

PEDC Members Present: Lewis Bear, Adam Principe, Jeff Bergosh, Clorissti Shoemo, Steven Barry, Dave Hoxeng, Sherri Myers

Absent Members: PC Wu, Henry Hawkins,

Staff: Scott Luth, Melissa Stoker, Sena Maddison, Alyvia Waite, Jeff Dyer, Patrick Rooney, Casey Campbell, Richard Sherrill

Guests: Dave Murzin, Brian Wyer, Jessica Griffen

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lewis Bear at 10:00 am.
2. **Public Notice:** This meeting was publicly noticed for FloridaWest on February 6, 2020.
3. **Public Comment:** Chairman Lewis Bear requested public comment. Ann Hill called this morning to let us know she is sorry she cannot be in attendance today, and that if there is anything we need to please let her know.
4. **Action Items**
 - a. Approve January 21st, 2020 Minutes
Steven Barry motioned.
Clorissti Shoemo seconded.
Passed unanimously.
 - b. Approval of January Financials
Jeff Bergosh motioned.
Clorissti Shoemo seconded.
Passed unanimously.
 - c. Tech Park Update
 - a RFPs
Scott Luth presented a Pensacola Technology Park RFP draft for board review. After a number of board member questions and suggestions, Chairman Lewis Bear asked that a committee be established to review this document and then bring back to the March meeting for board approval. Chairman Lewis Bear asked for committee volunteers. Dave Hoxeng, Clorissti Shoemo, Adam Principe, and Sherri Myers all volunteered for this committee. The results of the committee work is to be distributed to the board members one week prior to the March board meeting for review. Scott Luth will ensure the meeting is noticed and convened to meet this expectation.

b Appraisals

Melissa Stoker shared that additional quotes are being requested. We expect to be ready for action at the March board meeting.

5. Division Reports

a. Economic Development Update:

- 1. Business Development:** Scott Luth provided an update in Danita Andrews' absence. We expect to have a formal announcement in March which may result in ultimately 100 positions. Scott Luth shared that this company has a proactive ex-offender hiring program. He also stated that a new Cyber related prospect will be meeting in the community with our strategic partners next week with several hundred potential jobs. We are also expecting site visits from consultant shows in the next couple of months. Steven Barry requested that we continue to push to meet with the new ASCEND manager.
- 2. Workforce:** Jeff Dyer provided an updated report to the board. June 17-18 dates have been confirmed as the IDN visit date to Pensacola. There will be around 35-40 people here from around the country for this CAEL visit. Jeff mentioned that we are starting our outreach with other non-profit employee training programs. Their first meeting was with REAP. Sherri Myers expressed her concerns about the REAP program. Jeff Dyer stated that we are doing our due diligence on choosing our partners. Chairman Lewis Bear shared an update on Triumph's efforts regarding workforce. Jeff Dyer stated that we are assessing what programs are already in existence and then working to ensure we are not duplicating efforts. Sherri Myers stated that she wants to see more effort for women and minorities. Scott Luth shared that we are still working with Lumon May and his office on workforce training program with RESTORE.
- 3. Co:Lab:** Patrick Rooney provided an updated report to the board. We are looking at approximately 82% occupancy come March 1st. Patrick Rooney also provided an update on the new Spring partnership program with the Studer Community Institute.
- 4. Cybersecurity:** Scott reported that the FloridaWest board is close to approving a contract to hire a Cyber Consultant to assist the community with its Cyber strategy. The initial focus will be to grow the Federal Government operations in the community.
- 5. Marketing:** Sena Maddison shared that there will be a graduate announcement for EBI. She also shared that they are working on several other the upcoming announcements.

6. Other Business:

- a. Bluffs Governor Growth Fund Application Update:** We will have the \$2.5M Bluffs request out.
- b. Bluffs Legislative Request:** The Senate did put a place holder for \$750K. They will be traveling to Tallahassee this week to request that the money is held and to see if we can get additional support in the House. Steven Barry asked that we keep Janice Gilley informed on developments. Lewis Bear shared that it is his understanding that Alex Andrade is supportive of this but that it is not one of his priorities.

- c. PEDC MOU with the County to assist with the Midtown Commerce Park: There is interest but there are no current updates. Steven Barry shared that there is an item on the County Commission agenda for review.

Meeting Changes: The March PEDC Board Meeting will be on March 24th instead of the originally scheduled March 17th date. The June PEDC Board meeting will be on June 23rd instead of the originally scheduled June 16th date. The August PEDC Board meeting will be on August 25th instead of the originally scheduled August 18th date.

Adjourned at 11:59 am.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Dave Hoxeng, Secretary-Treasurer
Pensacola-Escambia Promotion & Development Commission