

**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, May 12, 2017
8:30 am

1. Call Meeting to Order:

Vice-Chairman George Segarini brought the regular meeting of the Tuolumne County Economic Development Authority (TCEDA) to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call:

The following Board Members were present: Vice-Chairman George Segarini, Member Jim Gianelli, Member Sherri Brennan, Member Barry Hillman, Member Connie Williams, Member Dave Thoeny and Alternate Member Randy Hanvelt. Chairman John Gray was absent.

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

3. Flag Salute: George Segarini led the Flag salute.

4. Oral Communication: None

5. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of the March 10, 2017 TCEDA Governing Board's regular meeting minutes.

George Segarini asked for any public comments and there were none.

Motion: Jim Gianelli moved to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2017 TCEDA Board Meeting. Barry Hillman seconded the motion. The Board approved by a 7-0-0 vote.

6. Old Business: None

7. New Business:

a. Public Hearing regarding consideration of adopting the FY18 TCEDA Budget (Discussion and Action)

8:36 am- Public Hearing Started

The FY18 Budget was presented and there was no public input.

8:36 am- Public Hearing Closed

Jim Gianelli made a motion to adopt the FY18 TCEDA Budget and Barry Hillman seconded the motion. George Segarini asked for any comment and Connie Williams noted that she felt there were parts of the budget that were incorrect.

The board asked Connie Williams to elaborate on which items she felt were incorrect. She informed the board that a line item for relief salaries was not carried over from FY17 and even though it was \$0 for FY18. Larry stated that it was left off of the budget since it was not a line item we were going to use for the FY18 budget; but accepted responsibility for not having it on the budget sheet since it seemed to have caused confusion. Connie met with Debi Bautista, County Auditor, to discuss the discrepancy.

Sherri Brennan informed the group that she met with Debi Bautista as well and feels that the budget is correct but there may be some debate on how an item was allocated between years. Barry Hillman also had a conversation with Debi Bautista and agreed with Sherri Brennan.

Connie Williams also indicated that after doing some calculations, she feels that the final budget numbers are incorrect based on the percentages the county and city have agreed to pay. She also questioned the number provided for the salaries line item.

Larry addressed both items that Connie Williams brought up. He informed the board that they could vote today to adjust the line item involving the change to the CEO's car allowance, which was changed in his updated March 2017 contract, however the total budget numbers are still the same and will not change. He also informed the board on how the city/county percentages are figured and that, for the sake of clarity, the

percentage has traditionally been rounded up or down to the next whole number. He also explained that the process to get the percentages of the shared TCEDA costs is figured by a combination of sales and property tax collections and is figured by the County Auditor's Office. Larry also explained that the salary numbers are also provided directly from the Auditor's Office.

Larry informed the board that he has met with Connie Williams a number of times to address the concerns she has had with the budget, however, since she still feels there are some discrepancies he suggested bringing in Debi Bautista to clarify in more detail.

Connie Williams expressed to the board that she feels like it's her fiduciary responsibility to look deeper into the budget numbers and that is why she has brought up the issues.

Debi Bautista arrived and explained to the board the process in which the percentage is determined. Some brief discussion followed in which Debi Bautista reiterated the information Larry had already expressed to the board regarding the salary numbers and other issues the Connie Williams had brought up.

The board was satisfied with the clarification. The motion was amended.

Motion: Jim Gianelli moved to adopt the FY18 TCEDA Budget with the modification of the line item pertaining to the CEO's Car allowance. Barry Hillman seconded the motion. The board approved by a 7-0-0 vote.

8. Director's Report:

Larry Cope gave a report on the active projects and prospects he is currently working on. He went over some partnerships he is involved with at the moment and passed out a packet to the board. There was some brief discussion about a number of Biomass projects in the works and the need for future technologies to be applied in the field.

Larry also gave a grant administration update and talked about the transference of grants to different organizations for administration since the TCEDA is no longer managing the CSEDD as of June 30, 2017. He also updated the board on future InnovationLab plans regarding updates to software and equipment.

9. Board Report(s):

- Randy Hanvelt informed the group that RCRC will be holding an Economic Summit in Tuolumne County on June 7th. He also informed the group that there will be an announcement soon from the Governor's Office regarding rural economies and forestry health. He also stated that if it was not for the work of the TCEDA's CEO that this summit would not have been taken place in Tuolumne County.
- Barry Hillman gave an update on HealthLitNow. He informed the group that Tuolumne County and Calaveras County Health Departments will be adding assistance in future workshops. The program is wrapping up for this year and there was an estimated 1,700 kids who went through the program.
- Dave Thoeny gave an update on Mother Lode Job Training (MLJT). He discussed some grants that have been recently awarded to the MLJT. He is working with a local manufacturing company to double their workforce as well as working with a home healthcare company to expand their business. Dave also informed the board that he is working on a contract with the SBDC in which consultants would work with distressed businesses in the area to help them avoid closing their business.
- Jim Gianelli sends his best wishes to John Gray. He also pointed out that he feels the cannabis industry in Tuolumne County should be addressed very carefully. Sherri Brennan agreed wholeheartedly and said that they are proceeding with extreme caution due to issues they are seeing happen in other areas. She informed the group that she hopes the community will attend future meetings which happen on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.
- Tim Miller gave a brief update on events and projects happening in Sonora.
- Sherri Brennan informed the group that she has been meeting with different agencies looking at road conditions in Tuolumne County. Cherry Oil Road is a priority for the Stanislaus National Forest which is good for Tuolumne County Tourism this summer.
- Connie Williams has high hopes for a great River Rafting season this year due to high water levels in the county. She also informed the group that the City of Sonora is working with the Sierra Business Council on an energy action plan for the community. A TCTC grant has been submitted for Stockton Street as part of the

Vision Sonora plan. The California Energy Commission did a study on clean energy in California and the results showed our area is in need of more charging stations. Connie also informed the group that the City of Sonora is looking for funds to put in public bathrooms in downtown Sonora.

- George Segarini noted that there are very few vacant buildings downtown and it's nice to see the new businesses opening and he thanked the TCEDA's staff for their work in helping this happen. He also informed the group that there were 15 buses of school children that visited Columbia State Park yesterday.

14. Adjourn

Vice-Chairman George Segarini adjourned the meeting at 10:19 am.