



Our mission: "To foster an innovative and resilient economy for North Central Washington's Businesses, Workers, and Families."

MAY ANNUAL PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 1:00 pm

Confluence Technology Center, 285 Technology Center Way, Wenatchee, WA 98801

WEB CONFERENCE AND CALL-IN INFORMATION:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87403046068?pwd=NmVBR05Udlk4NTNKRUFbXZZcEREUT09>

Designated Representatives: Kurt Danison (Past Chair), Matthew Pleasants (Chair), Vacant Seat (Vice-Chair) Renee Swearingen (Treasurer), Roni Holder-Diefenbach (Secretary), Chris Branch (Okanagan County Representative), Gina Muller (Chelan County Representative), Jim Huffman (Douglas County Representative), Mima Cole (Historically Underserved Representative), Melissa LaFayette (Public Sector), Sarah Brown (Methow Valley), Vacant (Small Business), Joe Gluzinski (Small Business), Olga Camarena (Private Sector), Vacant (Education Sector), Vacant Seat (Small Business), Vacant Seat (Hospitality), Steve Wilkinson (Chamber Representative), Trevor Lane (Agriculture Representative).

CALL TO ORDER at 1:09 pm

Secretary Roni Holder-Diefenbach established a quorum with the following board members present: Kurt Danison, Renee Swearingen, Roni Holder-Diefenbach, Gina Muller, Jim Huffman, Mima Cole, and Trevor Lane.

Staff present: Craig Larsen (Executive Director), Shandie Howell (Finance Director)

Guests present: None

CONFLICT OF INTEREST No Board Member disclosed a conflict of interest.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (1:17 pm to 1:34pm)

TREASURE'S REPORT (RENEE AND SHANDIE)

- Shandie Norris gave the financial reports. Discussion was held regarding the fiscal year dates and sending out membership invoices a little bit early due to our current financial state. There was also a discussion regarding what the various cities, counties, and other entities paid for membership and what value they received for that membership. Kurt Danison made a motion to approve the financials as presented. Mima seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Shandie reviewed the annual budget for the next fiscal year line by line and answered questions. There

was also discussion of asking the Plug-In NCW program to possibly find a new fiscal agent or to apply to become their own nonprofit. There was significant discussion surrounding the lack of funds coming into the organization as no grants had been applied for except WSMA. The funding from WSMA was greatly reduced from previous years. A concern was expressed that the budget for the next fiscal year showed a negative balance for the year due to lack of new funds coming in. Ultimately, the decision was made to approve the budget with the anticipation of amendments as new funding was awarded or sourced.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Motion 24-05-08-01 – Motion to approve the 2025 Annual Budget as presented was made by Jim Huffman. Renee Swearingen seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

- There was no slate of officers to be presented by the nominations or executive committee. The executive committee will be discussing that at a meeting occurring within the next week. There was further discussion regarding the bylaws and the actual representatives/positions that are listed for serving on the board.
- Craig Larsen reported that he had spent a day in Okanogan County connecting with regional partners and key stakeholders. He has been getting out of the office and sharing his new role with the community and ensuring that they hear about what the EDD does within the community.
- Craig and Roni updated the status of the tourism grant. The decision was made for the EDD to step out of any involvement with this grant as we did not have the staff capacity to follow through with leading the stakeholders through the process. Roni expressed concern that we should have found a way to follow through on the commitment as it was mentioned in our CEDS.
- Shandie gave a brief update on Supernova. There were 29 applicants. Twenty were invited to go through the boot camp. A few had already submitted business plans for review. Craig mentioned that he had called those with phone numbers listed.
- Roni discussed using the CEDS as a guide for staff to determine the direction of the organization.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Trevor Lane. Gina Muller seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:09 pm.