

Rural Economic Development Public Facilities Advisory Committee
Minutes
October 9, 2020 @ 8:30am
Lewis EDC Boardroom

8:30 A.M.: Call to order by Dan Rich

Committee Members Present: Dan Rich, EDC Chair; Dan Mortenson, City of Morton Mayor; Sue Luond, City of Centralia Mayor; Dennis Dawes, City of Chehalis Mayor; Edna Fund, Lewis County Commissioner

By Phone: Buck Hubbert, Industrial Commission; Erik Martin, County Manager

Others Present: Rob Hill, Mayor City of Centralia; Kim Ashmore, Public Facilities Director

Staff Present: Marrienne Schumacher, Lewis EDC

New Business:

8:40 A.M.: Kim Ashmore, City of Centralia Public Facilities Director, presented the City of Centralia application. The grant request was for \$600,983.42 for the project "Aquifer Protection". Kim stated that the aquifer is 90ft deep and is susceptible to contamination from septic tanks. There are currently over 1000 septic tanks within the critical aquifer area. The funds would be used to extend sanitary sewer from Johnson Rd down Lind Land to Mt. View trailer park and to an undeveloped commercial property. The project would remove 18 septic tanks that are currently in use within the critical aquifer area.

8:45 A.M.: Dennis Dawes asked if the city had checked with ecology about help with funding. Dennis stated that the project does not meet the criteria for .09 Buck Hubbert stated that the funds are for economic development and the county has been recently audited for the use of funds from .09 grants. Rob Hill stated that the sewer would extend down Harrison Ave. for business to connect. Dennis Dawes asked what hobs will be brought into the area that are not already there. Dan Rich stated that he supports the project in that it matches the Winlock project for future business growth although he is concerned about setting precedence for this sort of public facilities project for .09 funds.

Edna stated that she had sent the .09 application to the prosecutor for review of its criteria concerning use of .09 funds. Cullen Gatten, Prosecuting Attorney, stated in an email to Edna that was read at the meeting, "The project would not likely meet the criteria for economic development prospects."

9:00 A.M.: Dan Mortenson made a motion to pass on the City of Centralia's application due to the application not meeting .09 economic development criteria. Dennis Dawes provided a 2nd. The motion passed unanimous.

9:05 A.M.: Erik Martin, County Manager, presented the East Lewis County PDA application. The loan request was for \$10,807.00 for the project “East Lewis County Economic Development Funding”. The funds would be used to cover a loan payment for the continuation of operations for a commercial building in Packwood. The building has a prospective tenant. The loan funds would be used to pay Kraft 3 for the loan payment and funds would be reimbursed once tenant is in the building.

9:15 A.M.: Buck Hubbert stated that the project is a good one that would provide economic development to help Packwood.

9: 20 A.M.: Dennis Dawes made a motion to approve the application and .09 loan funds of \$10,807.00. Dan Mortenson provided a second to the motion. The motion passed unanimous.

9:25 A.M.: Meeting Adjourned