

Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board
Board of Directors - Minutes – April 25, 2023- 7:30 a.m.
Hybrid Meeting – Zoom & Cheyenne Regional Airport Board Room
4020 Airport Pkwy W Cheyenne, WY 82001

Board Members in Attendance

Dr. JJ Chen – Zoom
Sharon Fain – In Person
Kevin Marquardt – In Person
Josh Morris – In Person
Trey Rinne – In Person

Sara DiRienzo, Align – Zoom
Kristie Wilson, Align – In Person
Gay Woodhouse, WRA&B Counsel – In Person
Chris Brennan, WRA&B Counsel – In Person
Wyo Senator Tara Nethercott – In Person
Wyo Representative Landon Brown – In Person
Charles Bloom, City of Cheyenne – Zoom
Tim Bradshaw, CRAirport – In Person
Domenic Bravo – Visit Cheyenne – Zoom
Nick Colsch, LCCC – In Person
Thom Gabrukiewicz, City of Cheyenne DDA – In Person
Betsey Hale - Zoom
Dr. Mark Rinne – City of Cheyenne – In Person

Board Members/Staff Not In Attendance

Shari Bremer
Mike Williams

Others in Attendance

Brittany Ashby, Align – 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 Sharon Fain, board vice chair presiding in the absence of Mike Williams, board chair.

Action Items

The Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board meeting agenda for April 25, 2023, was presented for adoption.

A Morris/Marquardt motion was made and seconded to adopt the April 25, 2023, meeting agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board April 25, 2023, consent agenda was presented for adoption.

A Rinne/Morris motion was made and seconded to adopt the April 25, 2023, consent agenda; March 28, 2023, meeting minutes; March 31, 2023, financials; and the April 2023 vouchers totaling \$2,189.20. The motion passed unanimously.

Economic Development Topics

Wyoming Legislators Sen. Tara Nethercott and Rep. Landon Brown gave a brief introduction and bio of themselves and then addressed the board with a 2023 Legislative Session update from their perspective. They also discussed what economic development impacts the session decisions may have on Laramie County.

Main tips from Legislators on how the Joint Powers Board can support economic development through state policy would be local distribution – be mindful of how your local legislators are voting on these from an economic development standpoint. This local distribution is in grave danger according to Sen. Nethercott. Be sure to communicate to your Laramie County legislators and that they are informed of the economic development issues.

Rep. Brown suggested making the JPB's positions well known to the legislators with open conversations as this is valuable from the chairman's perspective. Secondly, be available to testify to let people know that it's not just the city and counties that are running the eco-development agenda. Chey-Laramie County JPB can influence the legislation since they are local. Be available to testify.

New Business

LCCC/CBEA Partner Update & Request for Funding 2023/24

Nick Colsch reported on the 2022-23 JPB Grant Accomplishments. There was a funding request for 2023/24 in the amount of \$73,000 billed quarterly at \$18,250. The Board will consider and vote at the May 2023 meeting.

- Writes 8 economic reports a year, 4 quarterly reports, 4 commercial property reports, also provides a data dashboard (see his slide deck)
- Can be added to the email list to receive these reports
- LinkedIn, FB, and Twitter – CBEA

Old Business

Laramie County FY 23/24 Contract

Board reviewed and voted on the next year's contract with the County that Gay Woodhouse drafted.

A Morris/Marquardt motion was made and seconded to approve the contract as presented.
The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

None

Partner Updates

City of Cheyenne

Councilman Dr. Rinne gave an update from the City level.

Laramie County

Commissioner Linda Heath was not in attendance.

DDA

Charles Bloom introduced Thom Gabrukiewicz, City of Cheyenne representing the Downtown Development Association and reported for the DDA as they are continuing to gather information as the tasks are transitioned. They will have another staff member to help Thom out as well and now has a designated room for the DDA. They are working with Visit Cheyenne on the audit, and are making sure they have a budget for Laramie County gov. The DDA will request a grant from the JPB as they have requested in the past. They are also working on social media channel posts.

LEADS

Betsey Hale provided an update on the most recent LEADS projects.

Visit Cheyenne

Domenic Bravo gave an update and report on Visit Cheyenne.

Airport

Tim Bradshaw gave highlights of the airport's projects and parking lot expansion.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:21 a.m. The next regular Cheyenne-Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board meeting will be held on Zoom and in person at the Cheyenne Regional Airport Boardroom on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 7:30 a.m.