

Kiowa County
Economic Development Foundation



KCEDF

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Vision Statement

Kiowa County is unique to Colorado in its scenery, its sparse population, and its slower paced lifestyle. Our goal is not to emulate others, but to build upon our existing strengths. We treasure our uniqueness, therefore will enhance these qualities so we may share them with others. In this way, we will promote natural growth from within while expanding our horizons.

We will improve the infrastructures and aesthetics of our towns and county to make them more attractive and inviting.

We will encourage the development of our natural resources while protecting our environment.

We will expand our technological capabilities, which will allow us to be apart from the overpopulated, fast-paced regions but not behind them.

We will promote locally and nationally the benefits of our central location and accessibility.

We will support our agricultural backbone while diversifying through other economic interests.

We will continue to utilize and enhance our recreational areas for the enjoyment of our citizens and visitors.

We will strengthen our commitment to quality education and healthcare.

We will manage growth to maintain a safe and stable environment for residents and visitors to live, work and play.

Membership

Class A membership shall consist of the County of Kiowa, Colorado, acting by and through its Board of County Commissioners. The County of Kiowa shall be entitled to Foundation membership for so long as it makes appropriate contributions to the Foundation as may be determined by the Board of Directors on an annual basis.

Class B membership shall consist of the Town of Eads, Colorado, acting by and through its Board of Trustees, the Town of Haswell, Colorado, acting by and through its Town Council, the Town of Sheridan Lake, Colorado, acting by and through its Town Council, and the Eads Chamber of Commerce acting through its Board of Directors. These Class B members shall be entitled to membership for so long as they individually make appropriate contributions to the Foundation as may be determined by the Board of Directors on an annual basis.

Class C membership shall consist of such private individuals, organizations and entities that make appropriate contributions to the Foundation as may be determined by the Board of Directors on an annual basis.

- Contributor (private contributors) Up to \$200.00 for Kiowa Co. based
Businesses & Residents
Up to \$500 for Out-of-County based
Businesses & Individuals

- Class C (private contributors) \$200.00 & Up for Kiowa Co.
Businesses & Residents
\$500.00 & Up Out-of-County based
Businesses & Individuals

- Class B (Towns & Chamber) Determined on a yearly basis

- Class A (Kiowa County) Determined on a yearly basis

2007 Membership List

Class A Kiowa County

Class B Town of Eads
Town of Haswell
Town of Sheridan Lake
Eads Chamber of Commerce

Class C Saffer Spray Service
Baxter Agency
Weisbrod Memorial Hospital
Weber's Water Service
National Park Service
Southeast Colorado Power
Heritage Farms
Janet Fredrick
Eads Auto Supply
Thunderbird Petroleum Products
Kiowa Health Mart
Kiowa County National Bank

Contributors Haswell Propane
Kiowa County Press

2007 Board of Directors

Mike Lening– Chairperson	Class C
Cardon Berry – Vice-Chairperson	Town of Eads
Marilyn Baxter – Secretary	Eads Chamber of Commerce
Roger Saffer– Treasurer	Class C
Rod Brown – Director	Kiowa County Commissioner
Vern Harris – Director	Kiowa County Commissioner
Donald Oswald – Director	Kiowa County Commissioner
Jerry Weber – Director	Town of Sheridan Lake
Michelle Nelson– Director	Town of Haswell
Dennis Pearson – Alternate	Kiowa County

Staff

Lisa L. Trigilio	Executive Director
Jan Richards	Financial Manager - Volunteer
Sharon Pearson	Webmaster - Volunteer

Financial Statements

The KCEDF fiscal year begins on September 1 of each year and ends on August 31. The following report represents totals for the year ended August 31, 2007.

Financial statements reflect actual Kiowa County Economic Development Foundation expenditures and revenues. The balance of funding for KCEDF occurs through a cooperative agreement with the Kiowa County Department of Social Services to enhance workforce opportunities throughout Kiowa County. These funds are reimbursed to Kiowa County by the State of Colorado. During this fiscal year, the State of Colorado, through DSS, contributed approximately \$19,388.

