

## NW Oregon Economic Alliance and Col-Pac EDD Combined Meeting

November 8, 2012

Clatsop Community College

Astoria, Oregon

The following members and guests attended:

Joyce Aho—Col-Pac/Oregon Employment Dept	Peter Huhtala—Col-Pac/NOEA/Clatsop Co
Dan Biggs—EDCTC	Karen Kent—Col-Pac Administrative Manager
Michele Bradley—Col-Pac/Port of Tillamook Bay	Diane Pohl—NOEA/Col-Pac/City of Clatskanie
Melissa Busby—Col-Pac/MTC	Dick Powell—CEDR
Martha DeBry—North Plains	Marc Siegel—Senator Merkley's Office
Debbie Dudley—City of Rainier	Shawna Sykes—Oregon Employment Dept
Herb Florer—Port of Astoria	Patrick Trapp—Col-Pac/Port of St Helens
Julie Gassner—Tongue Point Job Training Center	John Walsh—Col-Pac/City of St Helens
Kevin Greenwood—Port of Garibaldi	Suzanne Weber—Col-Pac/City of Tillamook
Jeff Harrington—City of Astoria	Patrick Wingard—Dept Land Conservation Dev
Steve Heinrich—Col-Pac/City of Cornelius	Paul Wyntergreen—City of Tillamook
Dennie Houle—Business Oregon	

Excused: Mark Ellsworth, Connie Green, Tony Hyde, Senator Johnson, Shirley Kalkhoven, Mark Labhart, Ryan Mann—Congresswoman Bonamici's Office, Van Moe, Dave Rule

### AGENDA ITEM 1—Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Diane Pohl, NOEA Chair. Attendees introduced themselves. Board Members Election Update: Mayor Pohl was re-elected, Mike Avent (Port of St Helens) and Peter Roscoe (City of Astoria) were not re-elected. (City of Astoria will be selecting the new Col-Pac Board member in January), Bill Baertlin was elected the new Tillamook County Commissioner, Patrick Martyn did not run for re-election so that Board slot is open, and North Plains will have a new city councilor as well.

### AGENDA ITEM 2—NOEA Business

- Approval of September 13, 2012 Minutes—Submitted as an information item
- October 2012 Financial Statement—Submitted as an information item

### AGENDA ITEM 3—Col-Pac Business

- Approval of September 13, 2012 —Approved unanimously, with two corrections to the Port of Tillamook Bay's update. (MD/MB)
- October 2012 Financial Statement/Year End (Unaudited)—An ongoing addition to the Financial Statements is a Consolidated Statement of the Projected Administrative Cash Balances, those funds not part of the two loan funds capitalization. This will allow the Board and Col-Pac staff to manage overall balances, and adjust between funds as needed. Financial Statement was approved unanimously. (DP/JA)
- Conflict of Interest Statements. Most board members have signed and sent them to Karen. She will follow up with those still needing signatures.

### AGENDA ITEM 4—NW Oregon Regional Economic Development Updates

- Loan Program Update—Working on a couple of potentials for loans, although they may be long shots. Most financial institutions are indicating a slow down in lending activity, businesses just aren't borrowing right now.
- Col-Pac Website—Mary reviewed a preliminary view of the new website, going online to a prototype web page. Biggest additions will be having the ability to do online newsletters and an events/meeting calendar—including all of NW Oregon's partners.
- NW Business/Supplier Network—EDCTC, CEDR, CCET, Dennie and Mary have been meeting to develop a standard format to collect the manufacturing, supplier and sub-contractor data for the Connect directory. Mary will start on having Col-Pac's web consultant work on the online component. Initial

discussions have also been started with Country Media, on joint sponsorship of a manufacturers event in April.

- Col-Pac CEDS Updating—Mary handed out a schedule, with the first priority to add to the current CEDS committee. Suggestions include members from each of the county economic development groups. Rob Drake with the City of Cornelius may be able to help with finding an individual with minority and/or labor background.

