

Board of Commissioners Meeting
July 14, 2010

Present: Commissioner Mark D. Davidson
Commissioner Steve McClure
Commissioner R. Nellie Hibbert

Call To Order

Chairman Davidson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. with Commissioner Hibbert and Commissioner Davidson present.

CDBG Application (NEOEDD) – Public Hearing

Lisa Dawson, Executive Director of Northeast Oregon Economic Development District, came to the Commissioners to ask for their support of the application for the CDBG Grant. Lisa explained that NEOEDD went through a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy process recently which identified needs in infrastructure, community facilities and technical assistance specific to Union County. In that process jobs was not identified as a need specifically but it is another need within the community. This project addresses one of the needs that was identified through that process which is the opportunity to support entrepreneurs in the three county region; Union, Wallowa and Baker Counties. There are many entrepreneurs and people who are thinking about going into business or are in business in this area. This project would help address their need for education.

Commissioner Hibbert stated that she supports this program and having the resources available to meet the need in the community.

Lisa explained that NEOEDD will hopefully have ongoing access to some funding through the Individual Development Account Program. The loan programs are also available and there is money available for larger projects. There is about \$550,000 available to date for loans to businesses.

Lisa is requesting that the Commissioners support the CDBG Grant Application.

Commissioner Davidson opened the public hearing for testimony. There was no public testimony given. The hearing was then closed.

Commissioner Davidson stated that NEOEDD provides many valuable services to this region and this is one of those services. Given the state of the local economy and the rate of unemployment a Microenterprise Assistance Program directed at entrepreneurs has a great deal of value going forward.

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**Commissioner Hibbert moved approval of the Northeast Oregon
Microenterprise Assistance Program Project #033003995 as requested.
Commissioner Davidson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Wilhelm
Dept. Specialist.