

Meeting Minutes
Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Commission
CEDS Committee Meeting

August 18, 2011
Via gotowebinar.com

Committee Members Present:

Ken Lanford, Mark Stockwell, Kevin Persinger, Brenda Walker, Rebecca Walter, Consuela Caudill, John Hull (on behalf of Beth Doughty), Tori Williams (on behalf of Joyce Waugh), John Strutner, David Moorman, Courtney Penn (on behalf of Michael Maxey)

Others Present:

Rob Ledger, City of Roanoke Economic Development
Wayne Strickland, RVARC
Scott Burton, RVARC

Committee Members Absent:

Spencer Suter, Teresa Hammond, Darlene Burcham, Don Assaid, Ray Ferris, Eddie Elswick, Bryon Foley, Carolyn Fidler, Gerald Burgess, John Doane, Tracey Shiflett, Chris Morrill, Kevin Boggess, Chuck Simpson, Anne Stanley, Ione Callender, Jay Foster, Terri Workman, Rob Erdman, Steve Mullins, David Preston, Stephanie Brown, Debbie Kavitz, Robert Sandel, Richard Teaff, Steve Cronemeyer, James Houff, Anne Stanley, Jennifer Durling, Richard Flora, Suzanne Adcock, Hal Mabe, Doloris Vest, Carl Brinkley, Jill Loope, Jim Poythress, Hunter Young, Mark Taylor

Proceedings:

The Meeting was called to order at 3:10 PM by Chairman Ken Lanford.

Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Lanford welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. He then turned the time over to Mr. Burton.

Update on Designation as an Economic Development District

Mr. Burton began by providing the Committee with an Economic Development District (EDD) designation update. Mr. Burton noted that the RVARC is still working with their Economic Development Administration (EDA) representative regarding the board structure issue. All RVARC Board members may need to become voting members in order to meet all EDA EDD requirements. Mr. Burton noted that the RVARC may need to resubmit its EDA application (letters of support, data, etc.). None of the members in attendance had any questions and/or comments regarding this particular agenda item.

TEMCI Update

Mr. Burton provided those in attendance with an update regarding the Western Virginia Transportation Equipment Manufacturing Competitiveness Initiative (TEMCI). He explained that this particular project was the result of a joint EDA application involving the RVARC and the Mount Rogers and New River PDCs. The purpose of this ongoing project is to provide subsidized technical assistance to all eligible and interested companies. Assistance is provided by Virginia Tech and is focused on helping companies address process improvements, product development, and the integration of green technologies. Mr. Burton noted that nine projects were funded during the first funding cycle. Mr. Strickland asked Mr. Burton for the names of the Roanoke area companies that received funding during the first round. Mr. Burton noted that Dynex America, Metalsa Roanoke, and Salem Vent all received financial assistance and technical support. The other six grantees are located within the New River PDC. The second funding cycle is currently underway.

Alleghany Regional Commerce Center EDA Application

Mr. Burton updated the CEDS Committee on the status of the Alleghany Regional Commerce Center EDA application. The Alleghany Regional Commerce Center is currently the number one CEDS project. The RVARC's EDA representative made a site visit in May 2011 and had several positive comments. Mr. Burton noted that the RVARC is working with Alleghany County and the Alleghany Highlands Economic Development Corporation (AHEDC) to put together a compelling and comprehensive grant application. The EDA application is due September 15th.

FY 2012 CEDS Strategy

In addition to a list of prioritized projects, the RVARC would also like to incorporate regional strategic initiatives into their CEDS planning process. Mr. Burton noted that the purpose of doing so is to make the RVAR CEDS a more strategy driven document and planning process. He then outlined several potential strategic initiatives that were included in the meeting presentation.

FY 2012 Project Suggestions

Mr. Burton noted that a project nomination/update worksheet will be emailed to all committee members following the August webinar. He then asked that all project updates and/or nominations be submitted by October 31, 2011 in order provide RVARC staff with ample time for compiling and updating all projects prior to the November CEDS committee meeting. Project nominations are typically submitted by the CEDS committee but are also commonly submitted by local governments, partnering organizations, and private citizens and businesses. The majority of nominations include construction or non-construction projects.

FY 2012 Meeting Calendar

Mr. Burton took time to go over the 2012 CEDS meeting Calendar.

- August 18, 2011 - gotowebinar.com
- November 10, 2011 - Greenfield
- January 19, 2012 - gotowebinar.com
- April 19, 2012 - Greenfield

FY 2012 CEDS Timeline

Mr. Burton then walked through the FY 2012 CEDS timeline.

- November - Committee review of new project nominations, prioritization criteria, and goals/objectives. Volunteers needed for project ranking subcommittee

- December - Project ranking subcommittee meets to rank nominated/updated projects according to the prioritization criteria
- January - Review changing economic data/trends, adoption of project package
- April - Consideration of FY 2012 Project Package
- May - RVARC considers FY 2012 Annual Report
- May - Public hearing
- June - CEDS Annual Report submitted to EDA

Presentation Suggestions

At this time Mr. Burton asked those in attendance if there were any particular topics or projects that they would like to learn more about. If so, then Mr. Burton would coordinate with project sponsors to see if they could present at an upcoming meeting. He noted that it would be beneficial to have more presentations on projects that are located within the RVAR CEDS region. Presentations on projects that could potentially impact our area would also be beneficial. Mr. Strickland suggested that Mr. Burton try and get someone from VEDP to present.

Project Updates

Mr. Burton then provided those in attendance with an opportunity to update the Committee on any current/future/proposed economic development projects or initiatives within the locality they represent. He noted that an open discussion about regional projects would be helpful. It would provide everyone in attendance with an opportunity to learn more about economic development projects/initiatives within the Roanoke region.

Adjournment

Chairman Lanford then thanked everyone once again for their attendance and participation. He requested that any comments, suggestion, or questions be directed to Mr. Burton

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 PM.