#### AGENDA ITEM 5—NW Oregon Economic Development Partner Updates

- Tillamook—Dan Biggs. Working on bovine mortality, woody bio-mass, projects match up with Regional Solutions priorities. A couple of large projects recruiting businesses to the Tillamook. Working with business expansions into overseas market (wasabi, oysters). Activity in agriculture, manufacturing, tourism (rails to trails will have feasibility study first quarter of 2013, tourism conference in March 2013, potentially getting Netarts loop onto National Scenic Byway.
- Clatsop—Dick Powell. Clatsop Co SBDC has surpassed all of numbers from last year, even though one of the smaller entities in the State. Held first annual Technology Summit, with 60 participants, 6 vendors, very successful signature program. Hosted Governor's Marketplace roadshow, how local businesses could work with local government, eg, getting contracts from the government. Continue focus on the regional craft brewing. A couple of new ones looking to get started, Astoria is beginning to get a reputation for the industry. Downtown Astoria has contracted with Michele Reeves to do a second level workshop with local businesses to identify specific improvements—November 14<sup>th</sup> workshop will also include Sheri Stewart from Oregon's Main St program. Also working on a retailer symposium with Clatsop/Tillamook counties which would also be available for use in Columbia County.
- Port of St Helens—Submitted Strategic Plan to State, started on Airport Master Plan. Boise closing 106 jobs, ethanol plant rehired 40+ employees and committed to fixing water system. Oregon Aero opening this Spring. \$125,000 trails grant to Scappoose Bay marina. Feasibility on campground at marina. Working on Regional site designation on Port Westward site.
- Oregon Employment/MTC—Joyce Aho. Have seen 80 of the Boise workers. Working with other mills to pick up some of those workers. TAAC for retraining, potential relocation. Verizon store in Warrenton plans to hire about 30 new workers. Looking for family wage jobs for those Columbia County workers being laid off. In Tillamook County been doing OSHA training, small business entrepreneurship.
- Port of Astoria—ConnectOregon4 Grant Repairs to Pier 2 starting. Like to see larger industry at Tongue Point. At or near a record year for fishing both commercial and sport. Fishing is large for the regional economy. Port helped the County with an education campaign. Sport fishing increases tourism. Tourism is definitely a regional priority for the Port. Working to understand the local economic impacts on the hospitality industry. Conversely, increased number of hotel rooms adds to the fishing industry.
- Port of Tillamook Bay—Get a significant number of fishers flying into the Port to go and fish out of the Port of Garibaldi. Arnie Roblan now new State Senator. Stimson Lumber will putting in two more multi-million projects. Have Aviation master plan before FAA. Will be a show and tell Dec before new legislature. Working with DEQ on small brownfields remediation. Couple of events held at the new meeting facility. Completed over \$22 million of the \$40 million FEMA projects. Finished runway overlay.
- Port of Garibaldi—Is at full capacity. Smaller boats (18 ft and smaller going away). Use of larger commercial boats increasing. Why there is the tension between commercial and sport fishing. Recreational fishing was very high this year, in large part because of the great weather. More interest in food processing. NW Hardwoods are putting in more capital investment into their site, and adding another shift. Small mill, so have been able to keep their margins high. Lack of infrastructure holds back: jetty, wharf, roads. If can get wharf done, will encourage City of Garibaldi to get their road out to the wharf improved. Next Spring will be lobbying Army Corps of Engineers to keep dredging up/jetty improved even though a lower volume port. Looking for ways to help our businesses be more successful, particularly in the area of customer service training (eg, open hours that visitors are at the Port).
- City of Tillamook—Continuing to work on Park plan. Working with the port on rails to trails plan, which will have a series of spurs over the rail lines.. Working with Pelican Pub to establish a presence in downtown Tillamook. Goodwill will be opening right after the first of the year. New clinic build is in progress. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street infrastructure work is finishing up. Charging station almost done. EOA is still underway. Inventory work is underway, and will be available to EDCTC. Analysis will come public this Winter.
- City of Clatskanie—Had an old historic Odd Fellows building that was becoming derelict, that has raised 1/2 of the \$3 million needed to complete restoration. A big deal for such a small community. City Hall will move there, Historical Society, retail space and theater.

- City of Cornelius—Just opened the Virginia Garcia building. Finishing up certified industrial site work with State. Will be able to retain 2 cent gas tax.
- St Helens—Boise closing. Represent 80% of revenue, and share waste water treatment plant, so that burden is being shifted to residents. TGM grant for corridor study connecting Hwy 30 to downtown. Good Halloween event. Interest in larger retail development. Council has taken up the topic of developing a community brand.
- North Plains—Interchange off Hwy 26 being rebuilt. \$32 million, will have 4 lanes, hope to draw additional economic development. First winery opened.
- Tongue Point—New graduating class. Support for community jobs.
- MTC—Got some additional funding for Creamery
- City of Astoria—17<sup>th</sup> st dock renovation underway. Go to City website for timelapse cam. East riverwalk trail complete. Working on ODOT funding for a sideway from high school along Hwy 202. Heritage Square sidewalk upgrading. Landfill closure and sports complex planning underway. \$1 million waste water treatment plant underway, as is Transportation System Plan, Mill Creek pond infrastructure, combined sewer overflow.
- Shawna—Updated economic indicators, regional profiles
- Business Oregon—Have a Regional Solutions Team meeting in Clatskanie on the 28<sup>th</sup>. CCET economic team annual meeting, November 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Marc Siegel—Lot of talk about fiscal cliffs, budget sequestration. Want to see job impact be the number one priority and how the Senator will contribute to the discussion.
- Regional Solutions—Pat Wingard. Will connect POTB with the other ports in their new legislative district. DEQ continues to work with AMCO clean-up. Appointed to Clatsop Community College Board, and will work closely to increase connections with local economic development efforts. Insurance rates are going to go up for businesses and residents in floodplains. May 2013 new rates will be rolled out. Been some lawsuits filed regarding endangered species, that business development in flood plain is affecting species. Highest tide of the year next week. DLCDC working through the Territorial Sea Plan, with a large public meeting this evening in Tillamook. If a plan isn't in place, the risk is that the Feds will permit projects as they come in.
- Tillamook hired new community development director
- Clatsop Co let a contract to work on Beerman Creek flooding along Hwy 101 south of Seaside.

#### AGENDA ITEM 6—2013 Planning

- Col-Pac Officer Nominating Committee: Pat, Steve, Joyce, Suzanne
- 2013 Meeting Schedule—Handed out and will be posted on the NWOregon.org website
- Next Col-Pac/NOEA Meeting—January 10, 2013 at the Scappoose Fire Hall

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Diane Pohl, NOEA Chair

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Recorded: Mary McArthur, Executive Director

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Peter Huhtala, Col-Pac Vice-President