

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD  
TUOLUMNE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

LOCATION

TCEDA Offices  
99 N. Washington Street  
Sonora, CA 95370

Friday, February 10, 2017  
9:00 am

1. Call Meeting to Order:  
Chairman John Gray brought the regular meeting of the Tuolumne County Economic Development Authority (TCEDA) to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call:  
The following Board Members were present: Chairman John Gray, Member Jim Gianelli, Member George Segarini, Member Sherri Brennan, Member Barry Hillman, Member Connie Williams (left at 10:15 am) and Member Dave Thoeny (left at 10:00 am).

Also present were Economic Development Authority CEO Larry Cope, Secretary Malorie Sperry, County Administrator Craig Pedro and City Administrator Tim Miller.

3. Flag Salute: John Gray led the Flag salute.

4. Oral Communication: None

5. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of the November 18, 2016 TCEDA Governing Board's regular meeting minutes.

John Gray asked for any public comments and there were none.

**Motion: Jim Gianelli moved to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2016 TCEDA Board Meeting. George Segarini seconded the motion. The Board approved by a 6-0-1 vote with Sherri Brennan abstaining.**

6. Old Business: None

7. New Business:

a. Welcome New and Reappointed Board Members

The new board member and reappointed board members were welcomed to the board.

John Gray asked for any public comments and there were none.

b. Choose TCEDA Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary for 2017 (Discussion and Action)

**Motion: George Segarini moved to elect John Gray as TCEDA Chairperson. Barry Hillman seconded the motion. The Board approved by a 7-0-0 vote.**

**Motion: Jim Gianelli moved to elect George Segarini as TCEDA Vice-Chairperson. Barry Hillman seconded the motion. The Board approved by a 7-0-0 vote.**

**Motion: Sherri Brennan moved to elect TCEDA Staff as Secretary. Connie Williams seconded the motion. The Board approved by a 7-0-0 vote.**

c. Board direction on current TCEDA contract with CSEDD and the board's interest in terminating current contract and/or responding to upcoming RFP. (Discussion and/or Possible Action)

Larry Cope informed the group that the CSEDD contract is coming to an end this year and the board needs to make some decisions on whether they want to apply for the RFP or end the contract with CSEDD. Larry illustrated to the group, by means of a chart, the amount of time he has spent on CSEDD related items. In the past year he spent around 60% of his time on projects, paperwork and meetings related to CSEDD. Last year the Economic Development Association (EDA) made some significant changes including a new point of contact and the elimination of matching the directors' time with donated time, all of which has created more paperwork, increased costs and resulted in an extensive revision of the CEDS.

There was a group discussion on the pros and cons of running CSEDD. Although everyone feels that there are benefits of being involved in CSEDD, the concern the

group has is the amount of time spent running the organization and the new costs that will be required to run it.

Questions were raised regarding TCEDA's involvement if they decide not to run CSEDD and what the future of the organization may look like. Tim Miller clarified that CSEDD does not dissolve if TCEDA no longer runs it. It just means that running the organization will go out to RFP. Larry Cope added that TCEDA would still have some involvement in CSEDD regardless of who runs it.

Larry Cope informed the group that another significant change is that the EDA focuses more on the planning aspect of the grant rather than implementation. This makes it difficult for rural regions to achieve their goals because they are typically the ones doing the actual work, not contracting out or having volunteers do the work.

There was some discussion on whether the County and City would be able to fill in the gap that will be left in the TCEDA budget if they do not run the CSEDD. After discussing the effects of the decreased budget, the Board Members from the City of Sonora and Tuolumne County agreed that they would presumably be able to find the money in their respective budgets.

John Gray asked for any public comments and there were none.

