

**Update with EDC**

**November 6, 2017**

**1:01 p.m.**

Present: Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson, Matt Matayoshi, Lee Napier

Guests: Susan DeLaire, Justyna Tomtas

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Matt Matayoshi said the EDC did not receive any .09 applications for the current cycle.

Matt discussed the recommendations of the State Auditor's Office regarding .09 applications. He said the annual meeting will be held Nov. 9.

Matt discussed the region's housing needs.

Matt said the EDC has met with Winlock Mayor Lonnie Dowell, the city's Public Works Director, and an attorney regarding Winlock's water rights. He said the city may be able to negotiate with Ecology regarding recommendations Ecology made in 1980. He said the whole purpose is to get service to the industrial site at the freeway.

Matt discussed plans to ask the state for funding to install signs, planters, walking paths and parking in Packwood. He also discussed plans for improvements in downtown Toledo.

Matt discussed a recent study identifying employment needs. He also discussed the conundrum employers face regarding testing for marijuana use. He said the region's unemployment rate is at a 30-year low.

Matt said non-traditional economic development programs are on the horizon for 2018. He said he will visit Arizona to look at a "business incubator" program in Flagstaff.

Matt asked if the county could appoint an alternate for the .09 committee.

Matt suggested naming an alternate when the board makes its appointment via resolution.

Meeting ended at 1:32 p.m.