

**Adams County Development Council  
Regular Board of Directors Meeting  
Thursday, October 8, 2020  
Zoom Virtual/Conference Call Meeting (due to COVID-19)**

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1. **Call to Order** – David Baumann called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm
2. **Establish Quorum** – Paula Bell confirmed quorum with **13 of 20** members in attendance.
  - a. Present: Shawn Logan, David Baumann, Lloyd Stoess, Paula Bell, PJ Jacobsen, Mike Schrag, Chad Hoeft, Kyle Niehenke, Ian Eccles, John Marshall, Ken Caylor, Dan Hille and Deena Vietzke.  
Advisory: Stephen McFadden, Bryce Humphreys, and Janis Rountree.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – David Baumann presented the agenda, Ken Caylor made motion to approve the agenda, John Marshall provided the second, all approved, motion carried.
4. **Approval of Minutes** – David Baumann presented the minutes from September 10, 2020. Ian Eccles made the motion to approve the minutes from September, Chad Hoeft provided the second, all approved, motion carried.
5. **Treasurer's Report** – Chad Hoeft provided the treasurer's reports.
  - a. PJ Jacobsen made the motion to approve the financial reports, Ken Caylor provided the second, all approved, motion carried.
6. **BREAK EXECUTIVE SESSION**
  - a. **Motion 8% raise, \$3600 /year more, retro-active to Aug anniversary**
  - b. **\$4,000 bonus payable in December**
7. **Old Business**
  - a. Janis Rountree – Round 1 of State & Local grants
    - i. State grant has three businesses still claiming expenses.
    - ii. Local grant is closed.
8. **New Business**
  - a. Adams County Grants round 2 \$110,000 from the State and \$400,000 from the Adams County CARES Act fund.
    - i. Small business support to all those who applied for WW 2.0
    - ii. Non-profit support to local organizations impacted by COVID by event cancellations and lack of fundraising.
  - b. Better Health Tomorrow, \$200K for small counties to do feasibility studies. \$24k earmarked for Adams County. Broadband Action Team is in need of diverse members. Port of Othello & ACDC will work jointly to do a county wide study. Port only entity able to install dark fiber throughout the county. Identify all under served and unserved areas of the county that need broadband service. Construction funds can be sought the following year.

9. **ACDC Activity** – Janis Rountree

- a. Grant programs are taking up majority of work time. Still working on capital campaign and website development.

10. **Adams Co Activity** – Stephen McFadden.

- a. Site visit at Bruce Industrial Park for “Project Ruby” with Stephen & Chris Faix.
  - i. Food processing company, with \$400-450 million capital construction phase, 200 permanent full time jobs. Company looking at Moses Lake, Warden, Richland and surrounding areas. 5000 deca therms of natural gas a day is a #1 request. Cascade says they cannot provide that amount of gas to Bruce. Asked if they could covert natural gas need into electricity, company looking into it. 200-acre footprint
- b. Stephen’s last meeting. Gave resignation to Adams County to accept a job at the Port of Pasco, starting on November 2.
  - i. A lot has been accomplished and a lot more needs to be accomplished, our work is far from done. He can provide support & assistance to Adams County until December 31.
- c. Rattlesnake Flat Wind Farm, will fly the last rotor next week and the final tower will be complete by Wednesday.

11. **Community Updates**

- a. **City of Othello** – Shawn Logan. 50,000 CERB grant for farmers market study, has now been restarted. Met with consultant this week, establishing a committee to determine project direction. Christmas Miracle on Main Street, parade & festivities is going to go forward with their event. City wide farmers market this Saturday. Fireworks display postponed from the 4<sup>th</sup> of July will be done for New Years Eve instead. McCain Foods restarted construction on expansion project.
- b. **Ritzville** – Mike Schrag. Working on budget. Way finding signs are going up in Ritzville, Public works is installing them.
- c. **Lind** – Paula Bell. In town water main line project is half completed. New water meters are going to be installed where the homes have in basements. Schools are starting to accept kids part time for now. Cemetery will be testing new irrigation system tomorrow. John Wayne Trail Riders (Palouse to Cascade) Lind Ralston & Revere Kiosks were installed. Lind Community Yard Sale is happening Friday & Saturday. PJ – Chamber planning Christmas Parade.
- d. **Washtucna** – Lloyd Stoess. Having well problems, main well water level has dropped below usable amount to be pumped. Emergency resolution declaration – to move forward with public works projects. Well at the depot would’ve been done but got stalled due to COVID. Museum Fundraiser – switching to online format on October 17. Food will be catered by Rolling Coal BBQ, auction items will be out for bidding.
- e. **Adams County** – John Marshall. Pleased with the work that Stephen has done for the County & very appreciative of all the work he has done. The entire effort of economic development has changed dramatically over the last 7 years, and ACDC has come a

long way as well. County working on the budget for the next couple of months. State-wide concerns that revenues will dip & not compare to the past. Sales tax revenue is remaining high however. Attributes that to the new projects in the county that are going on, and the momentum will continue. Grants from CARES Act not intended to go to any taxing entity, but a non-profit that supports the entity. County hired a consultant to help with CARES Act funds.

- f. **Port of Othello** – Deena Vietzke. Just broke ground at the airport for the 3<sup>rd</sup> hanger. Starting to work on budgets for next year.
- g. **Avista** – Ian Eccles. Announcing who is getting projects next Friday.
- h. **Columbia Basin Railroad** – no report.
- i. **Coulee Corridor** – Ken Caylor. Othello loop signage trying to get them made & installed before winter. Had planned to do Adopt a Highway clean up at Lake Lanore – WSDOT says nothing gets done during the pandemic.
- j. **Ice Age Floods** – Lloyd Stoess. Groundbreaking for Ice Age Flood museum. Had annual fall tour, car caravan tour, 3 leaders & 17 people participated and went from Ritzville, to Dry Falls, Grand Coulee and Moses Lake.
- k. **BBCC** – Bryce Humphreys. Academic year started in September. Most classes are online with some in-person workforce education labs. Enrollment is down from last year but relatively strong in comparison with other colleges around the state. The new college president has been leading the college in planning for ongoing COVID response. Most likely classes winter quarter will be online as well. Next week we have regional accreditation visit, which is a big deal for the college.

12. Discussion closed.

13. David Baumann adjourned the meeting at 7:13 pm

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Approved on November 12, 2020

Signed Paula Bell

Paula Bell, Secretary

Signed David Baumann

David Baumann, Chairman

Prepared by Janis Rountree

Janis Rountree, Manager