



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Economic Development District Governing Board

Date:	June 29, 2015
Time:	2:30 p.m.
Location:	12 Olive Street, Greenfield, MA
Duration:	1 hour
Facilitator:	Nancy Riebschlaeger, Chair

Attendees:

- Nan Riebschlaeger, Chair, Town of Wendell
- Gary Dillensneider, FCCDC
- Sam Lovejoy, FRPB
- Michael McCusker, Private Sector
- Kevin Kennedy, Town of Orange
- Linda Dunlavy, FRCOG

Staff:

- Peggy Sloan, Director of Planning & Development
- Jessica Atwood, Economic Development Program Manager
- Gretchen Johnson, Planning Grant Administrator

1 – Call to Order: Nancy Riebschlaeger (Chair)

N. Riebschlaeger called the EDD Board meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. A round of introductions followed.

2 – Review and Approval of the May 28, 2015 EDD Minutes: Nancy Riebschlaeger (Chair)

S. Lovejoy MOVED to approve the May 28, 2015 minutes. L. Dunlavy SECONDED. The motion PASSED unanimously.

3 – Update on the status of US Economic Development Administration (EDA) contract: Jessica Atwood, FRCOG

J. Atwood gave a PowerPoint presentation on the federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) program and reported that the FRCOG received a letter of invitation for an EDA Planning partnership award. The term of the new contract would be July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The grant application is for \$70,000. The grant requires a 100% match from non-federal resources. The FRCOG will use state broadband contracts, State District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) funds, as well as FRCOG assessment funds. The application is currently being reviewed. Notice of grant awards are expected in July or August.

4 – Review of EDA guidelines and roles of the EDD Board & CEDS Committee, and discussion and vote on draft EDD Board Bylaw revisions: Jessica Atwood, FRCOG

J. Atwood reported that new guidelines were released by the EDA in January 2015. The changes related to grant programs, the CEDS Plan contents, and organization of the EDD Board & CEDS Committee. Specifically, changes were made to the membership criteria for the EDD Board and CEDS Committee, which eliminated the formula for membership composition.

As a result changes are proposed to the EDD Board Bylaws, including:

- Better align purposes of EDD Board with EDA regulations and reduce duplication with CEDS Committee bylaws.
- Remove the membership composition formula that was required under the old EDA guidelines.
- Have the FRCOG Executive Committee appoint EDD Board members.
- Reduce the size of the EDD Board from thirteen to nine members.

S. Lovejoy asked if it would be beneficial to combine the EDD and CEDS Committees. J. Atwood responded that the guidelines require them to separate entities. L. Dunlavy suggested appointing the FRCOG Executive Committee as the EDD. J. Atwood stated that the benefit of the FRCOG Executive Committee appointing EDD members is that they meet on a regular schedule. The proposed revisions also reduce the number of members from thirteen to nine, which would require a quorum of only five members. Any comments can be submitted to J. Atwood over the summer. J. Atwood will present to the Executive Committee to vote on.

L. Dunlavy MOVED to accept revised bylaws as presented. S. Lovejoy SECONDED. The motion PASSED unanimously.

5 – Other Business and Adjourn

J. Atwood stated that the State is drafting a new Economic Development Plan. L. Dunlavy and J. Atwood attended one of the six regional listening sessions held.

M. McCusker announced that M. Vilbon has left her position at the Greater Shelburne Falls Area Business Association. He requested that a new member be appointed.

Copies of the handouts are available. Please contact Gretchen Johnson at gjohnson@frcog.org or 413-774-3167 x126.

L. Dunlavy MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 3:14 p.m. S. Lovejoy SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED.

Respectfully submitted by:


Gary Dillensneider, Clerk