

# Union County Economic Development Corporation

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## Minutes November 15, 2007

Monthly Meeting:      6:00 p.m. at UCEDC Office 1119 Washington Avenue,  
La Grande

Meeting Facilitator:      Tim Seydel-President  
Board Reporter:      Violet Trapp, Administrative Assistant  
Executive Director:      Craig Thompson  
Members Present:      Tim Seydel, Howard Perry, Dennis Spray, John Howard, Janet Hume-  
Schwarz, Bill Whittemore and Dale Case  
Absentees:      Russell Lester, Lee Lindsey, Mike Poe, Sheri McDonald, and Lori Hines

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Tim Seydel, President.

Tim called for a motion to approve the October minutes.

*Dennis Spray moved that the board approve the September minutes. Dale Case seconded the motion.*

*Janet Hume-Schwarz moved to amend the minutes to say that 'it was opposed unless an equal appreciation was expressed to the City of La Grande for infrastructure built around UCEDC's property in the La Grande Business & Technology Park'.*

Dale Case made a 'Point of Order' regarding Janet's amendment.

*The motion to amend died for a lack of a second.*

*Tim called for the question to approve the September minutes as written. The question was called. The minutes were approved with one opposition. Janet disapproved the motion because the minutes were not clarified.*

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Baum Industrial Park - Closing:** - John Howard/Craig Thompson

The BIP closing should be completed November 23<sup>rd</sup> or early next week. UCEDC is waiting to here when the papers are ready for the seller's signatures. Eastern Oregon Title will notify UCEDC to set a time for the signing.

**Connect Oregon II –Alicel Project–** Craig Thompson

The grant application is nearly completed. The deadline is November 21. Craig plans to send the hard copy Friday November 16 by overnight express. An electronic version is required also and that will be sent Tuesday November 20<sup>th</sup>.

**UCEDC – City MOU** - Craig Thompson

Craig received an email from the City of La Grande Council Member, Steve Clements, stating that the council wants to revisit the MOU and to schedule a time to meet with the study group. Today Craig received a follow-up email from Steve saying that Gary Lillard, Marianne Meisner and Steve Clements met last week to revise the Work Plan. The plan will be taken to the city council for discussion. A decision is yet to be made whether to hold a work session with UCEDC or to have the study group meet. Steve also said the MOU was not changed but detail was added to the Work Plan. Craig was asked by Tim Seydel and Janet Hume-Schwarz to ask Steve to share the revised Work Plan with UCEDC before the work session or study group meeting.

**Goals and Outcomes** – Tim Seydel

The Goals and Outcomes were emailed to each of the board members.

*John Howard moved that the board accepts the Goals and Outcomes as revised. Bill Whittemore seconded the motion. Motion was approved.*

**By-Laws** - Craig Thompson

Craig changed the language in Article VII of the By-Laws. The LGIDC Board was deleted and UCEDC Membership shall elect 4 members from the private sector was added. Also a policy and procedures for the election process was written. Janet Hume-Schwarz said that November should be the month added to the policy instead of December.

*Janet Hume-Schwarz moved that the board approves the changes to the By-Laws as presented in Article VII. Dale Case seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Bill Whittemore abstained.*

Craig was asked by the board to write another article for the by-laws that deals with a time frame of notification of changes being made to the by-laws.

**REPORTS:**

**Finance Committee** – Mike Poe

No report. Mike Poe was absent.

Janet Hume-Schwarz recommended that funds be allocated from the Property Fund to the Operations Fund to help offset the operations expenses. The board agreed this item should be sent to the Finance Committee to work on.