**Motion: Jim Gianelli made a motion to terminate the contract with CSEDD and not respond to the upcoming RFP. Connie Williams seconded the motion. The Board approved by a 7-0-0 vote.**

**Motion: Jim Gianelli moved to allow TCEDA to finish out the 2016-17 contract with CSEDD ending on June 30, 2017. Barry Hillman seconded the motion. The Board approved by a 7-0-0 vote.**

d. Approval of 2017-2022 TCEDA Work Plan (Discussion and Possible Action)

Larry Cope directed the boards attention to the proposed Work Plan included in their board packets. He pointed out a change he has made to "Action Item-D" which is not reflected in their copy. It will now say "Encourage workforce development and housing".

Larry Cope also pointed out some new additions to the 2017-2022 Work Plan, including long term research and planning as well as tracking measurable outcomes.

Jim Gianelli was really happy to see that there will be a focus on family wage jobs. The group agreed and decided to use the term family wage jobs rather than identifying a specific amount per hour in the work plan. Sherri Brennan added that she is happy to see workforce housing included and said it's one of the biggest factors that the BOS is currently focused on.

Dave Thoeny added that as Director of Mother Lode Job Training, one thing he is working on is helping local businesses with incumbent worker training. His organization is aiming to help those individuals who already have jobs but could benefit from more training to better their current positions.

**Motion: Sherri Brennan moved to approve the 2017-2022 TCEDA Work Plan with the corrections discussed. Barry Hillman seconded the motion. The Board approved by a 6-0-0 vote.**

e. TCEDA FY18 Budget Recommendation to County of Tuolumne and City of Sonora (Discussion and Possible Action)

Larry Cope presented the proposed budget for TCEDA FY18. After approved by the board, the proposed budget will be presented to the City of Sonora and Tuolumne County. If any adjustments are necessary they can be completed before the public hearing in May.

Larry Cope explained in detail the changes in the budget from last year. He brought up the possibility of offering referral fees to aid in recruitment as well as a partnership with Valley Sierra SBDC to visit downtown Sonora businesses to assist in retention.

Craig Pedro informed the board that they will need to have a discussion regarding the CEO's compensation. Since the board voted last year to include Larry Cope in any increases or enhanced benefits of the Executive Confidential group, changes made to the MOU will result in an increase of compensation unless his contract is modified. John Gray brought up the option of placing a cap on the compensation and suggested the topic be included in the March agenda.

**Motion: Jim Gianelli moved to approve TCEDA Staff submitting the proposed TCEDA FY18 Budget to Tuolumne County and the City of Sonora. Barry Hillman seconded the motion. The Board approved by a 6-0-0 vote.**

**f. CEO's Additional Cash-Out of Vacation (Discussion and Possible Action)**

Larry Cope requested an additional vacation cash-out of 200 hours. Per his contract he is allowed one vacation cash-out of 200 hours per year. He is asking for an additional cash-out to help with some medical fees he's incurred.

**Motion: Sherri Brennan moved to approve the request from Larry Cope to get an additional 200 hours of vacation cash-out. George Segarini seconded the motion. The Board approved by a 5-0-0 vote.**

**8. Director's Report:**

Larry Cope gave a report on the active projects and prospects he is currently working on. He briefly updated the group on the capstone projects and the available retail properties in Sonora.

**9. Board Report(s):**

- Barry Hillman updated the group on HealthLitNow. He spoke about being a finalist in the California Health and Human Services Let's Get Healthy 2.0 contest. He also discussed the grant he received from California Community College.
- Sherri Brennan informed the group that the Board of Supervisors had their annual retreat and one of the top priorities they will be focusing on has to do with land use. She encourages people in the community to be a part of the process and get involved in the discussions.
- Tim Miller informed the group that the City of Sonora has their retreat next week. They will also have a workshop regarding the current laws and information regarding the legalization of marijuana use in California.

- John Gray informed the group that the Tesla Charging station in Groveland is fully operational and has been very popular. The 120 corridor is also considering a general charging station that can be used by other electric cars as well.

10. Adjourn

Chairman John Gray adjourned the meeting at 10:46 am.

Malorie Sperry

03/10/17