

**Minutes of the
Economic Development Council
Meeting**

February 11, 2014

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Members present:

Arun Tilak, CU; Kathy Harrell, CASC; Ryan Blanton, CSC (via-video); Rick Wetherill, ECU; Janet Wansick, EOSC; Linda Tillman, LU (via-video); Cecil Carter, MSC; Steven Bloomberg, OCCC; Diane Murphey, OPSU, (via-video); Jill Worthington, RCC; Stan Greil, RSC; Doug Misak, SWOSU; Anthony (Tony) Bretti, TCC; Jeri Thornton-Dulaney, WOSC (via-video)

Guests present:

Arlie Schroder, RCC; Anita Gordy-Watkins, OSUIT; Mackenzie Britt, OU; Renee Williams, OU; Vikki Dearing, ODOC; Peggy Saunkea, EDU; Tony Hutchison, Connie Lake and Emelia Ross, OSRHE staff.

1. Welcome and Introductions of all members and guests

Vice Chairperson Janet Wansick called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Introductions were made and guests were welcomed.

2. Approval of January 14, 2014 EDC meeting minutes

Upon a motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the January 14, 2014 meeting of the Economic Development Council were approved as presented.

3. Main Topic: Rich Overmoyer, Executive Director of UEDA and Steve McKnight, Director of Membership, UEDA

Ms. Lake introduced Tim Hinds, since Rich Overmoyer and Steve McKnight were unable to attend. Mr. Hinds shared with the Council the benefits of being members of the University Economic Development Association (UEDA). UEDA's mission is to serve its members by enhancing members' abilities to deliver economic development benefits through engagement with higher education. The UEDA was founded in 1976 and provides value through news and information, public policy, educational programming, and best practice sharing. The cost for an annual organizational membership is \$495. The benefits of being a member of UEDA are receiving news and information impacting UEDA initiatives and issues, collaborate with private sector, higher education and economic development policy leaders, you can become eligible for the UEDA Awards of Excellence recognition, collaborate on grants and regional initiative's with members organizations, gain access to UEDA job board and postings, participate in committees creating new sector benefits. For more information please go to join.universityEDA.org

4. Best Practice: "You're not just here for the cookies!" Cecil Carter, MSC

One aspect of economic development is building, maintaining and utilizing a database of partners. Building a database of partners begins with meeting people, a greeting, a

handshake and exchange of business cards. Many events, like the Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award are opportunities for networking and building your database. This presentation was built on long term research and a life time of observations, plus, organizing it in a way that, hopefully, is memorable. Mr. Carter has offered it at a best practice in longer workshops for associations, such as the American Society of Training and Development and the North Texas Regional Library System. To express the importance of networking, Mr Carter shared that he has even been hired for jobs because he has a “big rolodex”.

5. New Member Orientation: Connie Lake

Ms. Lake provided a handout and shared with the EDC the new member orientation PowerPoint.

6. 2013-14 EDC Priorities

a. EDC Internship Program, Rick Wetherill, committee chair

Mr. Wetherill shared with the Council that they can easily count the “push” of internships from the university side, but it’s more difficult to count the “pull” data from the demand of businesses and organizations.

b. Economic Development Reporting Template, Arun Tilak, committee chair

Mr. Tilak shared with the Council that the committee met earlier that morning. The committee decided that any internship which is required in a core curriculum will not count as an internship. President Faltyn called in to let the full council know how well the presidents liked the Economic Development Reporting Template. Mr. Tilak will put it on the web where each member can put their own information in it.

c. Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award ceremony and reception, Sheri Snyder, Committee Chair

Ms. Wansick reminded the Council about the center pieces and to make sure they review at the rules and regulations. She also shared with the committee about the photo taking process at the event. There will be an area setup to take photos before and after the event as well. Ms. Lake reminded the committee to get with their partner and let them know they will be receiving an invitation to this event. Invitations went out in the mail and RSVP online signups is live and ready.

7. OSRHE update by Tony Hutchison

Mr. Hutchison was not able to attend.

8. Commerce update by Connie Lake

Ms. Lake shared a review of the history, purpose and structure of the EDC, as well as the history and benefits of the Business Partnership Excellence Award Program.

9. Bring Successes! Be prepared to share in two minutes what is happening at your institution

Rick Wetherill – ECU’s new business and conference center won the chamber of commerce community impact award. Mr. Wetherill also shared that ECU has started an Economic Development team on campus.

