

Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 1, 2019
10:00 am (Mountain Time)
Baker and Murakami Produce
1431 Se 1st Street, Ontario, OR 97914
Conference Call Number: 541-896-1824

Members Present:

- Grant Kitamura, Board President
- Toni Parish
- Corey Maag (via phone)
- Jason Pearson (via phone)

Staff:

- John L. Braese
- Julie Hicks (via phone)

Regular Board Meeting Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 am with special guests present:

- Mike Walker
- Jim Maret, City of Nyssa
- Randi Svatney, Farm Credit Services
- Pat Caldwell, Malheur Enterprise (via phone)

Discussion and Action: Review and approval of September 24, 2019 meeting minutes.

Board Member Jason Pearson made a motion to approve the minutes of September 24, 2019. The motion was seconded by Board Member Toni Parish. By unanimous vote, the minutes were approved.

Discussion and Action: Update

Board President Grant Kitamura handed the meeting over to John Braese to discuss updates on the project.

Braese reported he met with Attorney Brian DiFonzo regarding the contract with ODOT. DiFonzo requested an additional day or two to look over contract. At that time, a phone call with DiFonzo, Officer of the Board Greg Smith, Kitamura and Katie Thiel (ODOT) will be scheduled.

Braese continued with information regarding an October 15 tour and dinner scheduled with Melissa Meier (Union Pacific) and Terry Tate (Rail Pros). The time has not been set. Braese encouraged the board members to attend. Kitamura also encouraged the board to attend.

Braese briefed the board on the status of the Biz Oregon project and timelines. A conference call was held with Smith, Braese and organizational staff of Biz Oregon including the director. During the call, the short timeline was stressed to Biz Oregon with plans to have the application to the state agency by October 15. The Biz Oregon director pledged his support to receiving the application and stated projects similar to this have been completed in the past.

Board member Corey Maag requested information on review from Biz Oregon. In reply, Braese stated due to application not needing Biz Oregon board approval, the time frame to receive the money has been shortened.

Other Business:

Mike Walker questioned if the board was involved only in the reload center or in other aspects of economic development within the county. Kitamura explained the board was strictly involved in the reload only and directed Walker to contact Smith or Braese for other economic information.

Randi Svatney briefed the board on Northwest Farm Credit's interest in providing a line of credit when needed. Svatney requested a copy of the RFP for the line of credit.

Board member Toni Parish reported the subcommittee on the appraisal had not met and was awaiting a conference call with the appraiser.

Board member Jason Pearson reported the subcommittee on transportation issues had not met and requested a phone call with Smith.

Adjournment:

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 am.

Respectfully Submitted:
Greg Smith, Officer to the Board