East Cascades Works
Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2021; 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Attendees: David Burger, Amy Gibbs, Martin Campos Davis, Maggie Hubbell, Gary North, Marta Cronin, Michelle Alvarado, Wendy Peterson, Commissioner Kramer, Robbie Smith, Matt Bogatay, Heather Tramp, Mike Graham, David Aiken, Jennifer Newby, John Hanner, Nicole Hough, Commissioner Debone; staff: Heather Ficht, Jessica Fitzpatrick, Stefanie Siebold, Melissa Barrett, Brenda Stewart

Meeting called to order at 11:32pm by Gary North

Topic	Time	Discussion/Action/Motion
Welcome, Consent Agenda & Board Member Transitions	11:30am-11:45am	Gary North, EC Works Chair • Approval of minutes from October ***vote required.*** • Status of Annual Audit • Welcome New Board Members • Welcome Brenda to EC Works Team
		<u>Motion:</u> David Burger made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as presented; Michelle Alvarado seconded; unanimously approved. <u>Discussion:</u> Welcomed Matt Bogatay, Bogatay Construction in Klamath Falls. They employ 50 people at their commercial and residential construction company. Wendy Peterson, Google in Gorge. Wendy has 15 plus years working with community colleges and workforce development, including WIOA. Supports Google Data Center workforce development for the West Coast. Maggie Hubbell, Shift in Bend. She has a background in training and tech company leadership. At Shift they are working to train people through virtual reality platforms in health safety standards and diversity, equity, and inclusion. Welcome Brenda Stewart to the EC Works Team as the Regional Business Services Manager. She is excited to build relationships with Industry.
		Updates from Board Members Representing our Target Industries:

Updates from Industry	11:45-12:10pm	• **Manufacturing**- *David Aiken (Tofurky)*- currently most concerned with safety practices and protocols. Has implemented a Co2 monitor to identify risk areas and has began collecting data to determine where the highest areas of risk are on the manufacturing floor. Predicts a need for improved training in HVAC to create additional assurances around air quality systems. • *Mike Graham (Real Carbon)*- seeing elements of fatigue with staff resulting in individuals being less careful. Co2 monitors are currently cost effective, but soon will not be. Manufacturing is stable because customers have grown accustomed to lag time. There are very large questions around which products will return to the United States, that have been outsourced for decades. • **Technology**- *Maggie Hubbell (Shift)*- finding employees has become very difficult locally. In addition, the big question is what to do around Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Finding enough individuals with experience, skills, and the pipeline for developers has run dry. • *Wendy Peterson-(Google)*- The Dalles Data Centers is well established so does not have a lot of openings, but the biggest issue that has emerged is around Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training for new hires- not just around people of color, but perspectives and experiences. This approach also extends to donors and partners as well. • **Healthcare**- Heather shared that *Trevor Janeck (St. Charles*) is currently deploying the Max Vax clinic at the Fairgrounds. Thank you St. Charles and Trevor! • **Construction-** *Matt Bogatay (Bogatay Construction*)- Unique in that they do a lot of outdoor work, so could maintain work through other shutdowns. Difficulty has been maintaining office staff and encouraging at-home working. Is currently up 300% in project volumes. Distribution issues and wood and steel product cost increases (up 120%) have been terrible. Example- board that used to cost $12 now cost $38. Has changed the way work is done and how products are procured. • *David Burger (Local 290)*- Job contact tracing continues as does quarantining to ensure that work can continue. Safety protocols have been implemented that industry had never explored. Construction is booming throughout the 10 counties- solar and wind farms in the north, data centers throughout, residential, and commercial building- all continues to grow. Association of General Contractors will be looking to grow their presence to support the industry. SAFE from HATE pledge is also taking roots within the Construction Consortium.

		Actions: David Burger to share SAFE from HATE with the group and looking for folks to sign on. Heather will share the Statewide Economic Update.
Local Plan	12:10-1:00pm	Heather Ficht, EC Works Executive Director and Jessica Fitzpatrick, EC Works Director of Compliance and Operations • High level overview of changes to the Local Plan • Review of Technical Requirements • Overview of Timeline • Solicit Approval of Draft Plan to be posted for public comment- ***vote required***
		Discussion: Heather provided a reminder that the Local Plan is a requirement for complying with WIOA as well as a strategic plan. Refer to the packet for a summary of changes within the plan. Feedback & Edits: typo on page 15, section 3.6, "available" There is some missing context in the first section around Adult Basic Skills. 1.1-.3 Heather reminded everyone that the Local Plan will be posted for review and public comment after being approved for posting today. Plans take effect on July 1, 2021 following approval from the Workforce and Talent Development Board. **Motion: Jenni Newby made a motion to approve the draft Local Plan for posting for public comment; Marta Cronin seconds; Unanimously Approved.**
COVID Recovery & Workforce Modernization Act	1:00pm-1:20pm	Doug Riggs, Equity Action Partners (Doug not present, so Heather shared update) • Review of Senate Bill 623
		Discussion: SB 623 is currently being redrafted based on feedback from Gov's office and State Agency leadership to be more accurately reflective of the intention of the bill which is to conduct an immediate analysis of the public workforce system and immediate needs to help in recovery and a longer term annual assessment of the system and gaps. Commissioner Kramer has been very supportive and has been actively advocating for SB 623 and for the legislation to move forward. Commissioner Debone asks for talking points to best equipped with the tools he needs to advocate for our causes.
Updates & Public Comment	1:20-1:30pm	Gary North, Chair • Ready to Hire - Melissa Barrett, EC Works Regional Program Manager shared an update on the process for development and system wide training on this work readiness body of work.

		• Call for public comment- provided an opportunity for introductions from Public Sector members and other Private Sector Members who have not yet spoken, as well as Staff:
Adjournment	1:30pm	Gary North, Chair- **Adjourned at 1:08pm**

Attachments:

- October Board Meeting Minutes
- Local Plan Revision Summary
- Draft Local Plan
- Ready to Hire Materials