Kiowa County Economic Development Foundation

Balance Sheet

For the Period Ending August 31, 2007

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash	52,152	
Investments	3,000	
Stock Investments	39,000	
Land	262,992	
Accounts Receivable	25,000	
Grants Receivable	14,467	
		<u>396,611</u>

Fixed Assets

Equipment	1,836	
Depreciation	877	
Improvements	6,223	
Accumulated Depreciation	(3,153)	
		<u>5,783</u>

TOTAL ASSETS 402,394

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	174	
Notes Payable	148,455	
Deposits payable	10,700	
Accrued Interest	13,155	
		<u>172,484</u>

Equity

Reverse for Fixed Assets	5,783	
Retained Earnings	224,127	
		<u>229,910</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY 402,394

KCEDF OVERVIEW

ORGANIZATION

Kiowa County Economic Development Foundation was formed to assist with the development, expansion and improvement of Kiowa County. KCEDF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides a variety of services to the area.

ACTIVITIES

Information Services

The Foundation is in place to provide support and information to Kiowa County. The office has compiled, and continues to assemble, statistics and profile data on various subjects. Included are commercial buildings/sites available, demographic data, economic and community profiles, contact lists and useful information. This can be used by local governments, organizations and individuals in planning projects and business functions. Just added this year is the beginning of a brochure library focusing on assets within the county including recreation and existing businesses.

The monthly Board Meetings are open to the public and meeting locations revolve between Haswell, Eads and Sheridan Lake. These meetings offer the community a venue to express and/or present needs, project proposals, concerns or suggestions. The Foundation was formed to work with the community in obtaining countywide goals.

Business Assistance

KCEDF is available to assist the local existing businesses as well as start-up or relocating enterprises. The office supplies information on financial programs, business plans and other areas of concern. To provide the business with adequate resources, the staff consults and refers to other agencies such as SBDC, SECED and SCEDD. The Foundation also assists with site selection and business specific research.

KCEDF has worked closely with the Eads Chamber of Commerce and the Eads High School FBLA chapter to create and implement a “Buy Local” Campaign.

Projects

Kiowa County Economic Development Foundation will initiate and become involved in special projects that are deemed beneficial to the residents of the County. Following are some of the projects that KCEDF worked on during the past year:

Kiowa Creek Natural Area: KCEDF along with its partners and volunteers have been successfully transforming the area into a recreational location for residents of Kiowa County and visitors alike. There is now an eight acre fishing pond complete with three landings providing easy access to the water. There is a picnic shelter, ADA accessible restroom and a newly completed road to the pond. The reclamation of an eroding gully is nearing completion with the assistance of SECPA and the Town of Eads. Numerous grant applications have been submitted and future plans include the construction of a crusher fines trail, restoration of the wetlands east of the pond, stabilization of the historic barn and an interpretive program.

Sand Creek National Historic Site Dedication: KCEDF provided assistance to the Park Service, Town of Eads and Kiowa County in planning the events in the town of Eads during the dedication. There were numerous sub committees including volunteers from the community. In addition, the empty buildings on Maine Street were painted by KCEDF in preparation of the visitors to our community.

Kiowa Creek Estates: The residential lots at Kiowa Creek Estates continue to sell. Currently, only one lot remains on the West side and there are two existing homes. Several on the East side have sold and there is a great deal of interest. KCEDF works toward selling all the lots and eventually seeing an entirely new residential area thriving in Kiowa County.

Countywide brochure library: KCEDF has created numerous brochures on Kiowa County. Examples include Points of Interest (from east to west ends of the county), The Lakes, Assets of Kiowa County and a business directory.

Regional Projects: KCEDF works with several regional organizations to ensure Kiowa County is represented and the county is given the opportunity to benefit from the collaboration.

Southeast Colorado Regional Heritage – This group, formerly known as Southeast Regional Tourism Group, represents a six county region consisting of Kiowa, Bent, Baca, Crowley, Prowers and Otero. The purpose of this organization is to provide education and assistance to the public on the unique character of Southeast Colorado. They are working to promote heritage tourism of the region.