Steve Bloomberg – OCCC’s grand opening on their new 1,049 seat theater this coming Friday. Mr. Bloomberg shared that they just signed a six figure contract to provide training for Melody Material Handling.

Doug Misak – SWOSU’s already had their grand opening of the new event center, which is 90,000 sq. ft.

Janet Wansick – EOSC will be kicking off the 8th grade college and career tour happening in October.

Arun Tilak – CU held a global event called Global Game Jam, which lasted 48 hours and was open to 450 locations around the world. Mr. Tilak also shared that CU just launched a contest for business ideas called Project DREAM where participants posted their business ideas online and then the community could vote on the project they liked. They had 15 contestants submit their business ideas for DREAMS. The contest was open to individuals from Comanche, Jackson and Stephens counties.

Anita Gordy-Watkins – OSUIT has received two tech grants; one is a manufacturing grant mainly in Northeastern Oklahoma and running it thru the Mid America Industrial Park and the other grant is orthotics and prosthetics tech grant.

Mackenzie Britt – The Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth (CCW) is hosting a startup weekend on February 21-23. You can find more information at ou.startupweekend.org. CCW is also launching the Land Run, which is a co-working space. Ms. Williams also shared that President Boren’s University is very pleased for OU’s 2nd Annual President’s Day of learning, which is happening April 12th in the Oklahoma Memorial Union. OU is also launching a renewed partnership with the Norman Regional Health System and they are happy to have them back. The first seminar will be held on April 24, at the education center at Norman Regional Hospital and it will be titled “Circle of Care Methodology Risk Assessment and Prevention of Suicide.” In the fall of 2014, OU will be launching three new project management professional development workshops and opportunities.

Jill Worthington – RCC received a Specialty Crop Block Grant. The first one is “Establishing Vineyard Ground Cover” for \$9,320. Evaluate options for establishing ground cover based on quickness to cover the ground, amount of ground cover, season of growth, maintenance cost, and tendency to spread. The second one is “Impact of Plasticulture on Water Dynamics and Production of Tomatoes” for \$9,330 to determine the interaction of water conservation techniques, canopy size, and fruit production.

Diane Murphey – OPSU’s rodeos has been very busy with a top hand auction and raised \$27,000 for scholarships and sponsored a steer wrestling school. The No Man’s Land has a new addition that is now open. Shea Meyer of Stratford, OK, has been named the winner for the 2014 Oklahoma State Duck Stamp Contest. Shea is a 2005 graduate of Oklahoma Panhandle State University. Meyer's artwork will be featured on the 2014 Oklahoma Duck Stamp which serves as a hunting license for waterfowl in addition to a conservation tool.

Ryan Blanton – CSC recently completed a \$350,000 CDB grant. Mr. Blanton also shared that CSC’s Warner campus is half way through the construction process of their \$5 million student union renovation. It will also serve as a ballroom for up to 400. Nursing and Allied Health Facility in Muskogee is underway. CSC basketball coach Bill Muse got his 500th win and he is the 6th NJCAA college basketball coach to achieve that. He was also inducted in to the NJCAA Hall of Fame and they will name the basketball court after him. Mr. Muse is only the 2nd coach to do that at one institution.

Linda Tillman – LU was awarded a \$4.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education – National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) to establish a new Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Research and Capacity Building for Minority Entities. LU has completed finishing touches on the Farmers Market in Langston. LU is working on changing the name of a Scholarship fund as LU-OKC.

Tony Bretti – TCC is working on a tech grant for \$2.1 million. TCC will be hosting a Best Thinking Forum in April. TCC science building is going up as planned at the northeast campus.

Kathy Harrill – CASC; Ms. Harrill shared that CASC foundation recently raised over \$50,000 at the Annual Gala, which is used for scholarships and to help build dorms around the campuses. CASC will be kicking off their annual chili cook-off on February 21. In Poteau, Oklahoma, the Chamber of Commerce has opened a new office in the new Donald J Reynolds facility. CASC will decide on February 20 if they will pursue their MLT degree.

Cecil Carter – MSC has broken ground for the Nursing program expansion. Mr. Carter also shared they will be expanding the Gun Smith program.

10. New Business

No new business

11. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.