

**SAN BENITO COUNTY**  
**Economic Development Committee**

*Committee:*

*Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisor Bob Tiffany, District 4 and  
Board of Supervisor Peter Hernandez, District 3*

**AGENDA MINUTES**

**Thursday, February 10, 2022**

**12:00 P.M.**

San Benito County Administration Building  
Board of Supervisors Chambers  
481 Fourth Street, Hollister, California

Webinar ID: 844 6817 1191

Webinar Password: **163085**

**MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL FURTHER ACTION  
OF THE COMMITTEE**

Pursuant to AB 361, and the resolution adopted thereunder, relating to the convening of public meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and pursuant to the recommendation from Dr. Gellert dated January 5, 2022, members of the Committee are allowed to attend the meeting via teleconference and to participate in the meeting to the same extent as if they were present.

The meeting is closed to the public. The meeting will be available through Zoom those who wish to join or require accommodations with the instructions below:

This meeting can be accessed in the following methods:

Through Zoom (<https://zoom.us/join>) per the instruction stated below

**Participating by Zoom:**

Three ways to attend Zoom meetings: on a web browser, through the Zoom App, or over the phone. Each webinar will have a webinar ID and password, which is a unique number associated with an instant or scheduled meeting (found at the top of this text). The chat feature is disabled for all participants. Additionally, the video function is not available to the public. Zoom regularly provides new versions of the Zoom desktop client and Zoom mobile app to release new security features and fix bugs. To ensure you can join the meeting and participate through public comment, please launch the web address to download the Zoom application: <https://zoom.us/support/download>. Furthermore, we recommend upgrading to the latest version of Zoom once it is available. Please visit <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362233-Upgrade-update-to-the-latest-version> to ensure you have the newest Zoom update.

### A. Zoom on Web-browser:

a. If joining through web-browser, launch the address <https://zoom.us/join> or open the direct link listed below: <https://zoom.us>

### B. Or launch the Zoom app on your Tablet or Smartphone:

b. Select "**JOIN A MEETING**"

c. The participant will be prompted to enter **Webinar ID and Password listed above** and name to join the meeting. The meeting agenda can be found at <https://www.cosb.us/>

d. The participant can launch audio through their computer or set it up through the phone.

e. **Public Comment:** Select the "**Participants Tab**" and click "**Raise hand**" icon, and the Zoom facilitator will unmute you when your turn arrives.

### C. Zoom Audio Only (phone):

a. If you are **calling in as audio-only**, please dial **US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 408 638 0968**

b. It will ask you to enter the **Webinar ID listed above**, followed by the "**#**" key (pound key), then enter **Webinar Password listed above** at the top page of the agenda. The meeting agenda can be found at <https://www.cosb.us/>

c. It will then ask for a **Participant ID**, press the "**#**" key (pound key) to continue.

d. Once you enter the Zoom meeting, you will automatically be placed on mute.

e. **Public Comment:** If you are using a phone, please press "\*"9" (star-nine) to raise your hand, and the Zoom facilitator will unmute you when your turn arrives.

### Written Comments & Email Public Comment

Members of the public may submit comments via email by 5:00 PM on the Monday prior to the meeting to the Senior Administrative Analyst at [dalonso@cosb.us](mailto:dalonso@cosb.us)

### Public Comment Guidelines

**A.** The Committee welcomes your comments.

**B.** If participating on Zoom, once you are selected you will hear that you have been unmuted: At this time, please state your first name, last name, and county you reside in for the record.

**C.** Each individual speaker will be limited to a presentation total of three (3) minutes, or such other time as may be designed by the Chair.

**D.** Please keep your comments, brief, to the point, and do not repeat prior testimony, so that as many people as possible can be heard. Your cooperation is appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact Dulce Alonso, at (831) 636-4000, or email [dalonso@cosb.us](mailto:dalonso@cosb.us)

***The San Benito County Economic Development Committee welcomes you to this meeting and encourages your participation.***

- *If you wish to speak on a matter that does not appear on the agenda, you may do so during the Public Comment period at the beginning of the meeting. Except as otherwise provided by law, no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda. When addressing the Committee, please state your name for the record. Please address the Committee as a whole through the Chair.*
- *If you wish to speak on an item contained in the agenda please seek recognition from the Chairman prior to consideration of the item.*

**12:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

*The Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Bob Tiffany, District #4*

2. ROLL CALL.

*Peter Hernandez    X  
Bob Tiffany         X*

3. ACKNOWLEDGE CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

*Motion to Acknowledge Certificate of Posting:  
Made by Supervisor Bob Tiffany and  
Seconded by Supervisor Peter Hernandez*

4. PUBLIC COMMENT: *Opportunity to address the Committee on items of interest not appearing on the agenda. No action may be taken unless provided by Govt. Code Section 54954.2.*

*Barbara Thompson in discussions with Mike to assign Joel Ellinwood to Cannabis.*

*Ray Espinosa requesting to formally discuss and approve representation for each district on the Economic Development Committee. Item to be presented at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting.*

*Jim Gillo, representing the Business Council, is available as a resource and willing to participate in any capacity necessary.*

<b>REGULAR AGENDA</b>
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5. PROPOSED RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO AB 361- Adopt proposed resolution authorizing teleconferencing options for meetings of the Committee for the period of February 10, 2022, through March 10, 2022, pursuant to AB 361.

