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A Non-Profit Countywide Economic Development Corp

Full Board Meeting Minutes 3/7/2018

Sidney Health Center

Randy Olson brought the meeting to order at 6:45 AM. Board members present were: Leif Anderson, Craig Averett, Tami Christensen, Randy Olson, Vanessa Pooch, Mark Rehbein, Blaine Rogers, Gary Schoepp, Cami Skinner, Don Steinbeisser Jackie Washechek, Leslie Messer and Katie Dasinger. Members absent were: Bryce Baker, Jason Brothen, Pam Burman, Chip Gifford, Shane Gorder, Bill Henderson, Walt McNutt and Alan Seigfreid.

Mark moved to accept the past minutes, Vanessa seconded. Approved.

Financial Reports: There was nothing out of the ordinary in this month's financials. Membership dues are still continuing to trickle in.

Tami moved to approve all financials. Blaine Seconded. Approved.

Special Guest- Heather VanGelder: Heather is the community outreach coordinator for OneOK. We are very pleased she is able to attend today's meeting.

Amendment to the Employee Handbook: After a review of the handbook it was found that we are not currently in compliance with the State of Montana when it comes to vacation time. Cami worked diligently and was able to rewrite it so that it is in compliance.

Mark made the motion to approve this amendment. Jackie seconded. Approved.

Yellowstone Disposal: Tonight (Wednesday March 7th) is the meeting with the DEQ at the MonDak Heritage Center. The doors will open at 5:30 and comments will begin at 6. If you are writing in a comment, they are due by March 16th. Concerned Citizens of Richland County have obtained a lawyer and are calling for, at a minimum, an environmental impact study to be done to assess if the clay soil will truly prevent radioactive material from seeping into the ground water and potentially running off into the Yellowstone River.

LYIP Updates: On March 5th, LYIP presented their case to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in Portland. Our office did watch the hearing and while it is always difficult to tell which way it will go, we are as ever, hopeful. While they did not make a formal decision at the hearing, a decision is fully expected before the April 19th summary judgment hearing in Great Falls. Our office will keep the board apprised of information as we are able.

CVB Advisory Board: Leslie was asked by Susan Joy of the Chamber to serve on the Community Visitors Bureau advisory board. During the turn over at the Chamber, some of the funds haven't been used. The

decision was to make videos about paddle fishing and a second one highlighting the area in general. Leslie is glad to work together on this!

Chamber Leadership Presentation: Leslie was asked to give a presentation for Business Day for the Chamber Leadership Class. There are 8 class members this year and they asked lots of great questions. Leslie always enjoys being able to partner with the Chamber in this way.

990 Income Tax filed: The REDC 990 was e-filed on 2/11/18. There are copies available in the office if needed.

Leadership MT Conference in Sidney- March 14-15-16: Next week, the 50 participants (and instructors) for the 2018 Leadership MT class will be in Sidney. Our office has been working hard to plan a great event that highlights the area as well as striving to openly discuss our challenges. The event begins at 10 am on Wednesday and will end Friday afternoon. The majority will take place on the 3rd floor of Stockman bank, but will be broken up by tours of both OneOK and Sidney Sugars. There is also a social on Thursday night from 5-7 at the MonDak, and it would be great if any board directors could attend.

SYP Updates: SYP is in the end stretch for 2017-2018

- In February, SYP hosted an event at the Health Center. The management team gave SYP a behind the scenes tour. The event was well attended and greatly enjoyed.
- In March, SYP will be hosting their Non-Profit Fair. This year there will be over 25 non-profits represented. The event is open to the public.
- In April, SYP will be hosting “Empowered Professionals” which will focus on interpersonal communication in the work place and how to do it effectively.

City Report:

- The issue with the fence on Bob Blair’s property is currently the largest issue
- Next week, Tami, Mayor Norby, Jessie, Commissioner Mitchell and Commissioner Young will be traveling to Helena for a committee meeting about oil revenue distribution.

County Report:

- Katie reported on behalf of Commissioner Gorder who is out of town- PLEASE attend the DEQ meeting this week. This is a major issue facing our community.

Open Discussion:

- Guest Heather VanGelder:
 - Heather took time to highlight many projects that OneOK is working on this year including a new 900 mile pipeline for Natural Gas.
 - They are also adding a new plant in Watford City and expect the number of employees in the area to jump from 350 to over 500 in the next two years.
 - OneOK understands the importance of community involvement and hired Heather to spearhead that outreach.

Thank you Heather for joining us today!

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 AM

Next Full Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 4th, 2018

Next Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 28th, 2018