

Cities-County Economic Development Committee (CCEDC)

Minutes for Meeting: December 6, 2018 at the Glenn Grows Redwood Conference Room in Orland, CA.

Meeting Facilitated By: Glenn County Community Development Director Jody Samons

Attendees: Glenn County Community Development Director Jody Samons, HHS Business Services Coordinator Yassi Lam, Associate Director of 3-CORE Marc Nemenic, Glenn County Department of Agriculture's Jason Beauchamp, Geographic Information Center Director Jason Schwenkler, Geographic Information Center's Courtney Farrell, City of Willows' Wayne Peabody, Orland Chamber of Commerce Delegate Charlie Gee, Orland Mayor Bruce Roundy, Orland City Manager Pete Carr, City of Willows Vice-Mayor Larry Mello, Director of Planning & Community Development Services Don Rust, and HHS Employment & Training Worker II Connie Scott

Summary:

Glenn County Community Development Director Jody Samons called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Self-introductions not necessary.

2. Public Comment - None

3. Meeting Notice and Posting Date (as required by the 1994 Brown Act)

- a. Posted at Glenn County Memorial Hall.

4. Review Notes from the Prior Meeting (on August 23, 2018)

- a. Emailed on December 1, 2018.
- b. Hardcopies available at the meeting.
- c. Marc Nemenic noted that the USDA grant 3CORE applied for was granted. They have hired a part time person, and Marc is transitioning to a part-time position.

• Ongoing Efforts/Round Table Reports/Projects

a. Pete Carr – City of Orland

- CHIP has applied for building permits for 33 home sites.
- In Linwood Subdivision, the developer has filled the irrigation canal at the back of the property to allow for future development.

- The City has a grant to develop a recreation trail connecting Linwood Subdivision with Lely Park. This should be completed by June.
- The Opportunity Zone project is moving forward. Marc Nemanic will be working on a grant to help develop a portfolio to help market the project and get information out on the project.
- The Economic Development Commission for Orland has been working on vacant properties. They have a spreadsheet on all the vacant buildings in town, showing what their features are, what they were used for and what they could be used for. The EDC is contacting the owners to introduce the Façade program, and the EDC is receiving response from these owners. Some of the owners have been sitting on their properties for years, wondering what they are going to do with them.
- The Local Bee City committee has joined forces with the Honey Bee Discovery Center Group. The City has some property in escrow that fronts on Highway 32, with the idea that this would be a great location for a future honey bee discovery center. It could also be a home for the Orland Chamber and a visitor's center that would provide staffing during the day for the honey bee center.

b. Wayne Peabody – City of Willows

- A pre-construction meeting has been set for the Basin Street Subdivision.
- Sewer lines are being installed at Farmers Brewing.
- There are a couple of local developers that are turning old motels into apartments.
- Two new businesses have started up in the downtown area.
- As far as the housing need is concerned, they are starting with the infrastructure issues. They are starting to reach outside the normal government connections and do business in a different way.

c. Partner Reports

1. Courtney Farrell and Jason Schwenkler – Geographical Information Center –

- Courtney mentioned that there is a meeting now in Chico concerning the housing shortage.
- The Strategic Growth Council funding is coming up. Kristin Cooper Carter's firm is providing the technical assistance advice for this project.
- At this point in time, they are accepting recommendations for sites from organizations at this time.
- Courtney presented a workshop on "Building Your Business Canvas" at the Business Incubator last night. There were eleven participants at the class.
- The next class will be a "Financial Readiness" class in January at the Incubator led by Patty Hess.
- There was no cost to the participants, as it was underwritten by CED.
- Jason Schwenkler mentioned there will be an upcoming webinar on Broadband.

- Courtney added that the Economic Forecast Conference will be held January 10th, 2019 in Redding.

2. Charlie Gee, Orland Chamber of Commerce

- Charlie reported that there would be no “Morning Buzz” this month.
- A yearly calendar has been published.
- The Chamber has been gaining membership.

