

Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board

Board of Directors - Minutes – September 27, 2022- 7:30 a.m.

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

Board Members in Attendance

Shari Bremmer – In Person
Dr. JJ Chen – In Person
Sharon Fain – Zoom
Kevin Marquardt – In Person
Josh Morris - In Person
Trey Rinne – In Person
Mike Williams -In Person

Board Members Not Present

All members present

Others in Attendance

Brittany Ashby, Align – Zoom
Kristie Wilson, Align – In Person
Gay Woodhouse – In Person
Betsey Hale, LEADS – 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 after slight technical IT difficulties at 7:37 a.m., in person and via Zoom, with Mike Williams, board chair presiding.

Action Items

The Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board meeting agenda for September 27, 2022, was presented for adoption.

A JJ Chen/Kevin Marquart motion was made and seconded to adopt the September 27, 2022, meeting agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board September 27, 2022, consent agenda was presented for adoption.

A Josh Morris motion was made and seconded to adopt the September 27, 2022, consent agenda; August 23, 2022, meeting minutes; August 31, 2022, financials; and the September 2022 vouchers totaling \$70,967.01. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Archive Discussion

Gay explained that the JPB has decades worth of documents that may be archived. After a brief conversation with the State office, they are interested only in the minutes. Gunnar suggested speaking with the records department of County to digitize this information. Gunnar will help us get the name of contact person.

Workforce Development

Brittany started a discussion on the workforce development and opened to the board for discussion to focus videos more on younger people. Hailey said that it's a good idea to gather all the resources that are available for these videos for distribution. Brittany is still researching and thanks the workforce development videos may be a good idea to cover the gap and connect with other groups that deal with workforce development.

Old Business

FY 22/23 County Contract

The contract has not been approved by County. Gay will send out the information and notice the contract and will be tabled for the JPB October meeting. Reminder, the County approved the \$200,000 on the budget but did not update the contract for the JPB to make a draw down. Gay and Commissioner Malm will work together to make this happen at the next County Commissioner meeting.

Grantee Updates

Impact Wyoming

Elissa Ruckle from Impact Wyoming forwarded Business Sponsor, Judge, and Mentor forms and encouraged support and distribution help to get this information out. Judges and mentors will be important. Kristie will follow up with Elissa to see how many students may or may not be signed up and how the launch is going.

Jay-Bird, Inc – RLF

Jay Johnson addressed the Board in person and gave an update on his airplanes. He explained his plane is getting updated avionics and autopilot is getting worked on. Capacity is for five but three is comfortable with a small step to get in the plane. Service is for wherever and whenever and explained that his service acts much like an air taxi service. This service to make the client's time more efficient. He is anticipating a launch in October or November. A website is set up to contract his services at: Jaybirdcharter.com

Currie's Cuisine

Kevin Marquardt gave a report for the restaurant owners. Business is open and going very well. The Currie's invite all to come

Partner Updates

City of Cheyenne

Dr. Rinne reported on the council meeting on 9/26/2022. Highlights:

- 2003 the city adopted statutes on traffic laws, there's a change in state statues. City's would be updated. Since these weren't updated, the City held an emergency vote to update those ordinances.
- Multiple zone changes reported: apartments across from Menards on Del Range, tire store will be at that location
- Harmony Valley – 69 acres with residential units
- Trying to get an agreement to develop Reed Avenue Corridor
- Rendering plant coming to Cheyenne – will bring 2,000 jobs but they want 37% of available water
- Sales tax revenues have been up 6-13% from previous year
- Work session on Friday Oct 1
- Early voting started

Laramie County

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

- County continues to make progress on 6th penny projects
- Sending out RPF for sewer connector to open eco development in Archer
- Commercial leasing is at an all-time high in the area even though market for buying is down
 - Transportation, Missile project, regional distribution centers

LEADS

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

- 9 new prospects since last month
- 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:

- Rental assistance program -- help for business tenants cover up to 3 months' rent under emergency situations to keep business doors open was drafted approved.
 - one-time only application process for the business.
- Mural program – a call for artists out has been advertised for public art installations Downtown.
- App project is going well
- Store-front Program is in full swing, and many applications have been received for this grant.

CRAFT/Visit Cheyenne

Wendy Volk gave a CRAFT report. Highlights:

- 70k travelers since opening in Nov 2018
- Parking lot is full as many people are using the airport
- MOU with City & County to extending the parking lot is in process
- Final leg of construction service on runway is underway. SkyWest service going to be suspended in Spring of 2023

Visit Cheyenne

Wendy Volk also represented Visit Cheyenne:

- Paris – Euro Disney will be installing Hotel Cheyenne – Wendy, Dominic, Mayor Collins and spouses are planning to attend on own budget NOT taxpayer money as guests and consultants.

Align

Brittany Ashby gave a brief announcement:

- COVID-19 grant program – any businesses looking for grants that can be tied back to COVID are encouraged to apply.

ACTION ITEMS:

ACTION: Change bank signature cards to add Trey and remove Kim - Kristie

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:39 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, 2nd Floor, on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at 7:30 a.m.