



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2016
Southwestern Oregon Community College
Curry Campus
Brookings, OR 97415

SOWIB Members Present:

Georgia Nowlin, Acting Chair	Jon McAmis
Bryan Grummon	Patty Scott
Tami Trowbridge	Mike Lehman

SOWIB Staff Present:

Jake McClelland	Kyle Stevens
Lisa Crockett	

Others Present:

Susie Yeiter, SCBEC	Frank Brown, State of Oregon
Annette Tiderman-Shelton, OED	Alma Stevens, OED
Rena Langston, UT&E	Catlin Temple, Student

PROCEEDINGS

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 AM by Georgia Nowlin, Acting Chair. Roll call was taken and a quorum was not present.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:

No comments were made.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Review and approve board meeting minutes from August 18, 2016

No quorum so minutes will be tabled for the October 2016 Board meeting.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Review the list of proposed board meeting calendars and adopt a schedule of meetings for January – December 2017

No quorum was present but since the meeting schedule is not something that needs Board approval, Jake will send out the information by email and let Board members respond with their preference on meeting frequency. He then asked for discussion from the Board members in attendance. After discussion, there was a consensus that we meet in-person quarterly but that there be regular communication and updates from SOWIB staff to the board members via email or newsletter.

INFORMATION: Presentations were given by Curry County representatives

Mike Manning, Owner, BC Fisheries

Mike discussed the opening of the new fish processing facility in Brookings. After 2 ½ years of planning and construction, the facility opened April 27, 2016. They currently have 35 fulltime positions filled with a beginning wage of \$15/hour. The facility has so far been a great success and has already brought in 1.7 million pounds of Oregon pink shrimp, just delivered 10 containers of finished product to Denmark and was recently chosen to have products on the shelves at Whole Food stores. They have put approximately \$2.7 million into the community since opening on April 27 with wages, products, supplies, etc. They are adding additional infrastructure this year that will add 15% capacity to the finished product but is focused on premium product instead of mass quantity. There is a very strong possibility that there will soon be a distribution network ranging from cold storage to logistics based in Brookings as a result of this facility. That partnership will bring additional jobs to Curry county. Board member, Connie Stopher, and the SCDC played a critical role by providing resources in finding financial support for the project.

Ron Hedenskog, Mayor, City of Brookings

Ron discussed the considerable amount of infrastructure maintenance going on in Brookings. They enacted a 10-year gas tax in 2015 and with the current annual intake of \$300,000, they should be able to bring all their streets up to maintenance within the 10-year timeframe. They are currently planning on approximately \$600,000 in wastewater system repairs and have several projects aimed at increasing the light industrial zoned area near the airport by 20 acres. The city is currently experiencing an increase in the issuance of building permits and they are beginning to see empty commercial buildings filling up, with only 2 empty storefronts at this time. He stated that one-third of Pelican Bay employees live in Brookings and due to the project changes, the prison has eliminated over 100 jobs. The city is working with them in order to bring those positions back. Curry county is experiencing a very severe housing shortage and it is preventing professionals from moving to the area. He feels the City needs to be politically advocating to the state LCDC and explain to them that very restrictive Oregon planning requirements do not fit rural type communities. It is geared towards the upper valley and doesn't fit the coastal communities because it raises the cost of housing extraordinarily, running you through a planning process that slows down development. He said that the housing shortage is getting to a critical level. He feels that the public sector is where the housing solutions will come from and the City is willing to work aggressively with them.

Ginny Razo, CEO, Curry Health Network

Ginny discussed Healthcare issues in Curry county, including replacing the current 18,000 sf hospital built in 1951 that is no longer meeting building codes required for hospitals. On November 5, voters will decide on a bond for a \$10M loan to build the proposed \$20M hospital in Gold Beach. In addition to the outdated hospital facilities, they are also having issues with their same day clinic, which they are currently using as an emergency room. They are working on final authorization from the facilities planning and safety of Oregon Health Authority to move forward with the final phase of construction to complete that

project. The hospital has been gradually recovering from a severe financial crisis in late 2013 so the emergency room construction was previously put on hold, but it is now becoming critical. Curry Health Network is also attempting to reinstate OB/GYN services through the OB Department. They are not currently providing the services because they do not have the facilities to safely deliver babies. An operating room always needs to be available for an emergency C section and with the hospital only having 1 operating room, it prevents them from being able to adequately care for the patients. The new building will have 2 operating rooms so they will be able to reinstate the OB/GYN services to Curry. However, that does propose HR issues in finding experienced and educated nurses and physicians willing to move to the region. They will need to recruit 3 ½ full time nurses in order to reopen the OB department and since the county only delivers about 160 babies a year, they are worried about possible difficulties in recruiting people to the area. Add to that the housing issue that Mayor Hedenskog mentioned, and they are faced with a huge workforce shortage of qualified nurses and physicians. Curry Health Network is exploring Telemedicine opportunities, but with the current limited broadband capabilities in Curry county, it is impossible the bandwidth necessary to successfully incorporate Telemedicine into their existing services. Although faced with many difficult problems, they are actively pursuing solutions for Curry county.

Jeremy Skinner, Library Director, Curry Public Library

Jeremy provided a snapshot of the current projects with the Curry Public Library. In fiscal year 2015-2016, the library greeted 86,556 visitors, hosted 62 programs for adults, and participated in 229 programs for children including staff going into the schools and meeting with kids. The goal is to become a cutting edge modern library in a rural area. The forward-thinking Board of Directors is planning to expand the 8-year old library by 6,000 sf which would include a multipurpose meeting space for up to 170 people, a technology lab, and a conference room equipped with high quality video teleconferencing equipment. About 80% of the funding has been committed by bequests and donations, the Ford Family Foundation, the Oregon Community Foundation, Friends of the Library, and the Library Foundation. They are hoping to break ground in the Spring of 2017 with 6-8 months of construction to get the building opened.

INFORMATION: Monthly Performance Report - August 2016

Kyle presented current performance measures from the service providers. The reports are still being edited to paint an accurate picture of the work being done Bryan Grummon raised concerns about the low performance numbers. Kyle explained that SCBEC, our Coos/Curry county service provider, has had some HR issues in the Brookings office that have recently been rectified so those numbers should and need to start increasing very soon.

INFORMATION: Local Leadership Team Update

Jake reminded the Board that the Local Leadership Team is made up of representatives from each of the 5 mandatory programs under Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Local representatives of each of the programs meet monthly. Jake wanted to keep the Board informed that the LLT is actively meeting and educating themselves on the various

programs and are making progress towards working together to solve workforce partnership issues.

INFORMATION: Fiscal Report

Jake provided an update on the 2015-2016 SWOIB Budget vs Actual Report. In June the LEO's approved a provisional budget for 90 days, so the 2016-2017 budget will be reviewed within the next few weeks and brought back to the Board in October for review and approval. He then updated the Board on the State's assistance in providing funds to support a fiscal employee on SOWIB staff. We are in the process of hiring a new Fiscal Manager and financial reports and information should start to become more detailed very soon.

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

No comments were made.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 AM.

Adopted on October 20, 2016