

MINUTES  
KIOWA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION  
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM with the above parties present. Minutes of the August 16, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Davis made a clarification concerning a proposal he had discussed at the August meeting to utilize social media as a marketing tool. Lening questioned whether or not the \$5000 the county requested from KCEDF had ever been voted upon and engaged in a discussion with Oswald about county support for KCEDF. Oswald stated the amount of financial support for KCEDF is based primarily upon budgetary issues. Johnson suggested members of the KCEDF Board attend the county budget hearings in October. The Board expressed continued concern over what appears to be eroding support for KCEDF. Davis also suggested the land leasing companies be consulted regarding what the needs of the town are, based upon their "outsider" perspective. Upon conclusion of discussion, Oswald moved to approve the minutes as amended and corrected. The motion was seconded by Lening and passed unanimously.

Jan then presented the Treasurer's Report and asked the board for permission to move \$5,000 of grant money, received from the Gates Foundation, from a CD into the regular checking account in order to pay grant related bills. Courkamp moved to permit the transfer of funds. The motion was seconded by Lening and passed unanimously.

Jan also relayed a request from NPS for KCEDF to pay the rent for the Acting Superintendent of Sand Creek and then get reimbursed for the payment by NPS. The Board agreed, by consensus, to permit the arrangement. It was also noted that a reduced payment for crop spraying costs had been made, per Board direction, to a tenant and the tenant had cashed the check so it appeared the reduced payment would not be contested by the tenant. Lening then moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Courkamp and passed unanimously.

Jan then provided the Coordinator's Report to the Board, noting she had applied for a grant from Pepsi Refresh and discussed on-going interaction with the community in an effort to assist businesses. The County Fair was discussed and consensus was the Fair was a success.

The Towner Rail Line was then discussed. Lening moved to write a letter of support for the effort to keep the line viable and operational as opposed to having it salvaged. The motion was seconded by Weber and passed unanimously.

A proposed electric transmission line being discussed that would run through SE Colorado was also discussed. Oswald moved to provide a letter of support for that project as well. The motion was seconded by Lening and passed unanimously.

A brief discussion was held regarding the CEDS. Efforts are still going on to update the 2002 CEDS for Kiowa County, but the project is not completed.

Discussion was then held regarding the offer from McDonald Land Services to lease the mineral rights to property owned by KCEDF. The board decided to not take any action yet and invite the representative from McDonald to attend the October KCEDF meeting.

Rod Johnson reported SECORHT was developing a program to offer incentives and discounts to people who respond to an ad in Audubon magazine expressing an interest in SE Colorado. The question was raised as to whether KCEDF should work with local businesses to develop such incentives and discounts within Kiowa County. Lening moved to authorize \$500 be contributed to the incentive package for Kiowa County. The motion was seconded by Courkamp and passed unanimously.

Discussion was then held regarding the possibility of a water pipeline that would run from Prowers County through Kiowa County to Elbert County. The Board agreed that if there was a financial benefit to be gained by Kiowa County from the project there was no reason to oppose it.

The Agriculture Committee report noted a small refund had been received from the crop insurance policy and that winter wheat had been planted on ground owned by KCEDF. On-going problems with a water line were also discussed.

The Housing Committee report was provided by Jan. She stated she had placed a small ad in the Kiowa County Press and the Tri-State Trader regarding the lots that are for sale.

Johnson provided a written Resource Committee report and discussion was held regarding the possibility of constructing a small dock or pier out into Jackson's Pond to facilitate fishing and enjoyment of the pond area.

The Board then engaged in a general discussion concerning the status of the project to renovate the Murdock Building. In response to the earlier question from Lening as to whether the KCEDF Board had voted to donate \$5000 toward the project, Jan found in the minutes of the KCEDF 2011 Annual Meeting a reference to the approval of the Board to make such a donation.

There being no additional business to discuss, the next meeting was scheduled for October 18, 2011 at 6:30 PM in the KCEDF office. Davis then moved the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Courkamp and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.