

MINUTES
KIOWA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
MEETING OF 12/29/2014

PRESENT: Sean Lening, Kelly Courkamp, Donald Oswald, Jimmy Brown, Dennis Pearson and Jan Richards. Absent were Jerry Weber and Mike Lening.

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 PM with the parties present. Minutes of the October 21, 2014 meeting (there was no meeting in November) were reviewed. Sean Lening moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Oswald and passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Jan noted there is a considerable amount of money owed to KCEDF from the National Park Service (\$18,000) and that an additional \$8900 will be coming in from the sale of two residential lots. In addition, the Eads Chamber of Commerce will likely be contributing an additional \$1000 for 2015. Sean Lening moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Oswald and passed unanimously.

Jan then provided a written Coordinator's Report that was reviewed. Brown noted he would like to see more of Jan's time spent on recruiting "base" businesses such as an auto mechanic shop, a plumber, an electrician and a viable restaurant as well as what is currently being done.

Jan noted the surveying had been completed for the changes to the lots being purchased by Steve and Marilyn Baxter and a new plat has been created. Oswald moved to approve the new plat. Sean Lening seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding additional work that needs to be done at Jackson's Pond and Kiowa Creek Natural Area. The Board decided to postpone further discussion until later in the spring. The same was true for the purchase of a storage shed for maintenance equipment.

Jan noted she had been approached by the Town of Eads regarding annexation of KCEDF land into the Eads city limits. Pearson, as a member of Town Council, provided clarification by stating the council is interested in possibly pursuing it and does not expect Jan or KCEDF to do more work on it. The intent of including KCEDF in the discussion is to assure both the town and KCEDF are in agreement regarding what land may or may not be subject to annexation.

Brown again stated he would like to see KCEDF become more proactive in both the recruitment of new business and the retention of current businesses. Jan stated she meets with both new prospects and current businesses to provide whatever assistance she can.

Jan then reported on her issues with obtaining health insurance and getting enrolled in a plan for 2015. Jan noted she had finally found a plan to cover her. Jan also noted her husband was now receiving Medicare and she would be doing the same in April, which will significantly reduce the cost to KCEDF for health insurance if the Board will agree to pay the cost of the Medicare supplemental insurance.

Jan reported a request had been received from the Town of Eads to help with the cost of operating the outdoor swimming pool. The town loses a great deal of money operating the pool every year. Some Board members inquired about the revenue and expenses for the pool. Kelly Courkamp pointed out Gay Uhland had worked on two different grants regarding the pool, but could not obtain needed information from town personnel. Pearson stated he believed information would be readily available at this time since the council had been presented numbers reflecting operating costs. Pearson offered to obtain those numbers and share with the Board. As a result, Oswald moved to table discussion regarding possible KCEDF assistance with the pool costs until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Sean Lening and passed unanimously.

The tentative 2015 budget was presented for review. Line items were discussed and explained by Jan. It was noted salary and benefits for Jan had not been included in the budget pending discussion and decisions by the Board. Jan stated she would leave the meeting so the Board could discuss her salary and benefits openly.

It was noted there were no reports from the Agriculture, Housing or Resource committees. Jan left the meeting at 7:25 PM.

General discussion was held regarding salary and benefits for Jan. It was also noted two Board members were absent so it was decided by consensus to table any further discussion regarding salary and benefits until the January meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.