

Department of Workforce Services - Mountainland Regional
 Full Regional Council Meeting
 The Homestead
 Midway, UT
 April 30, 2008

REGIONAL COUNCIL

ATTENDEES:

Bart Wiest, DWS
 Brian Christensen, Utah Schools Employees
 Britt Mathwich, The Homestead
 Clay Christensen, MATC
 Dan Walker, Clyde Companies
 Darren Johnson, Division of Rehabilitation
 Deborah Van Leeuwen, Wasatch Community Foundation
 Gary Ashby, Life Stories
 Jared Ferguson, Provo School District
 Jared Henricksen, DWS
 Jason Nielson, Redmond, Inc.
 Jeff Lindstrom, Wells Fargo
 Joe Miner, Utah County Health
 John Talcott, DWS
 Julia Mohr, UVSC CCR&R
 Julie Lay, DWS
 Karen Larsen, DWS
 Karlyn Norton, Xactware
 Kip Bromley, Alpine Adult Ed
 Lacey Cherrington, Checknet
 Marlene Pelham, Far West Bank
 Michelle Trinnaman, DWS
 Paul Kennard, Wasatch County Economic Dev
 Rebekah for Bill Hulterstrom, United Way
 Rickie Bryan, AFL/CIO
 Sam Jarman, Alpine School District
 Ted Milner, Fondell Woodwork
 Tim Dahlin, Park City Christian Center
 Todd Herbert, Todd's CDL
 Wally Trotter, Mountainview Hospital

EXCUSED:

Beth Rowley
 Gary Anderson
 Kendall Crittenden
 Myla Dutton
 Todd Harris

ABSENT:

Brent Platt
 Pam Niece

WELCOME – Jeff Lindstrom

- Thanks to all for joining us here today
- Thanks to Britt for hosting us in this wonderful location
- Welcome Jason Nielson, Redmond Inc., newest council member
- Jason – Redmond is a salt operation in Sevier County, headquartered in Heber, selling salt across country – icing salt, etc. Also have a health food store in Orem.

2008 FEBRUARY 28 MINUTES – Jeff Lindstrom

- Sam Jarman moved that these minutes be approved as written
- Clay Christensen seconded the motion.
- All approved the February 28, 2008 minutes approved as written.

STATE COUNCIL UPDATE – Jeff Lindstrom

- It was recommended that regional councils no longer be responsible for vendor application process. Central Region proposed that the State only take care of these requests and we support that recommendation. However, all council chairs will take this issue to their councils for discussion. Will let you know outcome once determined at State Council level.
- Kristen Cox, DWS Executive Director, talked about a DWS employee who was involved in an identity theft issue.
 - Department is working with feds and supporting charges and working to restore credibility with customers.

COUNCIL RECOGNITION – Jeff Lindstrom

- Ted Milner is resigning from council because of new job, hoping he can return in the future.
 - Wonderful vice chair and very invested in our community and supporting us in everything we do.
- Ted – I began with the council representing Paul Magleby and didn't realize that I would love working on council as much as I have.
 - You get out of life what you put into it, same with council.
 - Changed life with WIA door opened with DCFS youth - amazing experiences.
 - Appreciate leadership around the table with each one of you as you continue making huge difference to people in our area with jobs.
 - Heart is still here though can't physically remain. Hoping to be back on council as soon as possible.
- Jeff - it's a privilege to be on council and we get more out of it than we give back.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - Britt Mathwich

- The Homestead is continuing to move forward working on master plan with major expansion, condo and conference space.
 - 12 to 18 months projected
 - Looking for either joint venture investor or possible sale.
 - Hopefully won't be the same Homestead, improving and getting new things.
 - Summer incentive starting May get \$50 gas card with every stay.
 - Invite all to come up here for golf, spa, horseback riding, etc.
 - Over 60 years of age doing a senior promotion where stay midweek and get \$50 gas card and free golf after 5:00.
 - Labor situation is looking better for summer though other areas aren't doing as well and are having to lay off.

INTRODUCTION ROUNDTABLE – Jeff Lindstrom

- Keynote speaker had a medical emergency and will not be joining us today.
- Take a minute to introduce ourselves and state how long you've been on the council

SECTOR STRATEGY UPDATE– Jeff Lindstrom

- Council chairs and liaisons met to discuss what councils have been doing and issues with sectors.
- State has recommended we focus on: Basic Ed, Healthcare, Automotive, Energy, and Construction.
- Mountainland focusing on Construction and Basic Ed.
 - After last regional council meeting got together with select members of council related to Construction and Education and talked about needs, marketing, etc.
 - Talked about having youth come to construction industry event and see what they have to offer, similar to door opener at Magleby Construction.
 - Want to work with high school counselors and educate the youth on what's available, what education is needed, what future looks like in Construction.
 - Plan to have round table with reps from Construction but having hard time getting group together.
 - Haven't made a lot of progress in this area and requested assistance from state to help pull round table together to know how to proceed on regional council.

