MINUTES

Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board Wednesday, February 2, 2022 Hybrid Meeting

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board of Directors was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Tom Florino, President. To determine attendance and that a quorum was present, a verbal roll call was conducted by staff.

[To watch a video of the meeting and hear the full discussion, please go to: https://www.psrc.org/boards/watch-meetings].

CPSEDDB MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT

See attached attendance roster.

COMMUNICATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENT

No requests to provide virtual video, written, or in-person public comment were submitted to staff.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Tom Florino welcomed everyone to the February 2, 2022 meeting and thanked the board members for their attendance.

STAFF REPORT

Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, told the board that staff finalized and submitted the adopted Regional Economic Strategy to the EDA for final approval. He also briefed the board on work related to the board focus areas for 2022. Within the Analysis and Strategy Development component, work to date includes finalizing an update to the PSRC's Space Economy Report from 2018. In the Technical Assistance focus area, Jason reminded members of the Build Back Better Regional Challenge, an EDA program to develop and strengthen regional industry clusters across the country, embracing equitable economic growth, good-paying jobs, and enhancing U.S. global competitiveness. He offered staff assistance to jurisdictions or organizations interested in applying for EDA funds. Within the Amplifying Regional Efforts component, staff will be working to identify more opportunities for board members and others to see businesses, educational programs, and other key spaces. Jason asked to hear from members about ways that PSRC can be helpful to highlight their economic development

priorities and successes this year. He noted to members information items in the agenda packet, including the PSRC Draft Supplemental Biennial Budget and Work Program FY2022-2023 and the briefing on PSRC work to facilitate the development of a recovery strategy for the region's arts and culture industry along with ArtsFund. To close, Jason reminded the board that the draft Regional Transportation plan has been released for public comment and the public comment period goes through February 28, 2022.

CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION: It was moved (Nelson) and seconded (Wright) to: (a) approve the minutes of meeting held December 1, 2021 (b) approve the vouchers dated November 29, 2021, through December 27, 2021, in the amount of \$51,192.50. The motion passed.

ACTION ITEM

Election of Economic Development District Board Officers

<u>ACTION</u>: It was moved (Stern) and seconded (Assefa-Dawson) to approve the Nominating Committee's recommendation of Commissioner Axel Strakeljahn as President, and Councilmember Conrad Lee as Vice President for the 2022-2024 term. The motion passed.

Tom Florino ended his time as the EDD President, and Commissioner Strakeljahn began to lead the meeting as the new President.

ACTION ITEM

Ratification of Presidential Appointments for the 2022-2024 Term

ACTION: It was moved (Lee) and seconded (Wright) to ratify the proposed list of Presidential Appointment seats on the board, for the 2022-2024 term. The motion passed.

The ratified Presidential Appointments are below:

- Tom Florino, Amazon
- Alex Pietsch, WSU
- Terry Ryan, Snohomish County
- Michael Greer, ArtsFund
- Emily Wittman, Aerospace Futures Alliance

ACTION ITEM

Ratification of the Economic Development District Board Executive Committee for the 2022-2023 Term

ACTION: It was moved (Bushnell) and seconded (Assefa-Dawson) to ratify the Executive Committee appointed by the President. The motion passed.

The ratified Executive Committee members are below:

- Councilmember Conrad Lee, City of Bellevue, EDD Vice President
- Tom Florino, Amazon
- Terry Ryan, Snohomish County
- Councilmember Ed Stern, City of Poulsbo
- Andrea Reay, Seattle Southside Chamber of Commerce
- Katie Condit. WorkForce Central
- Councilmember Dave Morell, Pierce County
- Commissioner Kristin Ang, Port of Tacoma

DISCUSSION ITEM

Industrial Lands Analysis Update

Paul Inghram, PSRC Director of Growth Management, briefed the board on an update to the inventory of industrial lands and to research changing conditions related to industrial uses. He asked for board feedback on the scope of the industrial lands update, which will be coordinated with the Economic Development District Board, PSRC's Freight Advisory Committee, and the Growth Management Policy Board.

