

Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board

Board of Directors - June 22, 2021- 7:30 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting – Zoom & Jonah Bank, 2015 Central Blvd, Cheyenne WY 82001

Board Members in Attendance

Dr. JJ Chen – in person
Scott Cowley – in person
Sharon Fain – in person
Matt Pope – in person
Kim Withers – in person
Mike Williams – in person

Brittany Ashby, Align – in person
Kristie Wilson, Align – in person
Amber Ash, DDA - Zoom
Betsey Hale – LEADS – Zoom
Gay Woodhouse – in person
Gunnar Malm, Laramie County - Zoom
Kevin Marquardt, Board Applicant - Zoom
Mark Rinne, City of Cheyenne - Zoom
Trey Rinne, Board Applicant – in person
Wendy Volk, CRAFT - Zoom

Board Members Not in Attendance

Dema Gilbert

Others in Attendance

The regular meeting of the Cheyenne Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board was assembled at 7:32 am, in person and via Zoom, with Scott Cowley, Vice Chair, presiding. Roll call was conducted.

Action Items

The Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board meeting agenda for June 22, 2021, was presented for adoption.

A Pope/Williams motion was made and seconded to adopt the June 22, 2021 meeting agenda as presented with amendments. The motion passed unanimously.

The Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board June 22, 2021, consent agenda was presented for adoption.

A Chen/Fain motion was made and seconded to adopt the June 22, 2021, consent agenda.

Old Business

Update on Revolving Loan Fund - Marketing reports

Brittany gave an update. Reported that she met with Kim and Gay and has been working on logistics now that policy has been voted on by the Board. She also met with the Business Council to talk about how they administer their loans which let Brittany to contact Markee for a meeting to administer JBP's loans. She had one more meeting with Cheyenne Leads regarding first-round of loans. Other than that, the committee wanted to make sure the logistics were solidly set up before pushing for more marketing.

Board Orientation

New Board Orientation is scheduled for July 7, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Align Team office. Kristie will send out a calendar event. All board members are invited to attend.

DDA 2020-21 Request

At the May 25, 2021, Joint Powers Board meeting, the DDA presented a written request for funding for \$20,000 for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Betsey and Wendy endorsed and is in support for the Downtown Development Authority's request. Amber Ash gave a brief update at this meeting. Board needs to

vote. Gay questioned the transition of leadership. Domenic Bravo with supervise and Haylee Chenchar will be the point of contact for the DDA.

On a on a Williams/Chen motion, the DDA request for \$20,000 contract was moved and seconded to approve. Motion carried.

LEADS 2021-22 Request

At the May 25, 2021, Joint Powers Board meeting, Betsey Hale presented the Cheyenne LEADS request for the annual funding of \$50,000. Betsey also gave a brief update. Board needs to vote. No further discussion.

On a Fain/Chen motion, the LEADS request for \$50,000 was moved and seconded to approve. Motion carried.

Audit RFP Update

Brittany gave an update on the RFP for the update. There has not been much interest in anyone doing the audit. We are small and may not be worth the time for most firms. Answer period is still pending. The Board will wait to see what type and how many proposals come in.

New Business

DDA 2021-22 Emergency Extension Request

DDA Director, Amber Ash briefly updated Board on the emergency extension request of the \$20,000 originally contracted for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. A request was made for the remainder of the funds of \$10,021 for July 1, 2021, with an expected date of completion of October 1, 2022. Discussion regarding time limit on this extension. Amber indicated that the hope is to have the work done by the end of the summer. B

On a Pope/Withers motion, the DDA Extension request for the remaining \$10,021 was moved and seconded to approve with a September 30, 2021, time limit deadline. Motion carried.

Budget Hearing

Kristie Wilson walked through the State Budget requirements and provided a brief overview of budget for the Board's final budget hearing. Discussion included Mike asking if there are ways to boost income to make a larger impact for the future mostly a strategic comment. Sharon asks for comments from Chairman Malm how the county can help more and any opportunities from private donors. Gunnar is happy to set up meeting with the County and the grants manager to discuss ways help.

A Withers/Chen motion was made to approve the budget. Motion carried.

Partner Updates

City of Cheyenne

Dr. Rinne highlighted what the City has been working on. BOPU being charged a franchise fee to generate money for the City. Delivery of alcohol to residence is now still allowed. An annexation is coming through the northeast corner of Whitney and Del Range that increases the already annexed Whitney Ranch. Adopted an urban land use district for the West Edge which will allow more flexibility

in that area. The City finished the budget and the 6th penny. The Urban Renewal Authority is in process of creating a five-person board to address blight.

CRAFT

Wendy had no other updates on Craft.

DDA

Summertime on the Streets event was held attendance was down a bit with competition of Burns Day and the Celtic Festival held on the same day. A Wyoming-focused mural was painted on north side of the Seidels Building that was part of the Wyoming Arts Council funding. This mural will hopefully set a standard for the outdoor art gallery.

Laramie County

Gunnar Malm reported they are finishing up their budget. They are staying at status quo and being cautious about creating new jobs. The 6th penny ballot has been constructed and all resolutions have gone out to governing bodies for approval.

LEADS

In the Cheyenne Business Parkway Project Evergreen is going forward. Asks that everyone keeping their eyes open for theft of trees along the trail 12 trees have been stolen; 15 shrubs have been taken. Betsy reported on LEADS's projects submitted to the Strive, Drive and Thrive Campaign. There have been 3 new prospects, 8 prospects went inactive, 25 active prospects, and 13 of those are manufacturing.

Action Items Review

ACTION: Gay will draw up DDA & LEADS contracts

ACTION: Chairman Malm will email Mike, JJ, Sharon, and Brittany to set up meeting with County Grants Manager to discuss increased funding

ACTION: August is annual meeting to elect officers

ACTION: Invite Jack to come speak on BRNE Project

Kim Withers thanked Scott and Dema for their service for so many years on the Joint Powers Board and welcomed Trey and Kevin again.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:39 am. The next regular Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board meeting will be held Tuesday, August 21, 2021, at 7:30 a.m.

Note to the Board: July normally does not have a scheduled board meeting.