

NEWEDC BOARD MEETING

Minutes

Wednesday, October 8, 2014

North East Wyoming Economic Development Coalition (NEWEDC) Office
2201 S. Douglas Highway, Suite 140
Gillette, Wyoming 82718

11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Micky Shober 2014	John Opseth 2015	Mike Colling 2014	John Dehler 2016
Kelly Dennis 2014		Arlene Rapp 2014	John Mellot 2014
	Margaret Lynch 2017	Noel Belcher 2015	Ed Werner 2015
Owen Matthews 2016		Lori Gilbertson 2015	3 open seats

Lunch was provided by NEWEDC at 11:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call- Board Attendees are highlighted in green.
Visitors Attending: Julie Simon, CEO-Gillette Chamber of Commerce; Susan Jerke, Regional Director –SBDC; Matt Melinkovich-Field Engineer-Manufacturing Works; Linda Tokarczyk, Mgr. of Community Relations-Rare Element Resources; Vermona Petersen-Gillette Workforce Center Manager.
3. Minutes from June 18, 2014 were approved and seconded.
4. Today's Agenda was approved and seconded.
5. Presentation: "Building Blocks of Economic Development" made by Dell Atkinson.
6. Bear Lodge Project Review and Up-date – Linda Tokarczyk, Mgr. Community Relations Rare Element Resources
Excellent presentation made. Brochures were handed out defining rare earths, results of the August 2014 pre-feasibility study, project strengths, project details and other information concerning the progress of this important project to North East Wyoming.
7. Co-location Updates and Plans – Sublease Agreement discussed and approved with a minor change on "Use of Premises" to North East Wyoming area instead of Gillette. Dell presented plans and costs for moving to the new location by the end of October. Options discussed for storing vs. selling the excess furniture that Dell doesn't take to the new location. Decision was made to try to sell excess before the move to cut down on moving and storage costs. Dell to see if we could keep it at current location until sold.
8. Financial Review....Budget, Revolving Loan Fund, Foundation & Discussion
-Financial information was included in the packet. Dell discussed the NEWEDC funding and current/future challenges....NEWEDC needs at least a two person office to be effective and efficient. To make this happen, we need to raise another \$65,000 per year. An extraordinary funding raising plan is needed to do this.
All board members and staff need to be involved in fund raising for NEWEDC.

9. NEWEDC Activities – Dell discussed the Revolving Loan Fund, Foundation, Coalition and other project activities along with a summary on them.

10. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Review & Discussion
-No new projects reported. New 5 year CEDS required for the district by 12/31/15.
Will require a major commitment in time and manpower to complete.... estimated by the EDA to take 6-7 months! Dell to pursue a grant to help with the expense.

A “Summary of the CEDS Requirements” was presented as well as supplemental EDA Grant Programs.

11. Open Board Seats- Three (3) open at-large seats are currently available.
Linda Tokarczyk was nominated to be a new member of the board. The board voted to include her as a new at-large member. Dell to advise her of the good news. Due to the November Elections, a new board roster will be sent out at the conclusion of the elections. In addition, some of our board members did not run for re-election.

12. Open from the Floor – Nothing was brought up.

13. Next Proposed Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 7, 2015....Location & times for the next meeting to be determined.

14. Adjourn

Comments or questions, please call **Dell Atkinson, Executive Director**

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