

## **Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board**

Board of Directors - Minutes – October 25, 2022- 7:30 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting – Zoom & Jonah Bank, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl Conf Room, 205 Storey Blvd, Cheyenne WY 82001

### Board Members in Attendance

Shari Bremer – In Person  
Sharon Fain – Zoom  
Kevin Marquardt – Zoom  
Josh Morris – In Person  
Trey Rinne – In Person  
Mike Williams -- In Person

### Board Members Not Present

Dr. JJ Chen

### Others in Attendance

Brittany Ashby, Align – Zoom  
Kristie Wilson, Align – In Person  
Gay Woodhouse – In Person  
Betsey Hale, LEADS – Zoom  
Domenic Bravo – Zoom  
Hayley Chenchar, DDA – In Person  
Wendy Volk, CRAFT – Zoom  
Gunnar Malm, Laramie Cty Commissioners – In Person  
Dr. Rinne, City of Cheyenne – In Person

The regular meeting of the Cheyenne Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board assembled with all Board members present at 7:30 a.m., in person and via Zoom, with Mike Williams, board chair presiding. Roll call was conducted.

### Action Items

The Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board meeting agenda for October 25, 2022, was presented for adoption.

A Josh Morris/Shari Bremer motion was made and seconded to adopt the October 25, 2022, meeting agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board October 25, 2022, consent agenda was presented for adoption.

A Josh Morris/Shari Bremer motion was made and seconded to adopt the October 25, 2022, consent agenda; September 27, 2022, meeting minutes; September 30, 2022, financials; and the October 2022 vouchers totaling \$6,002.90. The motion passed unanimously.

### New Business

None

### Old Business

#### **SAM Number**

Gay reported that she is still in the complicated process of obtaining a SAMs number. She will contact Sandra at the County for help from a recommendation from Comm. Gunnar Malm.

### Grantee Updates

None

### Partner Updates

#### **City of Cheyenne**

Dr. Rinne reported on the council meeting on 10/24/2022. Highlights:

- Made a change in the ordinance to update with electronic devices regarding harassment

- High Plains Business Park passed on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading annexation of 1280 acres south of town for a new data center
- Approved Gold King Mine water usage 20M project w/BOPU 15 yr contract around 250 new jobs
- Approved contract with AVI to redesign Powerhouse/Carlson intersection
- Approved MOU with LCCC for CDL training to provide service for bus routes
- Council has a work session on affordable housing Friday at noon receiving a report from the task force

### **Laramie County**

Commissioner Gunnar Malm reported on recent Laramie County activities. Highlights:

- Approve another sports betting facility on the border and eventually a hotel 20 acres by Swan Ranch
- 5<sup>th</sup> penny is up for election on Nov 8<sup>th</sup>
- Real estate is still moving 20 days on market with reasonable pricing
- County continues to make progress on 6<sup>th</sup> penny projects
- Sending out RPF for sewer connector to open eco development in Archer
- MMA for counties and cities to invest money more aggressively and less restrictive to generate additional income for the community

### **LEADS**

Betsey gave the LEADS stats and report for the month. Highlights:

- Discussion on Bison Business Park nuisances and supply chain issues LEADS will develop social media plan to keep citizen informed during construction
- 1<sup>st</sup> resident of High Plains Bus Park will be the new data center about 150 new jobs
- 9 new prospects since last month, 2 to inactive, 55 total prospects for the year
- Jack has conducted 132 business retention expansion meetings, Rochelle will be in attraction/marketing role
- Staff roles at the LEADS office will be changing. Rochelle will take on an attraction role & marketing role; Jack community relations/member relations; Dawn is taking on Operations manager tasks.

### **DDA**

Haylee Chenchar gave an update and report on DDA projects. Highlights:

- Summer of Construction promo was successful, going to run a promo in November to support downtown businesses
- Public arts – 113 installations, will be sharing on social media
- Building Improvement Grant Program is doing well
- Store-front Program – a few grants have gone out of this
- 70 businesses will be doing downtown trick or treating on Saturday

### **Visit Cheyenne**

Domenic Bravo also represented Visit Cheyenne:

- American EDC award won this with in conjunction with Haylee
- 15<sup>th</sup> Street project is going well

### **CRAFT/Visit Cheyenne**

Wendy Volk gave a CRAFT report. Highlights:

- Seeing the community using the airport and feedback from staff at airport

- New restaurant at airport is open and staying full
- 6 a.m. departure and mid-day turn and late-night return to help with connectivity
- Holiday travel is picking up
- Currently flights are 60-70% full with a goal of 80% full

Mike reported that County Contract has been signed giving JPB more funds \$200k to help with community projects.

Brittany reported that The Align Team hired Sara DiRenzo for the Associations Director. She will be lobbying for WEDA. Her start date is November 1, 2022.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 a.m. The next regular Cheyenne-Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board meeting will be held on Zoom and in-person at the Jonah Bank North Branch, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at 7:30 a.m.