

Rapid City Area Economic Development Partnership Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2007
Radisson Hotel
4:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Greg Bartron	Jeff Carsrud	Ward Cheney	David Emery
Bill Gikling	Dr. Rich Gross	Deb Hadcock	Terri Haverly
Debra Jensen	Jim Mirehouse	Jim Pahl	Don Patnoe
Gloria Pluimer	Loni Reichert	Dr. Charles Ruch	Rick Rylance
Dave Schmidt	Fred Thurston	Pat Tlustos	

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Schmidt called the meeting to order.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

Financials were previously emailed to the board for review. Tlustos reported the P&L reflects a decrease in income from the Chamber of Commerce as a result of the Partnership's move into the incubator and the development of a new operating agreement between the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development. The increase in other income is due to the Black Hills Business Development Center reimbursing the Partnership for part of Haverly's salary. Marketing expenses include representation at the shot show, and marketing the Wyoming area with the Grass is Greener ads. Miscellaneous expense of \$15,000 is Pennco money used as an incentive to Evans and Sutherland for its location in Rapid City. The Pennco loan with West River Foundation has been extended to end of 2007. Carsrud motioned for approval of the financials as presented. Pahl seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Schmidt moved the executive committee report to the top of the agenda due to important items needing board discussion and action. Schmidt stated he would like to entertain a motion to change the board term of three years to two three year terms to help bring continuity to the board. This motion would not affect board members whose terms expired on December 31, 2006 but would affect those terms ending in 2007 and beyond. Patnoe motioned to change the board terms of one three year term to two three year terms affective January 18, 2007. Rylance seconded the motion. Carsrud questioned if it was one six year term or two three year terms. Schmidt stated it would be two three year terms with the option after the first term to remain on for another term. All approved. Motion carried. Schmidt reported a bylaw committee will be formed in 2007 to review the current bylaws. This committee will be comprised of the Rapid City Economic Development Foundation President, representation from the Rapid City Economic Development Partnership Executive Committee, Bob DeMersseman, Terri Haverly, and Jim Mirehouse. Schmidt also reported the Executive Board has voted to support the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology multi-year funding request to the Rapid City 2012 Opportunity Capture Fund and will be presenting Dr. Ruch with a letter of support. See attached.

V. BLACK HILLS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Mirehouse stated this report will be covered under the Annual Meeting progress report.

VI. NEW BOARD NOMINEES

Schmidt reported the Nominating Committee met on December 6, to select a slate of candidates which he is now presenting to the board for approval. Selected nominees include Dan Ames, American Concrete; Mark Thies, Black Hills Corporation; Greg Hunter, Security First Bank; and Dr. Monte Dirks, Black Hills Regional Eye Institute. The board voted in favor of accepting the slate of candidates presented. The 2007 officers include Bill Gikling, Chairman, Pat Tlustos, Vice Chairman and David Hillard Secretary/Treasurer.

VII. TECHNICAL INSTITUTES GOVERNANCE LEGISLATION

Haverly reported the Rapid City Economic Development Partnership Board has been asked to pass a resolution of support to change of governances of technical institutes. Information including the draft senate bill, talking points, legislative briefing and a possible resolution had previously been emailed to the board for review. See attached resolution. Dr. Gross reported there are approximately 25 sponsors at this time and Senator Knudson and Representative Haverly are prime sponsors of the bill. Haverly has been in contact with the Chamber of Commerce who will also be looking at taking formal action. Board discussion was held on the interests of economic development, possible opposition, and supporters of the bill. Schmidt read the resolution to the board and asked for a motion of support. Rylance motioned for board support of the resolution. Patnoe seconded the motion. Schmidt asked for further discussion Tlustos and Jensen stated the board may be acting premature and should consider tabling until next month's meeting for further information. Gross stated due to the timing of the legislature the bill will probably be voted on before the end of January. Schmidt asked for withdraw of the motion for further discussion. No action taken. Schmidt stated we have a motion with a second and called for a vote from the board. Majority approved with Jensen and Tlustos opposed and Dr. Gross and Dr. Ruch abstaining.

VIII. EX OFFICIO REPORTS

A. City of Rapid City

No report provided

B. Pennington County Commission

No report provided.

C. South Dakota School of Mines & Technology

Dr. Ruch reported the students have returned to campus for classes.

D. Western Dakota Technical Institute

Dr. Gross reported the institute has developed a Workforce Development website that it will be providing to the legislature. He also thanked the Rapid City Chamber of Commerce for support of the Workforce Development program.

E. Career Learning Center

No report provided.

- F. Chamber of Commerce
No report provided.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. West River Business Service Center
Bartron reported N2TEC will be holding a meeting in Rapid City on February 2, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Canyon Lake Chophouse. N2TEC will be presenting technology projects for review and selection of those best fit for possible commercialization in the Black Hills area. Tom Jones will be speaking at 11:00.
- B. SCORE
Cheney reported 65 counseling hours were held with 22 of those hours spent with existing businesses. SCORE held two successful fundraisers in 2006 including the golf classic and spaghetti dinner. They will be looking for our support once again in 2007.

X. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Loni Reichert, Office Manager