Councilmember Stern stated for the record that the scope of Greater Seattle Partners is limited to King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties, and therefore not representative of the PSRC four county region. He noted that the largest greenfield for industrial development in the PSRC region is in Kitsap County, located in the Port of Bremerton. He thus stated that if Greater Seattle Partners, and their goal of business expansion, continued to successfully recruit, Kitsap County would potentially be affected, and that greater coordination with Greater Seattle Partners, PSRC, and Kitsap County would be needed. Councilmember Stern also stated that the original decision by Challenge Seattle to not include Kitsap County within the Greater Seattle Partners framework was shortsighted.

Councilmember Lee commented that the analysis was great, and that recognizing the interconnectedness of the region is important. He stated that even though City of Bellevue doesn't have a large amount of industrial land, that the city is also analyzing the use of the land and how to protect that designation. Councilmember Lee also commented that freight and supply chain issues contribute to the overall picture of how these industries are able to thrive.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Regional Workforce Recovery Planning Project Update

Tim Griffith, with MEF Associates, briefed the board on work completed on the Regional Workforce Recovery Planning Project. He provided an update on recent analysis and

the development of the final report detailing project findings along with occupational profiles summarizing key labor market indicators for selected promising occupations.

Councilmember Hougardy commented that this work is incredibly valuable in her jurisdiction, and that access to affordable childcare is a priority.

Pamela Banks, City of Seattle, updated the board that Markham McIntyre will be replacing her at City of Seattle, and she commented that the city plans to focus on workforce development efforts.

Councilmember Lee commented that training providers and community colleges are integral to improving our region's workforce skills. He questioned if the study would identify possible actions these organizations could take to anticipate future workforce needs, as well as these organizations responses. He also questioned what role cities can play in connecting into the existing ecosystem without duplicating efforts. Tim Griffith responded that training providers were contacted and engaged in the study in outreach efforts, and that once the recommendations are finalized, it would provide a point to re-engage with community colleges and training providers. He recognized Councilmember Lee's point that many workforce development structures are already in place, and that this project highlights specific options that are readily available for workers.

Emily Wittman, Aerospace Futures Alliance, commented that she was intrigued by the findings on manufacturing, that there was a ready supply of first year workers, and a lack of workers with 5-10 years of experience. Tim Griffith responded that the current structure of workforce development in the region focuses heavily on getting individuals connected to initial workforce opportunities, but much less focused is placed in industries on continued career development.

Councilmember Nelson stated that the City of Seattle could work to improve on connecting individuals to high wage training programs and wanted to connect to see the compilation of these resources. She questioned what role municipalities could play in providing this workforce information to constituents. Cynthia Forland, of Forland and Wheeler Consulting, responded that the Occupational Profiles in the project should be of use when connecting constituents to these opportunities.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.	

Adopted this 4th day of May, 2022.

Commissioner Axel Strakeljahn, President Central Puget Sound Economic Development District

ATTEST:

Josh Brown, Executive Director

J. W. Bean

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		CM Lydia Assefa-Dawson,				Andrea Reay, Seattle Southside	
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		CM James Mayhew,					
		Snoqualmie Alt	1	Economic Development			
Kitsap County	1	COM Charlotte Garrido	1	EDC - Seattle & King	1	Rachel Smith	
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Bremerton		MYR Greg Wheeler	1	KEDA - Kitsap	1	Joe Morrison	1
		CM Michael Goodnow Alt		·		Kathy Cocus Alt	
Cities/Towns	1	CM Ed Stern, Poulsbo*	1	EASC - Snohomish	1	Garry Clark	
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		Orchard Alt				Terrie Battuello Alt	
Pierce County	1	CM Dave Morell*	1	EDB - Tacoma & Pierce	1	Bruce Kendall	†
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Suquamish Tribe	34	(Quorum = 14) Quorum Total	24	Abbreviations	<u> </u>		
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