

## **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Steering Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, May 5, 2010 – 10 AM  
CAAG Administrative Offices  
1075 S. Idaho Rd., Suite 300  
Apache Junction, AZ 85219

### **Attendees:**

**Alton Bruce**, City of Coolidge  
**Gayle Cooper**, City of Eloy, EDGE  
**Steve Filipowicz**, City of Apache Junction  
**Hank Gutierrez**, Town of Superior  
**Kim Moyers**, Town of Queen Creek  
**Caryn Sanchez**, SRP  
**Ken Volz**, NGCEDC  
**Melissa Woodall**, SGEDC  
**Jim Nelson**, Practical Solutions  
**Pat Schroeder**, Practical Solutions  
**Mike Vogel**, Payson  
**Debra Galbraith**, Payson  
**Don Breiland**, A.J.  
**Josh Wright**, Marana  
**Sally Odette**, APS  
**Holly Bergman**, CAREDF  
**Lester K. Tsosie**, Ak-Chin Indian Community

### **CAAG Staff:**

**Jack Tomasik**  
**Samantha Yates**  
**Angela Gotto**

### **Meeting Minutes**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Barry Albrecht called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All attendees stood for the pledge.
- III. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS:** All attendees provided self-introductions.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 2, 2010**

Alton Bruce made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2010, meeting. Steve Filipowicz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## V. **NEW BUSINESS**

### *CEDS Overview*

Jack Tomasik summarized the work that has been done for Economic Development over the last six months. The objective of the meeting was to review the goals and objectives within the report as well as prioritize them.

A reminder was made about submitting any projects that members would like to be in the CEDS document as soon as possible.

The next meeting will be a teleconference meeting in order to approve the full document.

Jim Nelson gave a brief overview of the draft update CEDS report, acknowledging the CAAG region meets criteria as a distressed region, based off of EDAs two requirements, unemployment and per capita income. The job of the committee is to create projects that will help resolve conditions that are causing the lower income and high unemployment. The challenge for this meeting was to focus on the goals and objectives to give the committee direction to solve these problems.

Ken Volz asked if there were pockets throughout the two counties that did not qualify or if the entire region qualified. Jim Nelson stated that there may be a few pockets that are better or worse, but overall the region qualifies as a distressed area.

### *CEDS Goals & Objectives*

The purpose of the exercise was to determine if there are goals that need to be added back into the report or if there are any that can be removed. After discussion about the goals and objectives was completed, members received colored dots to prioritize the goals.

Lester Tsosie discussed the possibility of a goal for the CEDS to be established to work as a team and with the Indian Communities. It is important for the tribe to work with the county and cities, and be set as a goal going forward.

Ken Volz asked Jim if the opportunities that are open for the region are also open to Indian Communities. Jim stated that yes, the same opportunities are there for the Indian Communities and they very often have their own personal relationship with EDA as well as work with the surrounding region.

Alton Bruce stated that he was concerned that the section about Public Infrastructure/Public Services was discarded. He stated his concern that there have been many opportunities in the past for funding through EDA for Public Infrastructure and therefore removing it would possibly be presumptuous. Jim pointed out that in Goal 17 does address Public Infrastructure both in the goal itself and in the objectives of that goal.

Lester Tsosie asked which of the goals would encourage small business development. Much of his area is developed through small business owners and it is his belief that a goal that focused on this would be beneficial to everyone. Jim stated that in Goal 2 small businesses and entrepreneurship throughout the region are encouraged as well in the upcoming Revolving Loan Fund that CAAG has discussed starting in the next fiscal year.

Sally Odette pointed out that she thought some of the goals could be combined into one goal and asked what the definition of an EDO was. Jim stated that some goals could be combined and that EDO stood for Economic Development Organization, which could be a city economic development department or a county economic organization. EDA will only fund eligible applicants, which are local governments (cities or towns) or an entity like CAAG.

Alton Bruce stated that he felt that goals 10, 11, 12, and 13 will all fit under goal 6.

Jack Tomasik stated that he felt that goal 5 and 19 could be combined.

Sally Odette stated that she felt goal 1, 2, and 8 could be combined under goal 1.

Jack Tomasik stated that he thought bullets under goal 1, a, b, and c, need to be deleted.

A discussion concerning the priority of tourism occurred. A committee needs to be formed that would be in charge of tourism for the region.

Jim Nelson and Jack Tomasik started a discussion on the application of sub-committees and what their role would be. Possible sub-committees would include: Policy Action Liaison, Tourism Coordination, Business Development & Entrepreneurial Support, Capital Access, and Economic Development Client Contact & Information

Debra Galbraith, Alton Bruce, and Melissa Woodall volunteered to help Jack define parameters for the sub-committees.

### *Grants*

Angela Gotto attended a recent USDA Grant seminar and will continue to develop resources that can help throughout the CAAG region.

### *Round Table*

Alton Bruce announced that Coolidge is contemplating opening a new prison. A proposal has been created.

**VI. DATE –TIME – LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING**

Tentative meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 5th the CAAG Main Office.  
Email to set exact date will follow.

**VII. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

No one answered the Call to the Public

**VIII. ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 pm.