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A Non-Profit Countywide Economic Development Corp

Full Board Meeting Minutes

9/5/2018

Sidney Health Center

Randy Olson brought the meeting to order at 6:41 AM. Board members present were: Leif Anderson, Bryce Baker, Jason Brothen, Pam Burman, Tami Christensen, Chip Gifford, Randy Olson, Mark Rehbein, Gary Schoepp, Alan Seigfreid, Cami Skinner, Heather VanGelder, Leslie Messer and Katie Dasinger. Members absent were: Craig Averett, Bill Henderson, Shane Gorder, Walt McNutt, Vanessa Pooch, Blaine Rogers, Don Steinbeisser, and Jackie Washechek.

Tami moved to accept the past minutes, Cami seconded. Approved.

Financial Reports: We are in the last month of our fiscal year and the numbers could be better. We have not received a few of the larger memberships so things are a bit off. There was also the large purchase of the new copier which was split with RLF.

Leif moved to approve all financials. Alan Seconded. Approved.

Fair Wrap Up: The office would like to extend a GIANT THANK YOU to our amazing board directors for helping us at the Richland County Fair by sitting at our booth. It is always a great way to stay connected with members and the larger community, but we couldn't do it without you!

RLF Updates: Leslie reported that she will be looking into new CDs for some of the RLF funds. Also, In August an existing borrower had to re-convey part of the loan property. It has been successfully handled. Leslie was also sad to report that the loan that had been awarded last month has fallen through. However, we look forward to working with the lender again in the future.

Copier at Office: Leslie was pleased to report how amazing the new printer/copier is. The new machine has been a great addition to the office, and the old one has been safely disposed of by Boss.

Richland County Commissioners Meeting: Leslie, Cami and Gary all attended a meeting with the Commissioners. The meeting happens annually as a way for our organization to report to the County on the different projects completed during the year. One of the items that was discussed for 2019, is the possibility of an oil and gas trade show. Leslie has already begun laying the ground work for the event and will continue to work with Commissioner Mitchell on the project.

Outstanding Memberships: As the end of our fiscal year is rapidly approaching, we are pushing last minute phone calls and emails to get the last of our membership dollars in the door.

Wells Fargo Meeting: Following Mark Ross and Jaqueline Rancis coming to the REDC Full Board meeting earlier in the summer, Leslie attended a follow up lunch with Mr. Ross to give him more details about where membership dollars go each year.

Connection Communities in Fairview: Each summer, MDU, Williston Economic Development, Williston Chamber of Commerce and Williston State College pool their resources to have a public BBQ in a neighboring community. This year the BBQ was hosted in Fairview. Both Leslie and Katie were able to attend the event and had great conversations with Mayor Bieber, Safflower Technologies and Merchant's bank among others.

LYIP Celebration: Leslie and Katie both attended the parade and BBQ hosted in celebration of the LYIP Victory. Leslie was also asked to speak at the BBQ about all the work REDC had put forth to aid in the continued success of the area irrigators. There were approximately 200 in attendance. We are so grateful the fight is over and that LYIP will be able to continue providing reliable and affordable irrigation for generations to come.

Montana Minded: Lori Shaw of Colstrip United, and a Colstrip city council member, has begun a new endeavor called Montana Minded. For her first blog story, Lori asked to speak with Leslie about the amount of work and success in the LYIP lawsuit. Leslie will be happy to share the story with everyone once it is published.

SYP Updates:

- The August tour of the Lagoon has been pushed to September 13th in hopes that more people from the community will be able to attend.
- October's event will be the Game of REAL Life
- December will once again be some sort of giving event and the group is currently looking for a group to partner with.
- February's event will be a meals on the go type of event
- April will be a State of the State, State of the County, State of the City and State of the Town event. Joel K will be on skype, and we have also extended the invitation to other community elected officials.

City Report:

- JC Essentials will be hosting a grand opening event on Sept. 28th which will see street closures.
- Meadowlark will have the lot closed on Oct. 6th for their Octoberfest event
- MDU's work on Holly was partially postponed but will begin soon
- The final reading of the nuisance ordinance happened last night so it will take effect in 30 days
- Phase III of the lagoon was awarded. There will be increases in sewer and water rates to cover the costs.

County Report: None

Open Discussion:

- Chamber of Commerce member appreciation BBQ will be September 18th
- Homes are selling and the prices are starting to level out

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 AM

Next Full Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 3rd, 2018

Next Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 25th, 2018