

Oregon Business Development Commission

DRAFT

December 15, 2017

Portland, OR

Attendance

Members Present: Kanth Gopalpur, Commission Chair; Jessica Gomez, Rogue Valley Microdevices, Inc.; Paula Hayes, hue noir; Senator Betsy Johnson, District 16, Scappoose; Katherine Lam, Bambuza; Keith Leavitt, Port of Portland; and Win McCormack, Tin House Magazine, Tin House Books, and The New Republic

Members Absent: Representative Janelle Bynum, District 51, Clackamas; and Kelley Minty Morris, Klamath County Board of Commissioners

Staff Present: Chris Harder, Director; Nick Batz, Government Affairs Manager; Bryant Campbell, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Manager; Amy Croover-Payette, Strategy & Communications Division Manager; Chris Cummings, Assistant Director, Economic Development; Nathan Buehler, Marketing Manager; Brian Rogers, Executive Director, Arts Commission & Cultural Trust; Gina Wiedrick, Executive Assistant; and Nate Wildfire, Capital Strategist

Guests: Gerry Langelier, Co-Chair, Oregon Growth Board; Jason Lewis-Berry, Governor's Office; Walt Marchbanks, Port of Portland; and Curtis Robinhold, Port of Portland

Meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m.

Welcome/Introductions

Chair Gopalpur welcomed attendees to the meeting of the Business Oregon Commission, introduced new commissioner Katherine Lam, and gave an overview of the meeting agenda.

Approve Proposed Meeting Minutes

Action: Chair Gopalpur called for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 29, 2017, meeting; Commissioner Leavitt moved and Commissioner Gomez seconded the motion.

Vote: Minutes approved.

Director's Report

Director Harder gave an update on the Strategic Plan implementation: plan released, teams developing work plans, and metric methodology. Senator Johnson is interested in keeping track of the durability of jobs (how long people stay in new jobs, etc.), and expressed concern over whether Business Oregon has the right software required to ensure that staff can track metrics and report on strategic plan progress. Director Harder and Mr. Buehler pointed out recent additions of customer relationship management and database software that will help the agency do that.

Draft Minutes

Director Harder gave an overview of the Easter Oregon PopUp Office of October 23 through 27, 2017. Question raised: how does staff go back to the community or follow up so that they do not feel like this was a one-off event. Director Harder responded that regional staff can follow up on issues discussed during the PopUp, and that he or other necessary staff can go back for a quick trip outside of the PopUp office initiative. Southern Oregon will be the next destination. [Watch a brief video](#) of the trip.

Director Harder spoke on the small business financing and public infrastructure financing data shown reflecting transactions beginning July 1, 2017, and gave an overview of Request for Proposals that went out in recent months.

Budget and Legislative Update

Mr. Batz went through the upcoming deadlines in preparation for the 2019 Legislative Session. He also made note that staff need to submit their draft Legislative Concepts by January 19, 2018, for proper follow up as needed before these are due to be submitted to the Department of Administrative Services on April 13, 2018. Mr. Batz stated that there are Legislative Days on January 10 through 12, 2018, and the 2018 Short Session will take place February 5 through March 9, 2018. He also commented on items of interest: Small Business Expansion Program, Film and Video tax credit, Emergency Loan Fund, Cap and Trade, notable retirements, Measure 101, and the Federal Tax overhaul.

Commissioner Gomez posed a question for further thought: loan programs are very hard for businesses to access, the requirements are sometimes hard to meet, and how does one find the program that is best for them. Director Harder discussed some of the diverse programs the agency offers to meet different needs, and that we can work to better communicate that.

Break

At approximately 1:34 p.m., Chair Gopalpur called for a break. At approximately 1:42 p.m., Chair Gopalpur reconvened the commission meeting.

Oregon Growth Board

Chair Gopalpur and Director Harder gave an introduction to the subject and introduced Mr. Langelier.

Mr. Langelier gave an overview of the Oregon Growth Board, the Oregon Growth Account, and the Oregon Growth Fund. Director Harder added that there will be a Legislative ask for money; there has not been a permanent amount of money set aside to fund the Oregon Growth Fund.

Port of Portland

Mr. Robinhold gave an overview of the mission and work of the Port.

Public Comment

No public comment was presented.

Closing Remarks and Adjourn

The March 16, 2018, meeting needs to be rescheduled and Ms. Wiedrick will follow up with the commissioners. Note that the meeting will be held in Medford, Oregon.

Commissioner McCormack announced that he is officially retiring from the commission; today is his last day.

After the meeting is adjourned, everyone present will have the opportunity to go on an optional 60-minute tour of the Port of Portland and PDX Airport.

Meeting closed at 3:09 p.m.

Approved by:

Kanth Gopalpur, Chair
Oregon Business Development Commission

Date

Chris Harder, Director
Business Oregon

Date