

**Big Sky EDA/EDC
Executive Committee Agenda
March 1, 2023
7:00 AM to 9:00 AM**

Venture Conference Room (Lower Level BSED Building)

BIG SKY ED Mission Statement: - Focused on sustaining and growing our region's vibrant economy and outstanding quality of life, **Big Sky Economic Development** provides leadership and resources for business creation, expansion, retention, new business recruitment and community development.

Committee Members EDC –Kim Jakub, Andy Gott, Nick Pancheau, Ann Kosempa, Jen Kobza
EDA –Judi Powers, Riley Bennett, Debbie Desjarlais, Ken Lutton, George Warmer

7:00 A.M.— Call to Order – Kim Jakub, EDC Chair

Public Comments/Board Member and Staff Announcements

Agenda Changes

REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Approval of EDA/EDC Minutes**
- February 1, 2023 Ex. Committee Meeting (Attachment A) (Action)
- B. Approval of EDA/EDC Financials—Tami**
- Approve Nov/Dec. Financials (Handout) (Action)
- C. Executive Director Report--Steve**
- Re-Org/Staffing Update (Info)
 - Air Service Taskforce—Federal Grant Application/Matching Funds (Handout) (Action)
 - Strategic Priorities
 - QoL Investments—Comprehensive Plan for Parks, Trails and Rec. (Info)
 - Vacant Board Seats (2 on EDC)-Next Steps (Attachment B) (Info)
 - Board Planning Session—April 13—Setting Objectives (Info)
- D. Program Action Items/Reports**
1. Recruitment Projects—Allison
 2. Legislative Update—Allison

Consideration of Executive Session (as needed)

Public Comment

Adjourn

Next Executive Committee Meeting – April 5 (7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.) Location-Venture Conference Room, BSED Building). *Big Sky Economic Development Board of Directors will make reasonable accommodations for known disabilities that may interfere with an individual's ability to participate. Persons requiring such accommodations should make their requests to Big Sky Economic Development as soon as possible before the meeting day. Please call Big Sky Economic Development at 406-256-6871.*



BIG SKY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EDA • EDC CREATING MONTANA BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

ATTACHMENT A

that includes some of the members has been put together to assess how best to fill the Rock31 Director role. Rock31 members have asked for someone who has been successful as an entrepreneur to take over this role and provide resources and guidance to the Rock 31 community. Allison Corbyn will be leaving her role at the end of April. We will launch a search for a Senior Director of Development for Recruitment and Community Development. This will be an internal and external search process. The Senior Director of Economic Development position has been filled and will be announced at the EDA/EDC Board meeting next week.

Updates-Strategic Priorities

QOL Investments-Comprehensive Plan for Parks, Trails, and Rec

Steve provided an update on the comprehensive plan for parks, trails, and rec. Steve authored a letter on behalf of the EDA/EDC Board to the City Council in support of the Recreation Center Masterplan. Every Friday for the next three weeks, Councilman Rupsis will host a Parks, Trails, and Recreation Center Funding Package workgroup. John Brewer has put together some analysis work on how the Rec center can raise its own money, develop sponsorships, donations, and fundraising revenue opportunities. The goal is for a third party, Victus Advisors to put together income opportunities which is important if asking the voters to fund the development. BSED and the City has been asked to help fund a portion of the cost for this analysis. February 13th is the final vote on the Recreation Center Masterplan. Steve answered the Executive Committee's questions regarding the funding process. The Executive Committee recommended making a motion today regarding the Victus Advisors Proposal.

Motion: Jen Kobza to approve the use of up to \$5,000.00 to contribute to the Victus Advisors Proposal on fundraising related to the Recreation Center and forward to the Board.

Second: George Warmer

Discussion: None

Motion: Carried

Downtown Housing Development

Steve shared an update regarding housing and mixed-use development in the downtown core.

Board Committees Review

Steve shared his approach regarding filling our Board Committees for 2023. The Executive Committee shared how to engage Board Members and encourage participation on the Committees. We will send a list of current openings the Board and utilize the Board members' preferences to fill gaps.

Program Action Items/Reports

BillingsWorks Update-Marcell

Marcell shared three key events coming up in the second half of the year and asked the Executive Committee for help promoting the following:

- 1) Yellowstone County Summer Jobs Program
- 2) Summer Intern Leadership Institute
- 3) Better off in Billings Event-held on April 20th at the Billings Depot

Marcell also shared information on BSED's organizational podcast "The Vault" that launched today.

TEDD Update-Thom

Thom shared that applications for SpacetoPlace are open. Thom updated the Executive Committee on TEDD. KOJ is still working on the engineering for the preliminary infrastructure. The preliminary engineering should be completed later this Spring. A challenge remains funding. The County's ARPA funds were used to fund the preliminary engineering. The goal is for infrastructure to be in place on the TEDD side of the interstate ahead of the bypass project. Thom anticipates asking the County if they can help fund the infrastructure and once infrastructure starts to build they can use funds to pay back the "loan" given to fund this infrastructure. Thom

answered the Executive Committee's questions regarding the TEDD project. Thom anticipated meeting with County Commissioners within the next 60 days to move discussions forward.

Executive Session:

None

Public Comment:

None

Adjourn:

Riley Bennett adjourned the meeting at 8:35 am.

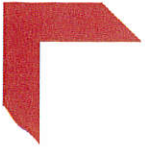
Next Meeting – March 1st, 2023



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ATTACHMENT B



February 2, 2023

Mr. Steve Arveschaug
Big Sky Economic Development
201 N Broadway
Billings, MT 59101

Dear Steve:

As you know I have moved into a different position at NorthWestern Energy. My new role includes responsibility for the Bozeman and Butte operating areas as well as Billings. The travel requirements are such that regretfully I believe that I should resign my board position on the EDC in order for you to be able to replace me with a board member who will be able to participate fully and more regularly.

If I may make a recommendation for a replacement, I would whole heartedly recommend Molly Schwend. NorthWestern Energy has recently hired Molly to replace Deb Singer and Molly has taken over the role of Key Accounts and Economic Development. As a past Board member, I think that Molly would take up the role seamlessly.

It has been a pleasure working with you and serving on the EDC Board.

Sincerely,

Nicole McCann Bengé

Director, Montana East Operations

nicole.benge@northwestern.com

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