

Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
Association of Small Business Development Centers (ASBDC)
August 24, 2004
By Conference Call

Board Members Participating: Scott Daugherty (Chairman); Don Wilson (President); Liz Klimback (Vice Chair); Henry Turner (Secretary); Jim Hogge (Treasurer); Doug Gurley; Grady Pennington; Mark Petrilli; Clinton Tymes.

Others Participating: Jon Ryan; Max Summers; Chris Rosander (Interim Regional Director, Fresno Regional SBDC); Sally Mulder (Michigan SBDC); Dan O'Grady.

Call to Order: The meeting (by conference call) of the Board of Directors was called to order at 1:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) by Chairman Scott Daugherty on Tuesday, August 24, 2004.

Approval of Minutes of July 27: Chairman Daugherty moved that the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors on July 27, 2004 be amended to add the name of Clinton Tymes to the list of Board and Personnel Committee members thanked by Chairman Daugherty for their work on the ASBDC Personnel Review. Doug Gurley seconded the motion and the motion passed by voice vote.

Doug Gurley moved that the minutes, as amended, of the meeting of the Board of Directors on July 27, 2004 be approved. Vice Chair Liz Klimback seconded the motion and the motion passed by voice vote. The minutes of the July 27 meeting will be made available on the ASBDC state directors' website.

Amendment of Minutes of June 29-30: Doug Gurley moved that the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors on June 29-30, 2004 be amended to add the name of Greg Higgins to the list of others participating in the meeting. Clinton Tymes seconded the motion and the motion passed by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jim Hogge reviewed the Association's financial statements and reported that the financial position of the Association is sound.

Accreditation Committee Recommendations: ASBDC Accreditation Committee Chairman Max Summers reported to the Board on the Committee's recommendations for changes to the Committee's procedures. Chairman Daugherty asked Board members to consider the recommendations of the Accreditation Committee and be prepared to make decisions on the Committee's recommendations during the Association's Fall Conference in September. Chairman Daugherty asked Board members to give particular consideration to the issue of term limits, which the Accreditation Committee did not include in its recommendations.

Chairman's Remarks: Chairman Daugherty noted the importance of communication between the Association and the SBA about matters of mutual concern, and his interest in having regular and sustained communication with officials at SBA.

President's Report: Don Wilson reported on the following:

1. Appropriations: Don Wilson reported that the Association is working to inform Members of Congress and key staff about the potential negative impact on FY 2005 SBDC funding of changes made to the Commerce-Justice-State appropriations bill by the House of Representatives. The FY 2005 Commerce-Justice-State appropriations bill reported by the House Appropriations Committee provided \$90 million for the SBDC network, an increase of about \$1.9 million compared to FY 2004 funding. However, during debate on the FY 2005 Commerce-Justice-State appropriations bill, the House cut funding for the SBA Salaries and Expenses account (from which the SBDCs are funded) to pay for 7(a) Loan program expenses, and the House also added an earmark to the SBA Salaries and Expenses account to pay for Microloan program costs. These changes to the bill could lead to cuts in SBDC funding, as the SBA could seek ways to adjust to the cut and new demands on its Salaries and Expenses account. The Association is working to avert this potential problem.
2. Drug Free Workplace Grants: Don Wilson reported that the SBA has announced that it will provide drug-free workplace grant funding this year only to non-SBDC organizations, purportedly because the SBA's authorizing legislation (the Small Business Act) has temporarily expired. ASBDC and affected State and Regional SBDC networks have informed the SBA and Members of Congress that the temporary expiration of the Small Business Act should not be used by the SBA to deny drug-free workplace grants to SBDCs. The Association and members from affected SBDC networks have asked Members of Congress to ask SBA to wait until the drug-free workplace program is re-authorized by Congress before distributing FY 2004 funding.
3. Fall Conference Update: Don Wilson reported that preparations for the ASBDC Fall Conference in New Orleans are going well. Hotel reservations associated with the conference might exceed the room-night count for the record-setting ASBDC Conference in Nashville in 2002, and the Conference trade-show floor is expected to have more exhibitor booths than ever before. Sponsorship funding of the Conference is three times higher than expected.
4. SBA Procedural Notice: Don Wilson reported that a Procedural Notice on Definitions and Forms was recently published by the SBA, and the definitions contained in the Procedural Notice differ from definitions in the 2004 Program Announcement published earlier. Chairman Daugherty and Don Wilson informed the Board that the Association will bring the issues associated with the Procedural Notice to the SBA's attention.

EDMIS: The Board discussed the status of EDMIS. The EDMIS uplink will not be available until late this year at the earliest.

Issues to Address at the Fall Membership Meeting: The Board discussed the development of the agenda for the Fall Membership meeting on September 27, in New Orleans. Chairman Daugherty and Don Wilson will draft an agenda and share it with members for their input. Committee and Taskforce chairs will be offered the opportunity to address the membership meeting.

Adjournment: The Board adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m. (Eastern Time).

Next Meeting of the Board: The next meeting of the Board will be held on September 26, in conjunction with the Association's Fall Conference in New Orleans. Regular meetings of the Board are held by conference call on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 1:00 p.m. (Eastern Time).

Submitted by Henry Turner, Secretary, ASBDC