

**Pima County Small Business Commission
County Administration Building
130 W. Congress, 1st Floor
Thursday, May 16, 2013
3:00 P.M.**

Members Present

Ken Goodman
Tom Ward
Lyra Done
Gabrielle David
Jerry Long
Shelby Hawkins
Mark Finchem
Dabney Philabaum
Joy Soler
Edie Lake
Pat Brown

Others Present

Patrick Cavanaugh
Aurora Hernandez
George Widugiris
Terry Spencer

Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Goodman at 3:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance- Chairman Goodman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approvals of Minutes- The minutes from the March 21, 2013 meeting were approved, unanimously.

Procurement Presentation-Construction Bidding Requirements Subcontractor Listings

Terry Spencer and George Widugiris from Pima County Procurement gave a presentation on Construction Bidding Requirements.

The Tucson Utility Contractors Association (TUCA) who represents construction businesses in Southern Arizona met with Pima County's Procurement Department and is asking for changes to the bidding process, the SBC has been asked to review and comment on the issue.

Pima County requires the lowest bidder to submit a subcontractor list with license number and dollar amount before the end of the 2nd business day after the issuance of the Notice of Recommendation for Award.

TUCA is recommending an extended time frame for submittal of subcontractor information similar to ADOT which would extend the time period to 5 days.

After some discussion a motion for the time limit to remain the same was proposed by Commissioner Finchem, seconded by Commissioner Hawkins, motion carried unanimously.

TUCA will be asked to come to a future SBC meeting for a presentation and further discussion.

Pima County Coordinators' Report-

Business Resource One Stop- the One Stop Business Resource Center is now underway. The idea is to have business advice, permitting, everything needed by small businesses all in one place. The Center would include Development Services, Health Department, Wastewater, etc. These resources will be available to all small businesses. Many small businesses are not aware of the resources available to assist them in opening and running their businesses, there is assistance available with business plans, permits, funding. A suggestion was made to have a pamphlet giving the steps in the order needed to make the process easier. The whole concept is for all of it to be in one place, each department will have one person to serve as an "Ombudsman".

Chairman's Report- Ajo Trip, five Commissioners were able to attend. Chairman Goodman was very happy that there were so many business people from Ajo at the meeting. The Ajo Marketing Group was having their quarterly meeting with Supervisor Bronson and the original plan was to have the SBC meeting in the middle of the Ajo Marketing meeting; since there wasn't a quorum the SBC meeting could not be held. It has been suggested to go to Ajo on an annual basis.

Supervisor Bronson has promised \$500.00 to the recipient of the Small Business Award, and Tom Moulton from ED&T has offered to match it.

JTED- Chairman Goodman reported on JTED. JTED is still doing great things even without the ninth grade funding. The morale is very high; the students are doing extremely well in representing Pima County JTED in scholastic competitions.

Vice Chairman Report -Pima Prosperity Fund- Vice Chairman has finished the report. The report has been sent to the County Administrator and we are now awaiting his approval, after which it will go the BOS for their approval.

COT Small Business Commission Report- Ms. Hook reported that the COT is pursuing as to why the City Ombudsman no longer exists. They are also working on a memorandum of support for the MTCVB, which they have sent that to the Mayor and Council and are waiting for a response.

Juan Padres from the City Managers' Office; gave them a report about small business connections with the City of Tucson, Southern Arizona, and Mexico. There will be a further report next month.

They are attempting to get a representative from all the Chambers to attend their meetings on a regular basis.

Other Commissioners Reports

Commissioner Soler- SB 1045- Gender bias bill which gives individuals and business owners the option to deny access to their bathrooms based on gender. This bill is causing a lot of upset for the LGBT community.

SB 1178- Allows individuals to discriminate against someone due to their religious beliefs. This bill provides protection to business owners who refuse service to anyone because of their (business owner) beliefs. The wording is extremely broad. Commissioner Soler has provided "Safe Place Stickers" to put in merchants windows to let the public know which businesses are safe to use. (these stickers have no wording, just a pink and blue striped sticker)

Commissioner Finch-reported on Medicaid expansion that Gov. Brewer is proposing, there have been some misconceptions that if the monies are not used by Arizona it will be given to other jurisdictions. That is incorrect it will be a direct reduction of our deficit spending. The funding will be available for two years after which Arizona will be responsible after the third year for the entire funding.

Vice Chairman Ward- Small Business Award- the first year everything went well, and was given to the Microbusiness Advancement Center, the second year nomination forms sent to all the chambers with no response. Commissioner Lake was the recipient because Vice-Chairman Ward made a physical visit to the GV Chamber. Last year the Award went to JTED. We are now in the fourth year, and this year it is falling thru the cracks. We need to go out and get another business on our own. The forms have been distributed to the Commission with the criteria. WE NEED TO CONTINUE THE AWARD! It has been suggested there be two awards, one for rural businesses and one for urban.

Also as discussed during the Ajo trip Supervisor Bronson has promised \$500.00 to the recipient of the Small Business Award, and Tom Moulton from ED&T has offered to match it

Chairman Goodman – Chairman Goodman had an issue with Pima County Sheriff impound fees as opposed to City of Tucson fees. After being burglarized and having several of his trucks stolen, he had one truck found and impounded by the Sheriffs' Department. In an attempt to recover the vehicle he waited for over forty minutes at the Sheriff Department after which he was informed he had to pay \$352.00 in impound fees to get his vehicle back, no checks or cash, then he had to go to the impound yard on Swan Road to get it. All was recovered after 4 hours.

On the next day TPD found his other vehicles and he found out TPD does not have an impound yard and only had to pay \$ 88.00 to get his truck back.

The Pima County Sheriffs' Department will be contacted to have someone come to the next SBC meeting to speak and explain why there is such a difference.

Future Agenda items- the credit card processing issues, rural and unincorporated areas, sheriff department impound fees.

Call to the Public- No response.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.