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

- Currently, there are fourteen participants in the Subsidized Employment Program (SEP).
- New employers are coming on board, plus a great group of CalWORKS clients have added to the success of this program.

4. Yassi Lam – Glenn County Business Services Activities

- Yassi reported that for the third quarter, she posted over 200 job listings, which is a 44% increase from the same time in 2017.
- We have hosted 17 hiring events, but the turn-out has been low, because people are working.
- The unemployment rate in Glenn County for October is 5%, which is down a half a percent from the same time last year. The state unemployment rate for October is 4%, and the national rate for October is 3.5%
- One of the larger Glenn County manufacturers had a layoff for six weeks during the fall to upgrade machinery, but all employees have returned to work.
- Yassi distributed an information sheet prepared by the labor market division of the Employment Development Department on the labor force, employment information and industry highlights. It is a snapshot of Glenn County.
- Glenn Grows has a new partner. SCORE will be on site twice a month to help with business start-ups, business consultation, and other new business needs.
- Glenn County Office of Education started a truck driving program. They had a full class, with a waiting list to fill three more sessions. Each class session can handle 5-6 people.

d. Jody Samons - HHS Community Development Director

- Jody has been working on a capital investment incentive plan and is working with the Governor’s office to see if she can make this happen. This is a savings on property tax.
- This would be a great incentive to get other large manufacturers to locate here.
- Jody did a workshop in Redding on the freight mobility plan with Cal Trans,

concerning moving product up and down I-5, and getting information on Cal Trans grants.

- Through the Head Grant and the Redding Bank of Commerce, Jody was able to attend the PAC expo in Chicago. There were over 2500 vendors with information on food packaging and related topics.
- We have twenty five businesses signed up with the Incubator.
- Jody attended the Vine Food and Ag meet-up, which was an open forum to bring together farmers, food processors, entrepreneurs and technology.
- She attended the manufacturing expo at Chico State. Rumiano Cheese and California Olive Ranch were there from Glenn County.
- Farmers Brewing had a hoop jumping ceremony (instead of a ribbon cutting ceremony).
- Jacqueline at 3CORE has established a google drive to maintain confidentiality of the businesses that are coming to the Incubator.
- All of the money from the Head Grant has been promised. Some of the funding is being used to develop online commerce for some of the businesses.
- There was a community meeting for North State Hulling since our last meeting.
- Through the Community Action Agency, and with the help of the Lutheran Church, we have a donation center for the Camp Fire victims.
- North State Hulling had two employees and Cal Plant 1 had four employees who were victims of the fire, and Jody was able to hand deliver gift cards to these folks provided by the Lutheran Church.
- Danielle has prepared a housing study for Glenn County and it is available now.
- Jody also has a resource guide for the Camp Fire victims and the processes for assistance.
- Don Rust distributed a brochure on Glenn County to take to conferences which states the interest of Glenn County to bring new businesses to our area.
- Don believes networking at conferences with representatives from both Willows and Orland will help us draw businesses to our area. We could partner with Go Biz at certain events.
- He would like to attend the conference in Monterey the second week of March.
- He took a group to tour a senior housing project in Oroville that he helped put together. He would also like to tour a facility in West Sacramento and a remodel of a five story hotel that was converted to a housing facility.

e. Jason Beauchamp – Department of Agriculture

- Jason shared that the Glenn County Department of Agriculture is considering having a Crop Report Plus completed for Glenn County.

- These reports supplement a traditional county crop report by calculating not only the value of food and fiber, but also the dollar value of any locally sourced value added processing.
- It also determines the number of local jobs attributed to agriculture, and it reports and quantifies the economic multiplier effects of agricultural production and employment.
- It highlights agriculture's role in sustaining a healthy local economy.
- The cost for this report to be produced is between thirteen and fifteen thousand dollars. A group discount has been negotiated.
- The price will be determined by the number of counties that choose to have this report done.
- Director Skelton is looking for partners to help fund this project, and would like to hear from anyone that is interested.

f. Other business

- Wayne Peabody added that the fifteen members of the East Side Gym competed in Las Vegas at the Power Lifting Tournament.
- Thirteen of the fifteen members set world records.
- There were 1,800 members at the event.

