

## Malheur County Development Corporation Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

10:00 am (Mountain Time)

Conference Call Number: 541-896-1824

*Meeting held via telephone*

### Members Present:

- Grant Kitamura, Board President
- Kay Riley
- Greg Smith
- Corey Maag,
- Randi Svaty
- Jason Pearson (*joined after acceptance of minutes*)

### Guests:

- Brad Baird, Anderson Perry
- Allison Fields, Business Oregon
- Larry Meyer, Argus Observer
- Pat Caldwell, Malheur Enterprise
- Bruce Cruickshank
- Mike Walker

### Staff

- Ryan Bailey
- Julee Hicks

### Regular Board Meeting Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:

Board President Grant Kitamura called the meeting to order at 10:02 am. Kitamura referenced minutes of the December 8<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Kay Riley moved to accept the board meeting minutes as presented. Randi Svaty offered a second. Minutes for the board meeting held December 8<sup>th</sup> were accepted unanimously. Please note; Jason Pearson joined the meeting after acceptance of the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes.

Kitamura asked Greg Smith, MCDC Officer to the Board, to present an update on the Treasure Valley Reload Center.

Smith said he had spoken with Erik Havig from ODOT and learned that all indications are for the Oregon Transportation Commission to move forward with the release of project funding for the TVRC at their upcoming meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

Smith shared that at present there are two outstanding issues. The first is formalizing the operator agreement which is being addressed. He said ODOT believes we have met the intent of an agreement, but the contract must be formalized. The second is working through the partitioning process. Brad Baird, civil engineer and president of Anderson Perry, added to the discussion regarding partitioning, saying the planning commission meeting will be held on Thursday, January 28th. Baird said he is working with Malheur County representation on how best to present pertinent information at the meeting. Smith added that a preliminary discussion with the MCDC board will enable discernment on the best approach in preparation of the meeting.

Kitamura asked about a specific time the OTC will be meeting on January 21st. Smith said he will work to attain the information for those wanting to attend.

Baird offered his update saying he has submitted the final design for earthwork, which will move forward once funding is released. Following that approval, Baird said the bid process can begin. He also asked that if any of the meeting attendees had an individual or firm that should be added to the list to receive information, to please let him know.

Kitamura asked for comments from the public or media. Mike Walker said he has noted increasing material prices and availability concerns. Baird agreed and said the project would allow some latitude in selecting materials that will be more cost effective but offer the same outcome.

Kitamura then asked if there was need for an executive session, which was not deemed necessary.

Prior to adjournment, meeting discussions included:

- Kitamura asked if the OTC will make their decision of releasing funds at the January 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. Smith said yes, but also added that there will continue to be benchmarks and milestones to address as we move through construction.
- Pat Caldwell of the Malheur Enterprise asked how the funds will be distributed. Smith said the civil engineering plan, based on construction and budget plans, will blend with the existing ODOT contract and new timelines will be created. From there, funding will be disbursed incrementally in accordance with work accomplished. Smith emphasized that in no case does ODOT essentially give money, but rather as bills are paid, the reimbursement is received.

With no further discussion, Grant Kitamura adjourned the meeting at 10:37 am.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Greg Smith, Officer to the Board