South East Colorado Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction - This regional group is working to provide additional business retention and expansion services to the six counties: Kiowa, Baca, Bent, Crowley, Prowers and Otero. This organization which was created and managed with the assistance of the State Office of Economic Development, recently hired a Director who is working with each county to conduct interviews with every business in each of the six counties. The data collected will be incorporated into a software program, e-Synchronist, specifically designed to assist with identifying the needs of local businesses and help local economic development organizations respond accordingly.

Colorado Entrepreneurship Marketplace – Through the Colorado Rural Development Council, numerous organizations including KCEDF and other economic development agencies are planning the First Annual Colorado Entrepreneurship Marketplace that will be held on October 10, 2008 in La Junta. This event is modeled after an extremely successful marketplace in Nebraska.

Grants

An important function of the Foundation is assistance to local governments, special districts and organization in the application of grants to provide funding for needed projects. Fund sources may include State and Federal grants, corporate funding or private foundations. Economically depressed regions and areas with limited populations utilize grants to obtain monies for projects that lack adequate local funds.

The Foundation has been successful over the years in obtaining funding through various grants. This year, the Foundation assisted the Kiowa County Fair Board in securing a GOCO grant to construct a covered arena at the fairgrounds.

In its efforts to provide recreational opportunities in Kiowa County, KCEDF is working hard to transform Kiowa Creek Natural Area. With limited funding, grants are needed to obtain the project goals. The following is a sample of the grant status:

Fishing Is Fun – *The Pond at Sheridan Lake*: KCEDF assisted the Town of Sheridan Lake in submitting a Fishing Is Fun grant in order to obtaining funding for work at the pond. The project will transform an existing .5 acre pond into over 1 acre. In addition, the project will include an access road to a parking area, ADA accessible restroom and a picnic area including a shelter structure.

Fishing Is Fun - *Jackson's Pond at Kiowa Creek* – this grant assisted with the pond dredging, gully reclamation, road construction, landings, picnic shelter and restroom. In December 2007, this grant was completed. Another grant was recently applied for to complete removal of the dredge material.

North American Wetlands Conservation Act – offered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If this grant is awarded, it will assist in the restoration of the wetlands east of Jackson's Pond.

National Park Service Challenge Cost Share Program – Funding under this program has been applied for to obtain assistance with the restoration of the historic barn, parking area and interpretive signage to be placed in the barn and along the trail.

Colorado State Parks Trails Program – Funds will be for the trail construction from the barn to the fishing pond and the interpretive program.

Division of Wildlife – This program is the Wetland and Riparian Grant and will provide assistance with the wetlands restoration east of Jackson's Pond.

Anschutz Gates Family Foundation – Funds for the trail construction, wetlands restoration, interpretive program and barn stabilization.

Gates Family Foundation – Funds for the trail construction, wetlands restoration, interpretive program and barn.

Division of Wildlife - John Koshak has applied for funding on wildlife watchable areas, barn, pond and trails including the interpretive program.

Colorado Wildlife Heritage Foundation – This program will assist with the interpretive program.

**Kiowa County Economic Development Foundation
Grant Assistance 2007/2008**

GRANT	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	REQUEST	AWARDED
GOCO	Fairgrounds Covered Arena	Kiowa Co. Fair Board	\$200,000	\$200,000
Prairie Partners	Alternate Livestock Water Sources And Fencing	Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory	38,795	34,916
State Park Trails	Kiowa Creek Natural Area	KCEDF	25,000	Pending, Scored High
National Parks Challenge Cost Share	Kiowa Creek Natural Area	KCEDF	11,200	Pending, Scored High
US Fish & Wildlife Wetlands	Kiowa Creek Natural Area	KCEDF	5,000	Pending
Anschutz Family Foundation	Kiowa Creek Natural Area	KCEDF	5,000	Pending
Gates Family Foundation	Kiowa Creek Natural Area	KCEDF	5,000	Pending
Colorado Division of Wildlife	Kiowa Creek Natural Area	John Koshak	35,000	35,000
Colorado Wildlife Heritage Foundation	Kiowa Creek Natural Area	KCEDF	1,300	Pending
DOW Wetlands	Kiowa Creek Natural Area	KCEDF	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
TOTALS			<u>\$331,295</u>	<u>\$274,916</u>