

Update with EDC

February 1, 2021

1:30 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, Richard DeBolt, Becky Butler, Marianne Schumacher, Eric Sonnenberg, Suzette Smith

Guests: Edna Fund, Susan DeLaire, members from the Chronicle

Recorder: Tammy Martin

Marianne Schumacher said the Lewis EDC is finishing up the processing of all 5 grant rounds. The grants should be closed out for the first quarter of 2021.

Newly appointed EDC Executive Director Richard DeBolt introduced himself and said his number one issue is figuring what the EDC needs to be for its stakeholders to be successful. He is looking to create a post-COVID-19 economic summit. His goal is to create more transparency with the EDC. He will be working with the cities and county. The Lewis EDC is currently looking to recruit businesses from as far north as King County. Richard said the Benaroya project in Winlock is looking at creating a power substation. This will create the ability to bring more power to businesses in Winlock.

Commissioner Stamper suggested Richard DeBolt for the PacMtn Board vacancy and Richard said he would accept the invitation.

Commissioner Pollock discussed the need for an economic development study regarding the South Toledo Airport. Richard did mention that the EDC had not been an active party with the South Toledo Airport.

Meeting adjourned 1:49 p.m.