**MOTION:**

*Motion to approve proposed resolution as presented.*

*Made by **Supervisor Bob Tiffany** and seconded by **Supervisor Peter Hernandez***

**2-0**

*For (2)  
Ayes: Tiffany, Hernandez*

*Against (0):  
Noes:*

6. APPOINT COMMITTEE CHAIR.

*Committee bylaws and regulations will be placed on an upcoming Board Meeting for adoption and discussion of composition of the committee.*

**MOTION:**

*Motion to appoint Supervisor Bob Tiffany as Committee Chair with rotating Schedule*

Made by **Supervisor Peter Hernandez** and seconded by **Supervisor Bob Tiffany**

**2-0**

For (2)

Ayes: Tiffany, Hernandez

Against (0):

Noes:

7. SET REGULAR STANDING MEETINGS date and time.

*Supervisor Bob Tiffany suggested that the committee meet monthly, and adjust accordingly if necessary*

**MOTION:**

*Motion to set regular standing meetings to Monthly, second Thursday at noon (12:00 PM PST)*

Made by **Supervisor Bob Tiffany** and seconded by **Supervisor Peter Hernandez**

**2-0**

For (2)

Ayes: Tiffany, Hernandez

Against (0):

Noes:

8. DISCUSS amendments to EDC MOU agreement and provide direction.

*Supervisor Bob Tiffany gave a bit of background on the MOU, and how the thought process was to get the MOU more focused and get the deliverables narrowed down to County and EDC expectations.*

*Dulce Alonso, Senior Administration Analyst, provided further details on what changes have been implemented within Amendment #1.*

*Supervisor Peter Hernandez would like a better sense on the projects that are being worked on. Would like to make the amendment clean and specific goal oriented. Would like an update on where we are currently at with projects & amendment*

*Rene Wells from Economic Development Cooperation provided a quick overview of the matrix's and what was implement into the amendment.*

County Administration Officer, Ray Espinosa, mentioned that EDC would work as a one stop shop for the community and those coming into the community with developments. Streamline the process.

**MOTION**

Approve EDC MOU amendment with minor modifications to be placed on the Board agenda of February 22, 2022, Board Meeting for further review and Board Approval.

Made by **Supervisor Bob Tiffany** and seconded by **Supervisor Peter Hernandez**

**2-0**

For (2)

Ayes: Tiffany, Hernandez

Against (0):

Noes:

9. DISCUSS proposed Sales Tax Reimbursement program and provide direction.

Supervisor Tiffany provided some background information, goal of the program was to analyze what the County could do to provide incentives and generate revenue.

Marc Fontes, EDC, provided a presentation & summary of the program. The basic concept is of this program is to encourage new and existing businesses that generate sales tax revenue to locate or expand in San Benito County.

Eligible reimbursement costs for improvement and impact fees

Marc: The committee also discussed a second-tier program for businesses generating \$10K and still stacking revenue can apply for the program specifically health and safety improvements

Restaurant specific issues to environmental health and ADA compliance would fall under the Public Health and Safety improvements.

Supervisor Tiffany: What is the argument for lowering the threshold?

Marc: Make the program more inclusive

Supervisor Hernandez: more enticing to businesses.

\$1 million revenue would be required for \$10,000

A specific agreement with each business on how the sales tax reimbursement would work out

Supervisor Tiffany suggested to taking this program to the board for further dialogue and consideration. Would like more data on setting the level of eligible reimbursement costs \$10K or lower.

Supervisor Hernandez in agreement with taking this item to the board.

Marc: more details from legal standpoint

**MOTION**

Direct staff to collect data on the business levels (5K/10K) within the county and work with County Counsel on missing details and return to the Economic development Committee for further dialogue before taking it to the Board.

Made by **Supervisor Bob Tiffany** and seconded by **Supervisor Peter Hernandez**

2-0

For (2)

Ayes: Tiffany, Hernandez

Against (0):

Noes:

10. DISCUSS and provide direction on the California Microbusiness COVID-19 Relief Grant Program.

Gracie Rodriguez, assistant management analyst, introduced and presented on the item. Staff recommendation was to create a working group to oversee the program.

County received about 81K in funding of the Microbusiness Grant Program to assist microbusinesses that were negatively impacted by the covid-19 pandemic.

Each eligible business is receiving \$2,500

**MOTION**

Approve creating a working group consisting of representatives from each jurisdiction and provide monthly updates.

Made by **Supervisor Bob Tiffany** and seconded by **Supervisor Peter Hernandez**

2-0

For (2)

Ayes: Tiffany, Hernandez

Against (0):

Noes:

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS., No discussion of these items shall occur, but the Committee may direct any of the reports to be agendized for a future meeting.

1. Sales tax reimbursement item will be coming back for further dialogue
2. Discuss some of the items the committee would like to cover this year
3. Supervisor Hernandez suggested hearing the direction of the board on economic development
4. Have a strategic plan for the CEDS

Made by **Supervisor Bob Tiffany** and seconded by **Supervisor Peter Hernandez**

2-0

For (2)

Ayes: Tiffany, Hernandez

Against (0):

Noes:

**ADJOURNMENT:**

As required by Gov. Code Section 54957.5 any public record distributed to the San Benito Economic Development Committee less than 72 hours prior to this meeting in connection with any agenda item shall be made available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk of the Board, San Benito County Administration Building, 481 Fourth Street, Hollister, CA 95023. Public records distributed during the meeting will be available for public inspection at the meeting if prepared by the County. If the public record is prepared by some other person and distributed at the meeting it will be made available for public inspection following the meeting at the office of the Clerk of the Board.

***In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) the Board of Supervisors meeting facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board's office at (831) 636-4000 at least 48-hours before the meeting to enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.***