

**Moffat County Local Marketing District
Craig City Council Chambers
300 W 4th St Craig, CO 81625**

July 18, 2017

In attendance: Chairman Dave Fleming; Kirstie McPherson; Victor Updike; Dave Heinrich; Dave DeRose; Roger Richmond Tori Pingley; Amy Updike; Gail Severson; Jo Beth Tupa; Christina Oxley; Michelle Balleck; Tom Kleinschnitz; Randy Looper; Mindy Curtis; Desirae Moore.; Andrea Camp; John Ponikvar

**Call to Order
Consent Agenda**

McPherson made a motion to approve June 6, 2017 and June 20, 2017 minutes. Updike seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. See attached.

Updates

CIRSA update: Fleming stated he prepared a letter for the renewal process for CIRSA. The board is currently behind in getting the application in. There was a mailing mishap. In the letter, Fleming did have to state that there was no known casualties or property loss. Fleming stated they are still waiting on approval for this. Fleming stated he does have a renewal application for 2018. The only change that has been made were, that Fleming is a contact person and the coverages will remain the same as before.

Richmond made a motion to approve Fleming's authorization to approve any needed documents through CIRSA. DeRose seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

Financial Update: Curtis stated she did look into the auditing issue and will let the board know when she hears back. Curtis presented the financials for June 2017. Fleming had a question about the office supply budget item. Curtis explained in further detail.

DeRose made a motion to approve the financials for June 2017. Heinrich seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Discussion and Action

McPherson wanted to give the board a heads up on some organizations that will be coming to request funding in August. Melody Villard with the Rodeo Finals in August and Mike Foreman, concerning a recreation district request. Both plan to be here to present at the next meeting. Updike asked if the groups had picked up the funding request packets and McPherson replied that no they had not yet. McPherson stated there could also potentially be a request from the college.

Fleming stated there has been a change of plans on the funding for the Dinosaur signs project and the discount that was about to expire. Fleming stated he worked with one of the County Commissioners to get this resolved. AGNC has everything they need for this now.

Richmond made a motion to rescind the motion from June 6, 2017 to donate \$14,000 to CO visitor center. DeRose seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

DeRose made a motion to give AGNC \$13,620 with the encouragement to use it towards the CO visitor center for signage. Urdike seconded the motion. Motion carried. 6-0.

Heinrich stated the CO visitor center is working on getting some funding from Rio Blanco County to get the electrical hook-up for the sign. Heinrich stated if the CO visitor Center did not get the funding from Rio Blanco County they wanted to come request money from LMD. Fleming stated that the board would need a bid before they could look at giving any money for this additional project. Heinrich stated there should be one available by the next meeting.

Presentations and Discussions

Balleck, Oxley and Moore presented more information on the Business Opportunity Toolkit. Balleck stated they are very appreciative of everything done so far by the LMD. The \$15,000 has been very helpful in matching other grants. DeRose wanted to know if they were ready to start interviewing. Balleck replied if they received the DOLA grant, then yes, they were ready. The group would like to secure this funding before moving forward with the interviews. Oxley stated that the RFP's will have to be updated at some point, because they all had an expiration date. Balleck is hopeful that they will hear back on the DOLA grant by the end of this month. The USDA grant will pay for an implementation plan. Moore asked what the board's thoughts on the process are. Urdike replied he is 100% behind this program. DeRose stated his main concern was when the interviews were going to start taking place. Fleming stated his biggest concern was making sure that there were adequate funds to keep this moving forward. Urdike asked what the next steps after the DOLA grant are. Oxley stated they are working with McPherson on getting meeting minutes where LMD has offered match, after that they will reach out to applicants to make sure the bids are still ok. After that the interviews will start.

Balleck gave a broadband update. Balleck introduced Jo Beth Tupa, she is the new executive assistant. Balleck stated she has been speaking with the City and County concerning some special funding that is coming out of the US Department of Commerce Economic Development administration. They have allocated 30 million dollars across the nation for assistance to coal communities. There was a quick turn around with it, and it was a 50/50 match. Balleck stated DOLA has broadband grants coming due August 1st. She proposed to the commissioners and city council to forgo assistance to coal communities fund and instead apply for their regular economic development funding. Balleck would ideally like this to go along with the DOLA grant so that they wouldn't have to try to match with local dollars. There is some funding from YVEA to help with some of this, also funding from the City of Craig allowing them to use the HUB sites. Balleck handed out a draft budget for goal #2 of creating broadband. Balleck stated she is still waiting on numbers to come from YVEA. Richmond asked where the 4 million dollars would go. Balleck replied that it would be municipal and county owned, but then leased to

someone else to own and operate. Richmond asked if there was a map showing current fibers and Balleck replied there is, but it is proprietary information and is not to be available to public. Balleck stated that the fiber that is here is owned privately and there is not enough for the whole community.

Balleck gave out a handout and brief update about the Community Revitalization Workshop.

Balleck stated Craig Chamber of Commerce and CDEMP are co-hosting an event with Tri-State and Colowyo. There will be a breakfast meeting, date pending.

AGNC is hosting an Economic Development Summit conference in Craig September 15th at the Clarion.

Rural Philanthropy Days is coming up September 27th-29th. There will be a town hall discussion Wednesday afternoon. Registration is still open.

Public Comment

Kleinschnitz addressed an article that was in the paper recently concerning joining a couple boards. He feels like he was misquoted or misinterpreted, and wanted to reiterate that what the boards do, are all important.

McPherson made a motion to adjourn meeting. DeRose seconded the motion. Motion carried. 6-0. See attached.