

**Adams County Development Council  
Regular Board of Directors Meeting  
Thursday, September 10, 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: David Baumann, Lloyd Stoess, Paula Bell, PJ Jacobsen, Jamie Schmunk, Mike Schrag, Chad Hoeft, Kyle Niehenke, Ian Eccles, John Marshall, Ken Caylor, Chris Faix, Deena Vietzke.  
Advisory: Stephen McFadden, Janis Rountree.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – David Baumann presented the agenda, Ken Caylor made motion to approve the agenda, Jamie Schmunk provided the second, all approved, motion carried.
4. **Approval of Minutes** – David Baumann presented the minutes from August 13, 2020. John Marshall made the motion to approve the minutes from August, PJ Jacobsen provided the second, all approved, motion carried.
5. **Treasurer's Report** – Chad Hoeft provided the treasurer's reports.
  - a. Jamie Schmunk made the motion to approve the financial reports, Mike Schrag provided the second, all approved, motion carried.
  - b. John Marshall made the motion to approve paying the September bills, Jamie Schmunk provided the second, all approved, motion carried.
6. **Old Business**
  - a. Janis Rountree – State & Local grant updates
    - i. ACDC grant is closed
    - ii. WWSBEG is working with 6 final businesses
7. **New Business**
  - a. Adams County Small Business Emergency Grant 2.0
  - b. Preliminary plans for County CARES Act funds
    - i. Contract addendum request for \$150,000 was put forth by Stephen. Commissioner Hartwig thinks it should be more to increase the support to the communities. Discussion is around \$200,000-300,000.
    - ii. Funds would flow through ACDC because we already have a process in place to process applications. Non-profits, small med & large, small – large impacts on our communities. Move to balance the economy by supporting the organizations that support our communities.
    - iii. 6-8 week marketing/advertising campaign – Adams County shop local campaign, promotional activities, commercials ran as sponsored FB advertisements. Create the push for supporting local especially during the pandemic entering into the holiday season.
    - iv. Asking for board assistance in spreading the word to the local non-profits about getting their information to us so they can apply for funding.
    - v. 250 businesses in Adams County received PPP funding.

- vi. Funding must be spent by November 1 in both scenarios.
- vii. Community Development Block Grant Program – has funding available, individuals or businesses facing foreclosure, energy assistance, etc.
- c. Website progress update

8. **ACDC Activity** – Janis Rountree

- a. Business as usual, processing grants, constant contact with local businesses.
- b. WEDA weekly meetings

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

- a. Conference call today with Rep. Mary Dye & a lobbyist about cellular service in our area. Reliable communication for first responders. Lobbyist rep small telecoms to resecure federal subsidies that they once had, to install communication equipment in rural parts of the US.
  - i. Russ Elliot, head of WA State Broadband office, invited Stephen to a group conversation about funds available to EA WA counties to do broadband installation projects. Better Health Tomorrow, based out of Spokane is serving as a consultant, working with healthcare providers. Tele-Health is becoming more common now because of COVID. Adams Co will receive a portion of the funds to do a broadband feasibility study. Forming broadband action team in the coming weeks to identify priorities, find a consultant to find the top 10-15 broadband construction projects to reduce the gap of service we have.
- b. Two new projects looking into the Bruce Industrial Park.
- c. Edward Lowe training for Business & Non-profit CEO's roundtable facilitator certification.
- d. Big Bend Chair of the board end Oct 31. New president, end of August board retreat. Significant enrollment drop for fall quarter, starting all online.
- e. Sept 22, Dan Newhouse conference call. COVID-19 impact discussion in business & healthcare communities.

10. **Community Updates**

- a. **City of Othello** – no report
- b. **Port of Othello** – Deena Vietzke. Getting water system figured out at Bruce, working on hanger at airport.
- c. **Ritzville** – Mike Schrag. Started mitigation over Well #9.
- d. **Lind** – Paula Bell. Water line replacement construction in several areas of town. Council received notification of 100% grant for USDA rural development \$180,000. Jamie Schmunk: 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Yard Sale, Oct 9 and 10 from 8-4pm. Still working on Christmas parade, depending on what phase we're at with the state.
- e. **Washtucna** – Lloyd Stoess. School is operating in person 4-days a week. Fire Dept Halloween event will be discussed at next meeting to determine if event can happen this year.
- f. **Adams County** – John Marshall. Ritzville Chamber had a parade on Saturday, impromptu parade for Labor Day. Drove through the entire town. Dust storm on Monday impacted Ritzville for most of the day into the evening with 70-100 accidents on 395 &

190 (no fatalities). County main concerns is COVID, taking bids and doing engineering for public work projects. Transfer station building project should be done in October. New impound lot for the sheriffs dept moving ahead. Wind Farm project is moving along, over 30 towers up so far.

- g. **Avista** – Ian Eccles. Been busy, 19 sub-contractor crews working between Colville, Sandpoint, Pullman. In Adams Co, wind farm virtual event is planned for November. Othello substation on 7<sup>th</sup> & Lee, breaking ground in fall. New transmission line up lee road going to warden, going to bid tomorrow. Lind got new poles this year, Ritzville will get new poles next year. 13 Ways Survey, trying to take the data from that and figuring out what to do with it.
- h. **Columbia Basin Railroad** – Connell Interchange design & engineering has been completely designed & approved. Needing \$22million in funding to complete the project.
- i. **Coulee Corridor** – Ken Caylor. Working on Othello to Mar Don loop signs. Waiting on WSDOT regarding costs for installation. National Scenic Byways – looking like they might have new grant money that they haven't had since 2012. Talking about a 5-year funding program to help with corridor projects. WA State Scenic Byways collation with WA State Tourism is starting back up again. Planning to attend, Inland NW Partners virtual meeting on Sept 23.
- j. **Ice Age Floods** – Lloyd Stoess. Still planning on car caravan tour at the end of September. 10 stops all together, starting in Ritzville.
- k. **BBCC** – Bryce. New President started in August. Past month received 3 federal grants. 1 renewal TRIO grant, 2<sup>nd</sup> TRIO grant that serves 1<sup>st</sup> generation low income pursuing STEM careers. 3<sup>rd</sup> from Dept of Education, will launch Bach of applied science, to start next fall. Also, to support equity in the workplace, and network infrastructure improvements. Have an accreditation visit 12-14 in October – regional accreditation is important in order for the college to receive federal funds. Without accreditation no student can receive federal financial aid.

11. Discussion closed.

12. David Baumann adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm

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Approved on October 8, 2020

Signed Paula Bell

Paula Bell, Secretary

Signed David Baumann

David Baumann, Chairman

Prepared by Janis Rountree

Janis Rountree, Manager