



## SAN BENITO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Peter Hernandez

Bob Tiffany

Board of Supervisors

Board of Supervisors

San Benito County Board Chambers – 481 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Hollister, CA 95023

### SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA ROUGH MINUTES Thursday, March 10, 2022

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

1) Roll Call:

Peter Hernandez    X  
Bob Tiffany         X

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

3) **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**None**

- 4) Approve minutes from Feb 10, 2022, Supervisor Peter Hernandez second by Supervisor Bob Tiffany

5) **Regular Agenda:**

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

2-0

*For (2) Against (0):*

*Ayes: Tiffany, Hernandez Noes:*

**6) Receive overview and strategy for County of San Benito Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy from Economic Development Corporation.**

Renee Wells, EDC, provided a presentation & summary of the CEDS Strategy. Provided an update on federal grants and stakeholders that would be involved.

Supervisor Bob Tiffany asked if the CEDs grant would be automatically issued to EDC.

Renee Wells, EDC, provided an update that they would have to apply.

Supervisor Hernandez mentioned that the CEDS would be a tool to support the entire county.

***MOTION***

*No action taken accepted informational presentation*

**7) DISCUSS the California Microbusiness COVID-19 Relief Grant Program and provide recommendation.**

Assistant Administrative Analyst, Gracie Rodrigues, provides an update on the California Microbusiness COVID-19 Relief Grant Program and provides a recommendation. Staff requested direction on the competitive process or first-come, first-serve for eligible applicants.

Supervisor Bob Tiffany asked how this relates to the home cottage business, business at farmers' markets and that it would not be limited to a specific business sector if they applied to the County's small business grant if they would still be eligible.

Assistant Administrative Analyst, Gracie Rodrigues, responded that if they applied for the California business licenses, they would not be eligible; however, if they only used our grant, they would be

Supervisor Hernandez had a preference to go with first-come, first-serve.

Supervisor Bob Tiffany thought it might be unlikely to reach 25 applicants as the criteria are so narrow. Was okay with starting application award to first come first service.

Barbara Thomson, County of San Benito County Counsel, advised that a portion could be first come, first serve, and a part can be competitive.

Supervisor Hernandez had a preference to go with first-come, first-serve as the award amount is so small, and they have a tight criterion.

***MOTION***

*Direct staff to prioritize applications on a first come basis*

**8) DISCUSS by-laws for the Economic Development Committee and member composition and provide recommendation.**

Ray Espinosa discussed committees and ad-hoc and the increased demand on county staff. Taking minutes, posting agenda, and supervisors not being aware of all activities occurring with the committees. The past six months have increased our staff workload demands and consideration of folding a few of the committees to include all board members.

Supervisor Hernandez agreed that some of the committees were redundant. However, we need input from the business sector. Come up with goals, authority, and processes for the committee. Anything related to economic development should be rolled into this committee. How do we make sure that we are reaching the goals and objectives?

Supervisor Bob Tiffany asked why so many ad-hoc becoming standing committees is this for legal reasons.

Senior Administrative Analyst, Dulce Alonso, presented the potential bylaws and what the economic development committee could reflect. And recommended a committee member of five not to exceed seven, with a required simple majority to conduct a public meeting.

Supervisor Hernandez opposes that three would be a quorum.

Senior Administrative Analyst, Dulce Alonso, advised that the committee would serve as an advisory committee, and a quorum would be needed to conduct a meeting.

Supervisor Bob Tiffany recommended simple bylaws that apply to all standing committees. The Economic Development Committee has the representation of business organizations.

Supervisor Hernandez, the organization, represents the business community and will have a voice to address the business community's needs. With representation from the County, City of Hollister, and San Juan Community. They should have a pulse of the business sector with valuable input to the Board.

Supervisor Bob Tiffany, before the committee makes a decision, it should be a board decision from the Board. Will we need representation for districts for all committees going forward?

Supervisor Hernandez recommends that staff take notes and conduct a recap and template of what occurred. When the Board reports what happened, the Board will reference the notes.

### **Public Comment**

Received an email from the San Juan Bautista Economic Development Committee, which was forward to the Committee members.

City of San Juan Bautista Brian Foucht announced an interest to participate in this committee with the County and would be fully integrated.

Kristina Chavez-Wyatt, manufacturing consultant, small business owner, and author of the previous CEDS suggested including the workforce development board in the economic development discussion as they provide training, placement, and recruitment.

### ***MOTION***

*Direct staff to discuss with the board as a whole*

**9) 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.**

Supervisor Bob Tiffany requested an update on the Microbusiness grant and a possible update on bylaws.

Supervisor Peter Hernandez requested updates on the Tourism element.

Supervisor Bob Tiffany requested to discuss the details and date of the impact of a potential incitive.

**10) ADJOURNMENT:**

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***MOTION:***

*Motion to Adjourn.*

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

*2-0*

*For (2) Against (0):*

*Ayes: Tiffany, Hernandez*

*Noes:*