



**Economic Development Commission  
Advisory Committee  
Meeting**

**Thursday July 14, 2016 8:30 a.m.**

**To: Committee Members**

Gery Schoenrock, Chair  
Matt Junghans  
Mark Stenstrom

Ty Arneson, Vice Chair  
Ben Kitchens

Clint Francis  
Mark Powers

Graham Foust  
LaFarris Risby

**Ex-officio**

City Commissioner Mike Ryan

County Commissioner Larry Hicks

**From: Gery Schoenrock, Chairman**

**Minutes**

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*Please respect others by turning all cell phones off and not talking when someone else is. Thank you!*

**I. Call the Meeting to Order:**

8:32 a.m. Gery Schoenrock, Chair called the meeting to order. Committee members Mark Powers and Graham Foust were absent. Gery Schoenrock, Ty Arneson, Clint Francis, Matt Junghans, Ben Kitchens, LaFarris Risby, Mark Stenstrom, Mike Ryan, and Larry Hicks were in attendance. Others in attendance were Allen Rothlisberg, Alan Bontrager, Allen Dinkel, David Yearout, Lydia Kaust, Katrina Higby; JCACC Finance Manager, and Dennis Beson; JCACC President/CEO and Interim EDC Director.

**II. Approval of Agenda:**

*Ty Arneson moved and Matt Junghans seconded to approve the agenda with the changes previously made (financial statements for June NOT March as stated on original agenda). Motion carried 6/0.*

**III. Approval of Minutes:**

June EDC Meeting, 2016

**IV. Financial Reports:**

Katrina Higby addressed 5 points on the financial statements that stand out as non-ordinary items for clarification. Mileage was EDC split portion for payroll tax seminar, HRMN sponsorship (\$200), BioKansas membership dues (\$300), Employment search current totals for job posting, and A/R was invoiced amounts to City and County contributions.

*Ty Arneson moved and LaFarris Risby seconded to accept the June 2016 financial report. Motion carried 6/0.*

**V. Public Comments – 3 minutes/each**

Allen Rothlisberg made personal comments regarding the separation of the EDC division from the Junction City Chamber of Commerce consolidated unit; stating that he believes that the EDC funding and administration should be separate from the Chamber of Commerce but should work together in partnership the same.

**VI. Old Business**

(Mark Stenstrom arrived at 8:43am)

**A. E-Community:**

Dennis Beson updated the status of the E-Community applications. He reported that they are currently taking applications but are still in the process of finalizing some details of the application such as interest rates (proposed between 0%-4%). Currently the turnaround time is expected to be approximately 45 - 60 days due to the application and setup not being complete. The loan amounts can range anywhere from \$1000-\$45,000 and will be on a 40% bank funding and 60% E-Community funding split. LaFarris Risby (from the E-Community Committee) added that the established loan must be from a bank and it must be from our community. Gery Schoenrock suggested the Daily Union print information to help get the word out about the available funding.

Ben Kitchens voiced his opinion that the E-Community loans may be too restrictive for new businesses to obtain. Ben stated that he felt the sub-committee (E-Community Committee) should bring all proposals of guidelines, and the like, to the EDC Committee for approval before implementation. Commissioner Larry Hicks inquired as the proposed business plan or plan to use social media to get the word out about the fund. Dennis replied that E-Community has a tri-fold brochure to distribute as well as approximately \$12,000 set aside and remaining for marketing purposes.

Ty Arneson inquired as to the possibility of using the RLF in conjunction with the E-Community loan for extra funding. It was stated that the RLF could not be used as the 40% required from a banking institution but may possibly be used as another piece of the puzzle for overall funding for the business.

Ty Arneson suggested the E-Community Committee make a presentation to the EDC Advisory Committee for general knowledge purposes on their progress and plans.

**B. WRC:**

Need businesses to sign up!! (Don't have to utilize the testing, just sign up to show that your business supports the WRC program).

Dennis Beson updated on the WRC progress. WRC is currently at 62% capacity having a goal of 37 registered businesses and currently having only 23 registered; and 57% complete on the overall goals. Gery Shoenrock inquired to the funding of the testing administration. Dennis responded with the information that Kansas Works pays for the testing for individuals who are post high school level taking the test and there is to be a matching grant available in October 2016 to assist with the expenses and implementation at the high school level. Vern Steffens, with the school district, is currently voicing concern about when they will have time to administer the tests with all the testing already in place at the high school level. Ben Kitchens suggested getting teachers or other staff members to volunteer to administer the testing on weekends.

