

**EDC Board Workshop
Nehalem Room, Tillamook County Courthouse.
December 11, 2013, 1:00 pm**

Board Members
Present

Doug Olson
Mike St. Clair
Suzanne Weber
Connie Green
Ray Sieler
Tony Enzler

Board Members Not
Present

Dale Stockton
Patrick Criteser
Michele Bradley
Mark Labhart

Staff Members
Present

Dan Biggs

Carla Lyman

Doug Olson sent out a revised suggested work plan, which included some suggestions made by Patrick Criteser, who could not attend the meeting with the Board of Commissioners. These comments were simply small adjustments to the suggested work plan that was presented at the December 4, 2013 EDC Board Workshop.

Dan Biggs said that he sees this suggest work plan as “talking points” and what he would like to see is if the BOCC says they want the EDC to go forward, which he believes they will, that work begin immediately on the IGA which Paul Levesque is already working on. Dan believes this draft IGA version can be out to the EDC Board by Friday, December 13, 2013 . He feels if the Board can approve that at a December 17, 2013 Board meeting, the BOCC could approve it on the 18th giving the EDC the authority to reach out to the community to begin recruitment of the citizen committee which could be kept open until January 15th. Connie Green and Doug Olson agreed that the pace at which these things take place still needs to be determined.

Doug Olson stated that what he wants people to take away from today’s meeting is that this is a very deliberate, structured process, nothing is going on behind closed doors, no deals are being cut. He believes that EDC needs to earn back some credibility. He also stated that while this may not be the most efficient way to do things he believes it is absolutely the way to do it. Everything, even the committee meetings are open to the public with a period of public comment. This is about process and results.

Connie Green stated that she agrees that the IGA must come first. Then they must decide what comes next—the facilitator, the timeline, etc. Connie Green believes that If the advisory committee has to start from scratch they will be going in circles. The advisory group needs to start with a group of good data and move on from there. She pointed out that some of this might go fast and some may be slow. She feels a consultant should be getting that information, such as definitions of tourism facility together, not anyone of “us”. Having a neutral party with consistent definitions is a key to having this selection process work.

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Dan Biggs agrees with this assessment to a point. He believes that one of the first things the advisory group can do is provide the facility needs list. This is needed to begin the vetting process. Connie Green believes that it needs to be a neutral party because if anyone of the EDC or the community starts asking the questions, the process gets jaded. It gets jaded because we have vetted this, because we have facilitated it. It gets jaded because there are people who think EDC will not invest enough in South County. She also feels it needs to be a proactive process, because if you just wait for things to come in the whole will not be included. It is important the ask comes from a consultant—a neutral party. It needs to be about the community being heard widely.

Tony Enzler asked for clarification that today what is being looked at is whether the EDC will take this on. Connie Green stated yes, what they are talking about right now is what happens after the IGA is signed. Tony Enzler asked if the new IGA would replace the IGA that is currently in place from 1996. The answer is no it does not replace it, it is not an amendment to it, it is a separate IGA to deal with the TLT over the short term. Tony made the point that if EDC would be operating under two IGA's it is important that they both receive equal time and attention. He agrees with other members of the Board that the work may ebb and flow during the period of the TLT IGA but he believes that EDC has an obligation to make sure that they balance out in the long run.

Connie Green stated that originally the BOCC asked EDC to take this on because it is more of a long term economic development strategy than they ever have had. It is a lot to take on, but she believes it is the right thing to do. She also hopes that in January, February, or March or somewhere around there a facilitator/connector is hired to help do the assessments, recommend some structure and EDC can then hire a person more than the facilitator around June or July or so. She does not know how long exactly it will take but she knows that we will get there. Connie believes that it really is just a window of time to get the right people in and then it will not take so much of Dan Bigg's time.

Dan Biggs stated that he would like to have another executive session like this, where they can speak freely. It is very difficult to have these discussions in open public meetings. Dan feels you want to keep things behind the curtain to the public until you have a consensus on what you want to do before you bring the public in to talk about it. Ray Sieler suggested that the Board needs to be very careful about executive sessions because you open yourself up a credibility issue. Connie Green suggested that perhaps the goals for next year could be included in the executive session for Dan's evaluation. This is similar to the way things are handled by the TBCC College Board of Education and their evaluation of the president.

Tony Enzler reiterated that the management of these TLT funds needs to be as transparent as possible.

Doug Olson wrapped up with the following take away from today: The Board will hear from Scott West (from Travel Oregon) regarding what goes on elsewhere. Doug believes when this meeting is done there needs to be a basic understanding of the ingredients of an IGA. Paul

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Levesque will prepare it, we'll circulate it, and we can deal with it when we are ready. I want to commit to the EDC preparing a timeline over at least 6 months that includes the charge, our benchmarks, etc. And then there is the process to plan—not what we're going to go but HOW we're going to do what we're going to do. Once the IGA is signed EDC will go forth with the advisory committee and it will be a comprehensive, deliberate process that reaches into every corner of this county. The size of that committee is still up in the air and EDC can't get lost in the weeds at this point. As EDC representative at this BOCC meeting he will make the point that we don't currently know the structure but we're going to learn for others and come back to the County with a recommended structure for the 6 months to 3 year period.

The EDC Board agreed that implementation is not the focus of this BOCC meeting.