

**Wasatch Front Economic Development District
SPECIAL MEETING | STRATEGY COMMITTEE**

Shawn Milne, Chair

Michael Bouwhuis, Vice Chair

LaNiece Davenport, Director

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 23, 2016 1:00 pm
Wasatch Front Regional Council
295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Members and Alternates Present

Susie Becker, Zions Bank Municipal Consulting Group
Carlton Christensen, Salt Lake County
Tom Christopoulos, Ogden City
Bruce Davis, Weber State University
James Ebert, Weber County
Jeff Edwards, EDCUtah
Shawn Milne, Chair
Scott Parkinson, Bank of Utah
William Perry, Perry Homes Inc.
Alan Rindlisbacher, Layton Construction
Jim Smith, Davis County

Andrew Gruber, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Ned Hacker, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Jeff Harris, UDOT
Jory Johner, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Pam Jorgensen, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Ted Knowlton, Wasatch Front Regional Council
G.J. LaBonty, UTA
Douglas Larsen, Weber County
Jon Larsen, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Peter Makowski, Salt Lake City
Scott Marland, BioInnovations Gateway
Callie New, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Yvette Woodland, Utah Department of Workforce Services

Others Present

Shawn Beus, Salt Lake City
Julie Bjornstad, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Craig Bott, Grow Utah
Gustavo DaSilva, Wasatch Front Regional Council
John Downen, University of Utah
Marlin Eldred, Morgan County
Kayla Farr, FFKR Architects
Theresa Foxley, Governor's Office of Economic Development

Excused

Mayor Bill Applegarth
Councilman John Barber
Michael Bouwhuis
Gordon Eckersley
Randy Sant
Mayor Brent Taylor

Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Shawn Milne welcomed the WFEDD Strategy Committee. All who were present, including those attending via conference call, gave brief introductions. Mr. Milne reminded attendees that this is a special meeting of the WFEDD whereby a variety of economic development stakeholders have been invited to discuss the region's vision, transportation plan, and economic development integration efforts.

Information: Wasatch Choice 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan

Ted Knowlton, Deputy Director of WFRC discussed the role of the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization whose task is to create the Region's unified vision and long range Regional Transportation Plan. WFRC administers a variety of programs and projects including the Transportation and Land Use Connection, the Community Development Block Grant, the Transportation Improvement Program, and the Wasatch Front Economic Development District.

LaNiece Davenport, Director of the WFEDD reminded attendees that WFRC is also the federally designated economic development district for Davis, Morgan, Salt Lake, Tooele, and Weber Counties, called the Wasatch Front Economic Development District (WFEDD). The WFEDD creates the Region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Ms. Davenport presented and discussed three key strategies to help ensure the integration of Economy with Transportation and Land Use noting that the three strategies focus on (1) economic clusters, 2) access to opportunity, and 3) efficient infrastructure investment.

Jon Larsen, Modeling, Forecasting, and Information Services Manager at WFRC presented and discussed findings of the real estate market model. He passed out a sign-up sheet requesting that interested persons add their name to stay involved.

Action: Minutes from November 23, 2015 Strategy Committee Meeting

Chairman Milne directed the Committee's attention to the minutes from the previous Strategy Committee meeting held on November 23, 2015. Commissioner Jim Smith made a motion to approve the minutes, Carlton Christensen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Information: Director Update

Ms. Davenport provided a few updates regarding WFEDD related activities. She told members that based on results of an online survey, Committee meeting days and times will remain as currently scheduled, the fourth Monday in February, May, August, and November at 1:00 p.m. in the WFRC offices. She also reminded members of the joint conference of the National Association of Regional Council and the Wasatch Choice 2050 Consortium & Active Transportation Health Summit to be held June 26-29 at the Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City. She highlighted the role that WFEDD staff played in organizing a breakout session and mobile tour for the event and invited all to attend.

Action: 2016 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Ms. Davenport introduced Economic Development Intern Gustavo daSilva. Mr. daSilva was tasked with updating the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Mr. daSilva handed out copies of 2016 CEDS and highlighted the following changes: visual and data updates including more pictures and graphics, demographic updates ensuring data is up to date, and content changes ensuring that things like new projects have been added. Chairman Milne asked for a motion to approve 2016 CEDS. Commissioner James Ebert made the motion, Jeff Edwards seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Chairman Milne suggested that the next update include more data and graphics Morgan and Tooele County's. Other members of the Committee agreed and Ms. Davenport assured members that she would do that.

Information: Roundtable Discussion

Mr. Edwards asked Committee members to consider adding a project to the CEDS. Mr. Edwards described the research-based project and the project's goal of turning coal derived pitch into carbon fiber. The project benefits communities struggling with the declining coal industry. It would benefit our advanced carbon composites cluster and create jobs. The University of Utah is the project lead but many other organizations are involved including EDCU. The University will seek a grant from the U.S. EDA's POWER Initiative. All supported the project and agreed to its inclusion in the CEDS.

Other Business

Chairman Milne noted that the next Strategy Committee meeting will be Monday, August 22, 2016, 2016 at 1:00 pm at the Wasatch Front Regional Council. No other business was discussed. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.