**C. Website – JC 1<sup>st</sup>:**

- 1) Dennis Beson introduced the landing page for the Chamber of Commerce's divisions and showed how to get to the JC 1<sup>st</sup> link on that landing page. Asked for approval or suggestions. Mark Stenstrom stated that JC 1<sup>st</sup> needs to be "big and bold" and "front and center" on the main page instead of under the partners link; at least for initial exposure and the detail for JC 1<sup>st</sup> could be linked under the partners tab instead.
- 2) Dennis Beson reminded the committee of the upcoming JC 1<sup>st</sup> quarterly investors' meeting on July 28, 2016 at Milford Lake Conference Center from 6:30-7 pm and announced the "Official" rollout of the EDC Website and logo and branding information. Dennis also informed the committee that it was discussed for the EDC division to purchase the food for the quarterly investors meeting for JC 1<sup>st</sup> and that the expected cost should run around \$100 - \$150.
- 3) Gery Shoenrock also informed the committee that there has been \$17,000 to \$18,000 put into the development of the logo and he is in full support of complete uniformity and we should be using the logo anywhere and everywhere possible as a marketing opportunity. Gery informed the committee that work has been taking place on the new logo to be able to use the logo for all the divisions of the Junction City Area Chamber of Commerce (EDC, MED, CVB, and MAC) to have one universal logo for identification and recognition purposes. Dennis informed the committee that the new logo could not be trade marked as the words in the tagline were "too generic" per the Secretary of State's office and that their office representative suggested "service marking" instead. The representative also stated that she would look into the tagline "America's Business Center" as a whole but if service marking the tagline as well would be possible then it would include every detail including placement of text in reference to the logo, and the size and font of the text as well. Dennis reinforced that we would not "lose" the tagline we would still be able to use it we just wouldn't be able to potentially sue anyone else for its use.

**VII. New Business**

**A. EDC Director Search:**

Dennis Beson reported that no candidates passed through the 1<sup>st</sup> round of submissions and the search committee decided to repost the position. Dennis informed the committee that a “good candidate” surfaced and an initial interview is expected to happen as soon as possible. Commissioner Larry Hicks inquired about possible salary discussions or potential. Dennis replied that the salary was reported as a possible issue as the candidate has excellent experience and credentials and is currently making higher salary than JCGC EDC can offer. The possibility of creatively supplementing the salary with other benefits (housing/vehicle etc) was proposed as a possibility.

**VIII. Monthly Update**

- A. NRP:  
No information for June 2016.
- B. RLF:  
4 delinquent  
7 current  
11 total accounts
- C. Building permits:  
No new building permits for June 2016  
0 Residential single Family  
0 Business

**IX. Chairman’s Remarks – 10 minutes**

Gery Shoenrock stated his only comment is the he feels the necessity to hire the “right” EDC director as soon as possible (even if there is a necessity to find substitute benefits or go to other committees to seek out funding). Dennis Beson requested the committee be called into executive session further report.

**X. Executive Session for Trade Secrets with Advisory Committee, ex-officio members, Allen Dinkel, and Dennis Beson not to exceed 15 minutes:**

*Mark Stenstrom moved and Matt Junghans seconded to move into executive session. Motion carried 7/0 and executive session began at 9:27am. Allen Rothlisberg, Alan Bontrager, Dave Yearout, Lydia Kaust, and Katrina Higby left the room.*

*Mark Stenstrom moved and Clint Francis seconded to end executive session at 9:42 am. Motion carried 7/0.*

Gery Shoenrock reported no decisions made and no actions taken.

**XI. Announcements – 3 minutes**

- A. Dennis Beson reminded committee members of the Business After Hours for JC Rodeo Association today at Munson Prime at 5:00 pm and the Ribbon Cutting and Brick Award scheduled for The Cove on Friday July 15, 2016 at 5:30 pm. Dennis explained that the Brick Award is something new that the Ambassadors Group is doing to recognize businesses that have renovated or built with an expense of \$10,000 or more as a way to recognize businesses investing more into our community.
- B. LaFarris Risby announced that the deadline for submission for the Small Business nominations for the state of KS are Friday, July 15, 2016. (Said she would email the info and link to Dennis)
- C. Dennis Beson informed the committee of a Small Business meeting being held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month for local small businesses as well as City and County officials to come and voice concerns or suggestions. Dennis stated that this has been very beneficial to date and has helped local business owners get issues resolved and get the information they need.
- D. Dennis Beson announced the August Business After Hours will be held August 18, 2016 from 5 pm – 8 pm in Heritage Park and will be the Business Expo. Dennis also informed the committee that this is a joint venture between the EDC and MED divisions to promote “Shop Local” and is similar to the Shop Small campaign event done in November.
- E. Allen Dinkel announced that the city has job positions available to be filled.

**XII. Adjourn – Next meeting August 11, 2016**

*With no further business the July 2016 EDC Advisory Committee meeting was adjourned at 9:46 am.*