

REDC SPRING NEWSLETTER

RICHLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP

April 2015

Educational trips to Helena

Our office has made the trek to Helena a few times over the past three months.

The first one was to attend the Business Days at the Capitol, sponsored by the MT Chamber of Commerce. This event was very well attended, and one of the best aspects is listening to the majority leadership reps of the Democrats and Republicans. The speeches forecast the goals that each party would be focusing on.

The next trip was to participate in the Montana Economic Developers Association's Rotunda Day. During that event, a great majority of economic developers from all across the state set up booths in the Rotunda. We also served lunch to the legislature and supporting staff. We were able to discuss projects that each of us was working on. We also served over 300 people during lunch.

Additionally, Katie and Leslie traveled to Helena to introduce Katie to the legislative process, as well as meet with several of our representatives, department staff, etc.

We had great conversations with Senator Duane Ankney, GOED, John Rogers, Rep Austin Knudsen, Jon Bennion, Attorney General's office, Rep Tom Berry, Bob Gilbert, Rep Scott Staffanson, and Director, MDOC, Meg O' Leary.

We were also able to witness the joint session of the House and the Senate for a powerful speech from US Senator, Steve Daines.

Overall, this was a unique opportunity to witness, educate and learn from our legislative process. We gained a deeper understanding of the importance of their work.

Inside this issue:

REDC 2015 Officers	2
Newest REDC Board Members	2
Newest REDC Board Members	3
Leadership Montana Conference	4
Leadership Montana Conference	5
MonDak Energy Alliance	5



2015 REDC Officers:



L to R: Russ Fullmer, Chip Gifford, Jackie Washechek, and Pam Burman.

During the January meeting of the Richland Economic Development Board of Directors, the new officers were installed.

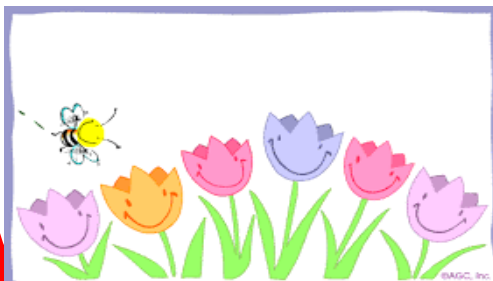
Russ Fullmer will serve as President, Chip Gifford will serve as Vice President, Jackie Washechek will serve as Treasurer, and Pam Burman will serve as Secretary.

Introduction of new REDC Board Directors:

We are pleased to introduce three new board directors as 1-Year placements for 2015:



Jason Brothen: CEO/General Manager at Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative. He's worked for the coop since June 2013. Jason and his wife, Robin, have two children, Hattie and Parker. The family moved to Sidney in September of 2013. Jason is interested in serving on the REDC board because he has been very active on two other EDC boards in Northwest ND. Also, he wants to be more involved with the community. He is excited to bring a different perspective to the board, and help our community as it continues to grow and develop.





Vanessa Pooch: Agriculturist at Sidney Sugars, Inc. She's worked there almost 5 years. All of her immediate family- parents, brothers, sister-in-laws and their children- all live in Minnesota on the farm where Vanessa grew up. She has been in Sidney since beginning her career with Sidney Sugars. Vanessa is looking forward to working on the REDC Board of Directors, due to her vested interest to the economic growth of Richland County. She appreciates the networking opportunities, as well as the Board's enthusiasm to assist and support businesses.



hello
spring!



Tyler Radke: IT Tech for Richland County. Tyler very recently started his new job as the IT Tech. Tyler and his wife, Kris, have four boys: Tyler, Dominique, Tanner and Tate. Tyler's family moved to the Sidney area in 1988. Tyler is interested in serving on the REDC Board of Directors, because he wants to become more involved in the community. He has always been impressed by the things that REDC has accomplished. Tyler hopes to learn much from the current board members, and brings a unique perspective to the board.

Leadership Montana Conference:

Leadership Montana is a collaboration of leaders from business, labor, healthcare, higher education, non-profit organizations and government coming together to form a strong partnership for the betterment of our state.

This year's class of 45 participants is from all over the state of Montana, and REDC was instrumental in hosting them here in Sidney, March 11-13, 2015.

We gave the class the opportunity to learn about our county's challenges, successes and values. The presenters charged with educating and informing the



Photo by Mike Francingues, Sidney Herald. Mayor Norby & Commissioner Gorder presenting.

participants were:

Mayor Rick Norby, Commissioner Shane Gorder, County Planner, Marcy Hamburg, Sidney Schools Supt, Dr. Dan Farr, as well as business leaders: Leif Anderson, Beagle Properties, Roger Byer, B & B Builders, Chip Gifford, Johnson Hardware & Furniture and Leslie Messer, REDC. In addition, Emily Snooks and Matt Briney from XTO Energy gave an insight to the oil and gas industry.

The class experienced several businesses during their two day event. They toured Eagles Lodging and dined in their lunch room. They enjoyed learning about the processing of sugar beets at Sidney Sugars, and toured the Mon Dak Heritage Museum during a reception.

Richland Economic Development Corp attained sponsorships to present each class participant with a gift bag full of goodies. Each item represented items from Richland County. Very special thanks to our sponsors: Action Auto, Blue Rock Products, Craig's Meats, Dasinger Oil Properties, Doorbustn Portables, Harmon's Agate & Silver, Meadowlark Brewing Co, Party Central, Sidney Sugars, Steve Park Apiaries, Stockman Bank, Tri County Implement, and XTO Energy.





Dave Garland with Leadership MT class of 2015 at Sidney Sugars

Mon Dak Energy Alliance Meeting:



The REDC Office was contacted by the Williston Economic Development office to assist with the meeting held February 12, 2015 in Williston, ND.

The impressive lineup of speakers included the general manager of Hess Corporation (Hess) North Dakota and the executive vice president of business development at MDU Resources Group, Inc. Also included were: representatives from Job Service North Dakota and the Williston Area Water Supply Project. Each speaker provided an update on projects for the current year.

Mayor Norby, Jessica Redfield, Katie and Leslie traveled together to the event. Former Mayor Smelser met them there.

The event also honored past directors: Former Mayor Koeser, Former Mayor Smelser, Tom Rolfstadt, and Mel Falcon. Each were given appreciation gifts for their service and dedication to the Alliance.

The evening was very informative. Sidney will be asked to host the next meeting, projected to take place sometime in September 2015.

A Non-Profit Countywide Economic Development Corporation

**RICHLAND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORP**

1060 S. Central Ave.
Suite #3
Sidney, Montana
59270

Phone: 406-482-4679
Fax: 406-482-5552
E-mail:
redc@midrivers.com

