

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

June 5, 2024

The full board meeting of directors of Richland Economic Development Corp was held at Pella Lutheran Church, Sidney, MT on June 5, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 a.m., MST, by President Jason Brothen.

Roll Call:

The following members were present:

Jason Brothen	Travis Gerten	Shane Gorder
Michele Herres	Jamie Malsam	Randy Olson
Vanessa Pooch	Mark Rehbein	Gary Schoepp

Absent:

Leif Anderson	Craig Averett	Dave Garland
Paula Eberling	Chip Gifford	Kali Godfrey
Bill Henderson	Walt McNutt	Blaine Rogers
Alan Seigfreid	Morgan Taylor	

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 a motion was made to accept as presented, seconded, unanimously carried.

Consideration of Minutes:

Minutes from May 1, 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 Michele, unanimously carried.

Consideration of  
Financial reports

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

Monthly Activities:

Messer went over her monthly activities. She had two small business consultations. Set up the two RLF Award notices and photo opportunities. Emailed MIT regarding the use of solid waste as a means of supplementing the coal for their project. Messer dropped off the invoice for the 2025 City contribution. She was invited to a REAL Montana class reception at the Meadowlark to visit with the class. She has written several articles about the RLF and submitted them to the papers.

Revolving Loan Application: The loan committee approved a loan this month to create a new business and job.

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National Economic  
Development Week:

May 6-10 was nationally recognized as economic development week, so Messer reached out to several of the entrepreneurs and small businesses that we have helped and asked them to give a testimonial. She then posted these on Facebook and Instagram during the week. Finally, she emailed a couple of these to our membership. We received great responses from these efforts.

EDA Grant Update:

Per our consideration letter from EDA, there were a few items that Messer needed to revise and submit to them: the budget narrative, the budget, third party statistics, and loan terms from the Coal Board. She made the revisions and has submitted the documents to EDA. Also, she has invoiced MDU and Richland County Commissioners for their matching support to the project. Messer has been assigned a grant specialist from Denver, Mackenzie, and she is amazing.

By-Laws for REDC:

REDC Executive Directors are continuing to review By-laws for REDC.

City Report:

No Report

County Report:

Election week is busy. The Fair grounds construction is going on schedule. Savage fire department talked to the County Commissioners about revamping the fire hall. There is talk of a completely new Hall. There is second recovery oil rig going on also, and American Harvest sold to a welding company.

Open Discussion:

None

Future Meetings:

Next full board meeting will be Wednesday, July 10, 2024 (because of Independence Day holiday).  
Next executive board meeting will be Monday, June 24, 2024.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Brothen adjourned the meeting at 7:21 AM.

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Jason Brothen, President

Dave Garland, Secretary