

Sweetgrass Development Quarterly Board Meeting
Monday, November 28, 2016
The Lighthouse Restaurant – Valier, MT

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 p.m. by Chairman Tony Sitzmann.

Attending: Lorette Carter, Mike Henning, Deb Brandon, Jim Hodgskiss, Tony Sitzmann, Jim Larson, Cyndi Johnson, Gerald Wagner, Sandy Broesder, Wendy Judisch, Lila Evans and Llew Jones

Staff: Sarah Converse

Guests: Ken Johnson, Boyd Evans and Carol Jones

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Jim L. and seconded by Sandy to approve the agenda as distributed; the motion carried.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Jim H. and seconded by Mike to approve the meeting minutes of June 14, 2016; the motion carried.

Financials

Cyndi reviewed the financials. Sarah gave an update on the Revolving Loan Fund. The proposed 2017 budget was discussed; approval of the final budget was postponed until the January meeting. A motion was made by Cyndi and seconded by Lila to increase Sarah's health insurance benefit to \$1,000 per month; the motion carried. A motion was made by Cyndi and seconded by Lorette to approve the financials for September and October; the motion carried.

Administrative Report

An employee was hired for the Brownfields project, but after attending an initial training, she failed to come to work. Sarah has sent a letter to the former employee and is going through the process to get office equipment returned. Discussion of hiring a new employee will be addressed in January or the next meeting.

Sarah reported on the NADO, MEDA, MLCT, and MACo meetings and the EPA conference. The CEDS draft is out for public review and is located on the Sweetgrass' website. Grant updates were presented.

Business Items:

The following grant applications were reviewed:

Glacier County CDBG-ED

Choteau Business BSTF Planning Grant

Cut Bank Business BSTF Planning Grant

Browning Business BSTF Planning Grant

It was moved by Cyndi and seconded by Jim H. to move forward with the four grant applications; the motion carried.

A discussion was held on the application by GFDA for a workforce study. With no match being identified by GFDA, it was moved by Jim H. and seconded by Sandy to table GFDA's application at this time; the motion carried.

The CEDS Strategic Direction and Action Plan Implementation was handed out to persons in attendance; counties have until December 10 to review and submit revisions on the two documents.

Public Comment: None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m. Following dinner, there was an informal legislative discussion on the 2017 session presented by Senator Llew Jones and Representative Rob Cook.