

MINUTES OF THE FULL BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP

September 5, 2024

The full board meeting of directors of Richland Economic Development Corp was held at Pella Lutheran Church, Sidney, MT on September 5, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:40 a.m., MST, by President Jason Brothen.

Roll Call:

The following members were present:

Leif Anderson	Craig Averett	Jason Brothen
Dave Garland	Travis Gerten	Chip Gifford
Kali Godfrey	Jami Malsam	Mark Rehbein
Gary Schoepp	Alan Seigfreid	Morgan Taylor

Absent:

Paula Eberling	Shane Gorder	Bill Henderson
Michele Herres	Walt McNutt	Randy Olson
Vanesa Pooch	Blaine Rogers	

Also present was Executive Director, Leslie Messer, and Project Assistant, Amelia Messer.

Meeting Agenda:

The agenda was sent to all directors and presented for approval. There were no changes to the agenda and Travis moved to accept as presented, Dave seconded, unanimously carried.

Consideration of Minutes:

Minutes from July 10, 2024, full board meeting was included in the packet and sent before the meeting. Brothen asked for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mark moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Craig, unanimously carried.

Consideration of
Financial reports

Messer went over the financial reports; Craig moved to approve the financials; Travis seconded the motion. Approved.

Monthly Activities:

Messer set up the photo op for Cattleman's Café and wrote an article about it. She submitted it to the papers and posted it on Facebook and emailed it to the membership. We had 3 small business consultations in July. Messer assisted in the Kiwanis Pie Social and served lunch to B & G Club on behalf of Kiwanis. Leslie and Amelia delivered plaques and visited with members. Leslie utilized some of her vacation days

Fairview Solar Project
Public Meeting:

Leslie and Amelia attended the packed room of opponents to the projected solar project proposed by Stellar. The engineers explained the reason for the meeting, and WAPA explained the opportunity for folks to have their input included into the final environmental assessment. Many people were angry about having the project in the community.

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- Savage School: Messer worked on a coal application on behalf of Savage Public Schools. With the information that they sent to her, she was able to complete it, and get it submitted ahead of the 7/29 deadline. She received notice that our application was complete. Messer should receive the staff report by the first of September. She will then present the application to the coal board on 9/12.
- Shot Show: The MT Dept of Commerce reached out and invited Leslie to attend a trade show in Las Vegas in January 2025. The purpose of the show is to try to recruit ammunition companies to expand to Montana. Leslie asked the Executive Board their opinion, and all voted in favor of her attending the show.
- Notice of EDA Award: Messer received the notice of award that the EDA \$100,000 grant for the economic diversification strategy and comprehensive economic development strategy had been announced at the federal level. She had a phone conversation with Aaron Pratt and Mackenzie (EDA) regarding the next steps. She will be sending out the request for proposals very soon.
- MT Dept of Commerce meeting: Leslie had an overview meeting with Tony Brockman, regional development officer, from the MT DOC. He wanted to visit about how REDC functions and see our area.
- City Report: Not much new but Kali brought a packet for board to look at, that shows upcoming projects for the city
- County Report: No Report
- Open Discussion: New LTL freight trucking company. The airport has new buildings getting ready to go up and a new snow machine that will hopefully be here mid-November.
- Future Meetings: Next full board meeting: Wednesday, October 2, 2024
Next executive board meeting: Wednesday, September 18, 2024
- Adjournment: With no further business, Brothen adjourned the meeting at 7:15 AM.



Jason Brothen, President



Dave Garland, Secretary