BASIC EDUCATION UPDATE – Jared Ferguson

- Regional Youth Council has been concerned about youth being job prepared
- Working with MATC in putting together class on job preparation.
 - Class was discontinued but Regional Youth Council put together subcommittee to look at curriculum and how to change and put together course.
 - Commitment from DCFS to provide first group of students to pilot and funding of students through classes.
 - When students come into program will be given TABE test for literacy and numeracy skill levels.
 - If TABE numbers are low youth will be referred to Education or Adult Ed in their area.
 - Hoping to not only increase job skills ability, but also literacy and numeracy.
 - Meeting on May 7th to finalize course.
 - Hoping to add to program in future to expand to employers.
 - Internship programs find students ill-prepared to be job ready but hoping to get them while they're still in high school to better prepare them.

SHAUN DEE, THE HYPNOHICK. – Shaun Dee Nielson

- Audience Participants
 - Jeff Lindstrom
 - Todd Herbert
 - Clay Christensen
 - Lacey Cherrington
 - Bart Wiest
 - Jared Henricksen
 - Michelle Trinnaman
- Shaun entertained everyone using hypnosis
 - People don't know how to relax, thus feeling tired and stressed a good part of the day
 - Everyone participated in a stress relieving and relaxation technique

ECONOMIC UPDATE – Jim Robson, 526-9626 or jrobson@utah.gov

Utah unemployment rates are quite reasonable - 3.3% compared to 5.1% nationally

- Even for national rate doesn't seem like a high level of unemployment.
- New figures for Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in U.S.
 - First quarter advanced estimate growth rate of less than 1% - point 6%
 - Contraction in economy for two quarters before calling a recession.
 - Advanced estimate revised 2 more times will still probably be revised down to be negative.

(Handout) –

- Economic growth in country, GDP nationally in U.S.
 - Figures tie with 4th quarter of last year.
 - 4th quarter 2007 and 1st quarter 2008 – 6%.
 - Peaks and valleys are fluxuations in the economy.
 - From one quarter to next a lot of different things going on economy based on different industries – construction, etc. Oil prices, war, financial crises in world affect numbers.

US job growth and unemployment.

- Last 3 months lost jobs in U.S. between 50,000 and 100,000 for 3 months. At same time unemployment rate is going up.

Housing crisis

- Pretty bad nationwide, a lot of foreclosures,
- Indicators last couple of weeks on housing have been bad showing housing prices are falling and foreclosure are increasing.
- Process seems to be slowing down but not stopping.
- Things aren't getting bad as fast as they were before.
- Will continue through this year and possibly next year.

Starts and permits for housing –

- 16 year lows for new housing permits and starts nationally.
- Drop since Jan 06 and hasn't returned yet.
- Peak was 2 million 256 thousand permits.

New home sales –

- 16 year lows since 1991.
- Many still on market can't sell.
- Existing home sales have been dropping to lows as well.

Total construction spending – residential and commercial.

- Declining on year over basis over 2% for last year or so.
- 9% of jobs in Utah of all employment have been in construction, not sure what national percentage is. **Jim will look up and let us know.**

Trend will continue that interest rates will adjust and people will foreclose on new interest rate loans.

20 city composite prices nationally have been declining over 12% over last 12 months. 20 markets that went into average: LA, Miami, Portland, Boston, Washington DC, Chicago, New York, Minneapolis, San Diego, Charlotte, Tampa, Denver, Las Vegas, Atlanta, San Francisco, Dallas, Phoenix, Cleveland, Seattle, Detroit

Consumer confidence is low, measuring just above 60, normally above 100. Evidence in Utah that national economy is weighing down on products in Utah being shipped around the world.

- Consumer prices about 4% higher than 1 year ago
- Energy costs and food costs are considerably up more than 4%.
- Stores in America not having enough rice to sale won't let people stock up.
- People are starting to hoard food supplies because of high prices and driving prices up further.

Utah gas prices last 5 years –

- State average \$3.48 per gallon.
- In 2003 Nov and Dec paying \$1.45 gallon.
- Price could drop but not any time soon and never as low as \$1.45
- Americans are cutting back on gas consumption.
- Economic prosperity in India and China helps drive the fuel prices up. If they continue to grow and expand economically will want to have the same privileges we want and will use more resources.
- If we hold energy consumption flat would be major accomplishment for U.S.
- Oil prices could drop at some point if people reduce demand.

Utah Economic Slowdown –

- Doing quite well with 2% job growth for this year.
- Housing construction was driving previous economies.
- Residential construction halted end of last year.

Total jobs 26,200 –

- Construction in negative,
- Manufacturing bucking national trend with positive growth.

Utah County –

- Different than last year's information.
- 12,000 new jobs last year, this year 5,000.
- Construction growing at 20% last year, now down to 0%. Because so high last year it doesn't affect the industry as much this year.

Summit County -

- 24,757 jobs - increase of 1.092 from Dec to Dec.
- Construction and leisure and hospitality drive their workforce.
- Construction quite positive in Summit County.
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Wasatch County –

- Construction healthy
- Trade is high
- Leisure and hospitality strong .

Forecasting Economic Indicator – review sheet.

- Average wages are going down because of more slack in economy.
- Competition drives wages up but down when economy is down.

Europe is slowing down and U.S. is slowing down so less demand across world but world economy is expected to grow.

Fore more specific information send Jim email for response.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting

- June 26, Mountainview Hospital, Payson.