa to see if they could provide input to change this, but so far, nothing has been changed.
- The master tax share agreement is done and will be a part of the new business packet for new businesses.
- Jody has been focusing her attention on the application to the FFA concerning the tower height, on behalf of Cal Plant. Change was made to the tower after the permit was granted. The new design is more energy efficient using a taller tower. Twelve letters of support were sent along with the application.

- Crop Production Services in Hamilton City has taken down most of the buildings they will not be using and has started work on rehabbing those they will be using.
- Farm Supply in Artois is making progress in their construction. The big tanks recently installed will hold liquid fertilizer.
- Farmers Brewing had a positive showing at the Ruck, Rock and Revelry event at the Fairgrounds. They have recently been awarded a \$400,000.00 Cal Competes tax credit. In the last three years, Glenn County has obtained 2.8 million dollars in tax credit through Cal Competes for local companies.
- The Slingshot Grant, which funded the new Business Incubator, had a final meeting in Sacramento. The businesses that were served during this grant period should be creating 212 new jobs for Glenn County by mid-2019. 3CORE has leveraged another \$30,000.00 through a grant to assist with additional expenses for the Incubator.
- Stuart Knox will be in Glenn County in two weeks. He heads the Employment Training panel in Sacramento. He will be visiting all the new job sites that will need training funds for their new employees.
- Jody is working with Advance North State which tries to connect education and business so that the employees coming out of our schools have skills that the businesses need. Training in “soft skills” is also needed.
- Jody had a discussion with a local trucking company concerning the Team tracks on the rail for Farm Supply. This will reduce the freight costs and allow the truck to pick up the freight from the rail and deliver it the last mile.

**g. Marcie Skelton - Commissioner of Agriculture**

Money is coming in to the county though Air Pollution:

- One program is for changing out old wood stoves. \$120,000 has been allotted for this program. Folks can change out their old wood stove for a more energy efficient, UPA approved stove. Rewards will range from \$2,000 - \$5,000 per stove, based on financial qualifications. This program will go through a dealership and the stoves will be installed through the dealership.
- The other program is called “Farmer” and is similar to the Carl Moyer program which exchanges old tractors and pumps for new, cleaner functioning equipment. Glenn County was awarded 1.4 million dollars.

- Wayne Peabody asked if there was a reduction in acres burned due to Cal Plant stockpiling rice straw, to which Commissioner Skelton answered yes. Also there was less stubble burning due to Cal Plant.

## 6. New Business:

**a. Rural Business Development:** Jody Samons wanted to prioritize the projects we currently have in Glenn County. She would like to have a dashboard prepared, so that when new funding sources are announced, we will be ready to jump on them.

- Marc Nemenic added that in the recently-signed Federal budget, there was a substantial amount of funding for infrastructure.
- There was additional funding for rail improvement, the Opportunity Zone program and EDA.
- The Insurance Commissioner has a program called the California Organized Investment Network, and they recently put out a request for projects. Marc would like to look into infrastructure project in the county.
- Marc wants to look at all the opportunities available to leverage money for county projects.
- Jody reviewed the chart listing future projects, such as rail, new spurs (one by Cal Plant), infrastructure (broadband), the bridge at Basin Street, to name a few.
- Under new facilities, Pete Carr is interested in a new City Hall facility, as the Police Department needs more space.
- There is a new event/community center project for Orland.
- Supervisor McDaniel is working on the park project in Hamilton City.
- Chief Peabody mentioned the upgrading of the lighting at the park in Willows.
- Jody cited the brochure on USDA Rural Development Summary of Major Programs.
- Under Rural Business Development, the Cold Storage feasibility is almost finished. The results should be back in about two weeks.
- The application for the Biomass Cogen came about due to the amount of energy needed to run a cold storage. The City of Willows is taking the lead on this project. This is in the feasibility stage at this time.
- For a local co-packer, there needs to be about ten - eleven businesses to sign up to make a cooperative co-packing facility viable.
- The Proudly Produced campaign promoted local products. Jody may re-run an application that did not get funded last year.
- 3CORE is considering doing an area-wide RBDG application. Marc commented that he will be meeting with the Center for Economic

Development. The center and the three regional districts are funded by the EDA. Six hundred million dollars has been allocated, by region, through the EDA for special disaster relief. Our area should be getting around sixty million dollars. Marc will be meeting to figure out the details and the joint projects to be done. Marc hopes that the NOFA will have more details.

- Marc also met on The Walker Street Project, which was well received by Cal Trans.

**b. Housing:**

- Jody met with Ron Tackett from the Basin Street Project, who has a loan guarantee program for developers. Ron is their “housing guy”, and he is working to connect us with some housing developers that might be willing to invest here with the guarantees the USDA can provide.

**c. Producer Grants:**

- Both Farmers Brewery and Kiss of Culture are scheduled to do value-added producer grants for \$250,000 each. This grant will help them with operating capital, such as can stock for Farmers Brewery.

**d. Other information:**

- Jody added that she emails any type of funding to local companies.
- Butte County would like to share Jody’s funding binder.
- Jody is also putting together information on grants and funding.
- Jody asked that if anyone receives grant information to send it to her, so that she can include in her reference guide.
- Marc said that he would like to seek additional funding from EDA for existing businesses that have passed the initial phase and are entering a growth path.
- Charlie Gee asked Jody about Sire and Stony Creek Gravel. She said they have not responded to her call.

**Next Meeting Date:** May 24, 2018, at 2pm at the Glenn County Board of Supervisors Conference Room *(CCEDC will meet 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in February, May, August, and 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in November)*

Contact Teresa Chavez at (530) 934-1413 or [tchavez@countyofglenn.net](mailto:tchavez@countyofglenn.net) if you have information to disseminate to the CCEDC