**Property Committee** – Dale Case

No report

**Communications/Marketing Committee** – John Howard

No report

**Membership Committee** – Bill Whitemore

No report

**Executive Report** – Craig Thompson

- The final report for the downtown redevelopment project that the Downtown Renaissance Committee worked on was received November 14<sup>th</sup>. Craig has 10 copies for anyone who is interested in receiving a copy. Craig also has 2 PDF Files of the Power Point Presentation that was held at the La Grande Middle School. That also is available for anyone that wants to see it. The board asked Craig to send the PDF File to all the board members.
- At the Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting held November 15<sup>th</sup> the group discussed and approved writing a letter of support to Idaho Senator Mike Crapo on his proposal to take a look at the Pioneer Line that would go through La Grande. The City of La Grande approved a resolution supporting the proposal. Dale DeLong, Mayor of Island City, said Island City is going to do a resolution of support also.

*Dennis Spray moved that UCEDC send a resolution of support for the Pioneer Line. Janet Hume-Schwarz seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

Craig said he will write a letter of support and cc a copy of the letter to the Oregon Senators as well.

- The ‘Thank you’ letters were sent to the City of La Grande for funding the infrastructure of the La Grande Business and Technology Park and to Union County for the partnership funding of UCEDC.

**Administrative Assistant Report** – Violet Trapp

- September Minutes were sent to the membership and partnerships.
- Financial Reports (Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss Statement and the Budget vs Actual), through October were given to Mike for the Financial Report.
- The membership list is updated through the month of October.
- All the board member binders are updated for the November Board Meeting.
- Invoices and letters for November membership renewals were sent.
- Thank you letters and membership certificates are prepared and ready for signatures
- The renewed members of UCEDC for October are:
  - Northwood Manufacturing, Dale Case of Sandridge Agripriases, A & B Enterprises** – (Waldrop Oil, Burger King, By-Rite Texaco, C&M Country Store, Flying J Plaza, Oak Street Shell and the Sub-Way), **Union County, John Howard, Bowman Trucking and Bronson Lumber/Royal Rock**
- Working with Craig on the Alicel Grant Application

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**UP Project** – Craig Thompson

The Downtown Renaissance Committee has discussed the possibility of acquiring a building and incorporating it into the downtown redevelopment activities. Craig approached County Commissioner Steve McClure about this possibly and a small organizational group meeting was

set up with Mayor Colleen Johnson, Ron Horton, Judy Loudermilk and Craig in the UCEDC Office.

**Project ‘Alum’** – Craig Thompson

This is a state project. The aluminum welded products manufacturer is looking for property along I-84, needing 4-10 acres and creating 65 jobs. Craig has responded with a proposal.

Craig received a request through the UCEDC Web Site from a Canadian manufacturer. Initially the owner is looking for a 30,000 sq. ft. building or land to build on. Craig responded with an extensive package of information through e-mail.

**Board Member Term Expirations** – Tim Seydel

Tim Seydel said he needs to step aside his position on the board beginning December 1 for a period of time due to the situation at EOU. He does not have the time to give to UCEDC as his job is acquiring all of his spare time. Dennis Spray recommended that Tim go to the City of La Grande about taking a leave of absence and let the city decide what should be done in placing a fill in for the time of Tim’s absence.

The board members whose terms expire on December 31, 2007 are:

- Howard Perry..... appointed by the City of La Grande
- Dale Case..... appointed by Union County
- Lori Hines..... appointed by Union County
- Sheri McDonald..... appointed by LGIDC

**Nominating Committee** – Tim Seydel

The nominating committee for nominating board officers is:

- Janet-Hume Schwarz
- Dennis Spray
- Bill Whittemore

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Dennis said that he talked with some persons in Central Oregon who are exploring the idea of providing air service in this area. Dennis invited them to come in December. Dennis plans to get a Contact Committee Meeting together for the purpose of discussing this issue.

Meeting Adjourned 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Violet Trapp  
Administrative Assistant

**Note:**

**Next Board Meeting:** Thursday December 20, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.  
UCEDC Office at 1119 Washington Avenue

**Executive Meeting:** Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 7:30 a.m.  
UCEDC Office at 1119 Washington Avenue