

Rapid City Area Economic Development Partnership Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2006
Black Hills Business Development Center
10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

Greg Bartron	Jeff Carsrud	Ward Cheney	Bob DeMersseman
Dr. Rich Gross	Deb Hadcock	Terri Haverly	Debra Jensen
Kip Larson	Jim McKeon	Jim Mirehouse	Gloria Pluimer
Loni Reichert	Rick Rylance	Dave Schmidt	Mayor Jim Shaw
Fred Thurston	Pat Tlustos		

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Schmidt called the meeting to order and welcomed Jim Mirehouse back from his recent kidney transplant.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the April meeting were previously emailed. Pluimer motioned for approval of the minutes. Thurston seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

Tlustos provided the May financial report and copies of the membership report. Financials show a small increase in payroll and marketing, with nothing out of the ordinary. Administrative fees have been drawn from the Rapid Fund and Foundation. Cheney motioned for approval of the financials as presented. Carsrud seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

IV. BLACK HILLS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Mirehouse reported the building was completed with very few items on the punch list. The Foundation is currently working with a confidential Fortune 500 Company interested in the three open offices temporarily while it builds out 2,200 square feet in the back. The company would be in collaboration with the SDSM&T and the BHBDC. An announcement from the state is expected in the next couple of weeks. The Foundation is submitting a pre-application to the Denver EDA Office for funding of Phase II of the business incubator. The Foundation has also submitted a request of \$350,000 from the 2012 Opportunity Capture Fund which the Mayor and City Council will be acting on.

V. PROSPECT REPORT

DeMersseman reported work continues with The Bergquist Company and its expansion to Rapid City. Phase Technologies and Tri-Tech are working on purchasing land in the Rushmore Business Park. Eagle Creek has contacted our office and is once again interested in training money. We are working with the state on a proposal for a manufacturing company. Meetings continue with City Planning, Liens and BH Ammo regarding the expansion in South Creek. Several retail projects are also going on.

VI. EX OFFICIO REPORTS

A. CITY OF RAPID CITY

Schmidt reported Karen Olson was unable to attend today's meeting but sent the following to be reported: Pactola water allocation bill has passed the House and now

awaits the President's signature. The Downtown Restoration Project, comprising Kansas City Street, is moving forward with bid letting likely to take place in the fall. This project will be funded partially through 2012. Walmart as well as four other major commercial projects are moving forward with the prospects for increased retail tourism very positive. Hadcock reported on the Kansas City Street trolleys and the progress of the Christmas lights for downtown Rapid City. Mayor Shaw reported the City is very busy with the four large retail projects that will be developing along the interstate. He added the upcoming city budget looks very tight and is encourage by the large retailers coming in and the sales tax revenue they will produce. The new city councilman Lloyd LaCroix replacing Ray Hadley will take office beginning July 1.

B. PENNINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION

No report given.

C. SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF MINES & TECHNOLOGY

No report given.

D. WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Dr. Gross reported funding for WDTI comes from tuition, state aide, and some from federal funding. Enrollment figures at this time show a 10% increase from last fall. The Major Gifts Campaign is approaching \$2 million which is about half way to the expected goal. Work is also being done with Deadwood Gaming and other agencies on the development of a new program to be announced in the next 6 months.

E. CAREER LEARNING CENTER

Pluimer reported the Advisory Board will once again be holding meetings on the needs of the different trade areas with the first ones focusing on financial centers and the medical community. The center is gearing up with education and training for the youth on opportunities available in the community and partnering with rural communities on the expanding community education program.

F. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

McKeon reported the Chamber took a position on the zoning of Hi-Way 16 during the June 6 election. Meetings with the Secretary of Transportation have been held regarding future transportation projects and money for the Heartland Expressway. Work is being done on a feasibility study for the Roosevelt Expressway. The Mixer will be held on July 11, Pig Roast July 27 and Ag Feed July 28.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Schmidt reported the Senator John Thune's Town Hall Briefing was held on June 18 regarding information on the Air Force Financial Services Center. An initial employment of 50-100 personnel will be in place by April 2007. Best Case scenario, staffing could go up to 775 personnel through September 2009. Personnel will consist of mostly financial technicians. By inception, personnel makeup will be 80% military and 20% civilian with migration to all civilian. Web address is <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil>

B. WEST RIVER BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER/GENESIS

Bartron reported West River Foundation is very involved in low to moderate housing and the increasing need in Rapid City. The West River Revolving Loan Fund is very busy with several pending loans. The fund is ready to close on a hotel loan in Box Elder and working on several projects including a restaurant, health care facility, retail store, insurance company, and NAPA Store. The administrative role of N2TEC is being moved

to the Black Hills Community Economic Development with Bartron being the head contact. Senator Johnson has earmarked \$197,000 to Genesis of Innovation and the work it is doing.

C. SCORE

Cheney reported SCORE met with 38 clients in May resulting in 109 other hours and 80 outside hours. The 3rd Annual SCORE Bob Knecht Classic Golf Tournament is scheduled for July 29, 2006 at the Rapid City Elks Club.

D. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

Schmidt announced Randy Brown, Johnson Company (a real estate development firm), will be doing a presentation from the eyes of a large developer at the next board meeting. Mayor Shaw added the YMCA would be holding a ground breaking ceremony today and the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center will hold an expansion ceremony June 27.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Loni Reichert, Office Manager