6. New Business:

a. Project Funding Work Session

- Jody Samons said a subcommittee of the group looked at the project and priority list and tried to see where the "low-hanging fruit" was – where should we spend our money in grant writing to bring some return back here.
- The group will focus on rail and team tracks, and community facilities and youth.
- Kristin Cooper Carter spent the day with the group, and Jody is working on the write-ups for her team so that they can go after the money and write the grants.
- Jody mentioned that the Center for Economic Development has done an amazing job working with the Business Recovery Task Force, including mapping, which has been a valuable asset in this process.
- Jason Schwenkler wants to extend the mapping to neighboring counties, to prepare for future emergencies.
- Courtney added that businesses are being affected in the staffing area, as many employees who lost their homes have received their insurance money and left the area.
- 1,856 businesses were affected by the fire and 1,018 businesses are gone.

b. Marc Nemenic – 3CORE

- Marc discussed the Opportunity Zones. There are four zones within the three county region. Marc would like to create a prospectus for each zone.
- He will be talking to EDA to be a funding source for that project.
- Marc's group will be looking at the economic base of each zone, then doing a cluster analysis to see what clusters create the most value, and at individual projects within the four zones to determine how to market that part of the zone to fund managers, and will look at doing an ROI.
- In regards to the Camp Fire, prior to the fire, Marc's group had approached the EDA about funding for a regional disaster coordinator.
- Marc was informed prior to the Camp Fire that they had been approved for a three year funding cycle for the coordinator position, with a salary of around \$200,000.00
- An offer has been made to Valerie Colletti, a former employee of U.S. Bank and who currently works for Northern California National Bank. She will come on board to 3CORE in mid-December.
- Valerie will do more of the face-to-face work with communities and individuals in disaster situations, and will work on best practices for fire and disaster related issues for current and future events.
- 3CORE has a Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) event in Redding for January, bringing in panelists to talk to some of the larger banks about long term economic needs in our region that they can be of assistance.
- Marc is the Managing Director for the California Finance Consortium which is a four-organization consortium that covers twenty-one counties, and he will be on the panel at the FDIC event to discuss some of the regional issues, and how they can be a partner to make sure there are resources to attack problems.
- On the Camp Fire, Marc and his team will meet with the town manager and Melinda from EDA to discuss how to re-create Paradise. Marc is proposing to pursue funding to do a comprehensive recovery master plan, which includes the physical plant, water, sewer, and also to see what measures need to be done to protect the town from future fires.
- Development policies need to be put in place for defensible space, and other types of strategies to prevent this situation from happening again.
- Marc requested the master plan from Greenburg, Kansas, which was leveled by a Category 5 tornado in 2007, to be sent to Paradise for review.
- FEMA has the capacity to build the sewer, which is a priority.
- Wells Fargo Bank has donated \$550,000 to 3CORE for business assistance and restarting some of these companies in Paradise.
- Patty Hess announced yesterday that 3CORE has set up a micro-grant program for up to \$5,000.00 for companies to use to relocate, pay fees, rent or other expenses.

- 3CORE will also be doing low interest micro-loans for \$25,000.00 or below.
- Rabobank has donated \$50,000; EDA has approved \$200,000 for staffing.
- The California Endowment approached them and 3CORE has made a proposal to them for \$100,000.
- Marc says that the Paradise situation is definitely on the radar of our new governor.
- Marc, Pete Carr and Wayne Peabody discussed the issue of how to help the Paradise city manager tackle the enormous amount of issues she faces.
- Discussion was also held on emergency procedures and communication.
- Jody mentioned ButteRecovers.org as the vetted source for information for the Camp Fire.

7. Next Meeting Date: February 28, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. at CalPlant 1 *(CCEDC will meet 4th Thursday in February, May, August, and 1st Thursday in November)*

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

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