

MINUTES

KIOWA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

MEETING OF MAY 18, 2011

PRESENT: John Courkamp, Donald Oswald, Jerry Weber, Mike Lening, Tom Davis, Cardon Berry, Bill Koehler, Rod Johnson, Jan Richards and Dennis Pearson. Dick Scott was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM with the above parties present. Minutes of the April 21, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Courkamp moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Oswald and passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's Report was then reviewed. Courkamp moved to approve the report as presented. The motion was seconded by Weber and passed unanimously.

Jan then provided the Coordinator's report, highlighting the Regional Economic Development Plan, the efforts by the high school business class to prepare a pamphlet regarding things to do in Kiowa County, and updating a list of houses and buildings available to rent. Davis suggested KCEDF should know things like process and rental rates on these properties. Discussion was held concerning possibly advertising businesses for sale and trying to line up buyers with sellers. The Board agreed KCEDF could advertise businesses for sale as long as the owner agreed.

Discussion was then held regarding Michael's Building and the possibilities for its use. One option could be the proposed wellness center that has been discussed. It and the theatre garage had been looked at as possibilities.

Jan reported the date of the Maine Street Bash has been changed to coincide with the regional baseball tournament scheduled for July 15th. KCEDF, the Crow-Luther group and the Eads Chamber of Commerce will be supplying the meal for the ballplayers and the Maine Street Bash.

Jan reported the electrical work to the east lots of Kiowa Creek Estates has been completed. The final payment to SE Colorado Power will be \$6209.00. Weber moved to approve the payment of this bill when it is received. The motion was seconded by Courkamp and passed unanimously.

A discussion was then held regarding the Kiowa County Economic Development plan. Davis suggested discussions be held regarding events that could be detrimental to Kiowa County's development and suggested specialized assistance be solicited to assist the county.

Jan reported the National Park Service will again be supplying KCEDF with \$1000, and possibly \$1500, to assist with events concerning the Sand Creek National Historic Site. Federal government regulations require any entity receiving such funds to be insured for one-million dollars. A copy of the county's insurance plan will be provided to NPS, and if the policy is not sufficient, Jan will notify the KCEDF Board.

Jan reported she had placed two ads in the SE Colorado Discover magazine, but the final copies of the magazines had the ads much too dark to easily read. The Board instructed Jan to register a complaint with the magazine.

The board then agreed to permit Jan to hire Jami Lane for 10 hours per week to assist with KCEDF office duties.

Jan, along with Pearson, then informed the Board of a special one day workshop in Vail concerning increased cooperation between economic development and DSS regarding job retention and creation. The Board approved Jan's attendance at the workshop.

Jan then reported the Governor's Energy Office had produced a short video highlighting projects around the state they had supported. Two Kiowa County projects, the theater project and the Murdock Building project are mentioned in the video. Donald and Cardon were interviewed for each.

Jan also reported a small movie production company is searching for sites to film in SE Colorado and asked if anyone knew of any locations to let her know. In a similar vein, Tri-State is apparently looking for locations in SE Colorado to lease for renewable energy projects.

During the Agriculture Committee report, it was noted the water meter serving Pete Koch is still malfunctioning. Efforts continue to determine the problem and to get it resolved.

Johnson submitted a written report for the Resource Committee which was reviewed by the Board. A short discussion followed.

Jan provided the Housing Committee report, noting there is continuing interest in Kiowa Creek Estates lots, but nothing has yet been sold.

A census report was circulated to the Board noting the population of Central Commissioner District 2 (**corrected from Eads**) is now 890 people and population of Kiowa County is 1398 (**corrected from 1498**).

There being no further business to come before the Board, the next meeting was scheduled for June 21, 2011 at the KCEDF office. Weber moved the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Courkamp and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Corrected minutes per board meeting, 6/21/11.