

MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC VITALITY ADVISORY BOARD
January 17, 2017
7:00 am – Aspen Room
Community Center, 715 East Main Street



CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 AM.

ROLL CALL

Board Members: Dan Robertson, Lucas Smith, Marcus Trusty, and Jay Boyd.
Trustee(s); David Volpe.
Town Staff: Town Administrator Brandy Reitter

AGENDA ADOPTION

MOTION: Boyd made motion to accept agenda; Robertson seconded – motion approved unanimously

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 18, 2016

MOTION: Boyd made motion to accept minutes of last meeting; Smith seconded – motion approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

WENDELL PRYOR, CHAFFEE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

State of the State: There are a lot of exciting things happening. There was a resiliency study done and both Salida and Buena Vista were mentioned in the study as strong communities in the study. Lake County received an award to expand broadband service and will allow Chaffee County to have triple redundancy when the project is complete. Central CO Telecom is seeing a lot of growth as a result.

The County will be hosting a conference for drone safety that should attract about 150 people to the area and BV will host a “Night on the Town” as a part of the conference.

Greg Felt heard a lot on the campaign trail about growth and conservation and therefore the EDC is applying for a grant to study how to deal with growth while maintaining conservation. (Trust of Public Lands)

The EDC is now concerned about transportation in the county. Accessibility to the Valley from the Front Range. How can we plan for the future?

Chaffee County Boot Camp from Entrepreneurs (3.0): Info passed out. To take place April 21-22, 2017. Will the EVAB support it and give advice on who should attend? Robertson: I am in full support for this and would be thrilled to be a part of it. Volpe had a great experience with this in the past. Pryor: Can the EVAB help me out with who should be involved? One of the challenges that ED face is how to keep everything in line for future growth. Pryor asked for an EVAB representative to help out. Volpe and Robertson volunteered to help out.

Volpe: Can you give us some more info on the Drone Conference? Pryor: BV is already on the map for being a hub for high altitude testing and CMC will become a center for testing. Chaffee County will do 2 events per year to get the industry together to talk about the present and future of drone technology and use. We want to propose legislation to create a pilot program out of BV / CMC to have a center of excellence to study how to better use drones for public safety, fires, etc. The industry is evolving to where manufacturers have to be full feature companies beyond just making a drone but to invest in technology. This will help because it will be an off-season activity and will bring people to town during otherwise slow times.

BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Blueprint 2.0 Update

1. BV Economic Development Summit Date

Brandy – we are moving forward with the recommendations from the State. Dan Robertson will now be the representative from the BMW to the EVAB.

We need to move on the ED Summit to coalesce around what each group is doing.

Robertson – could we invite members from each group to come to the EVAB and report on what they're doing? Volpe – Maybe we should consolidate to whom the boards report.

Robertson – It seems as though the ED Summit is important to actually have. Can we make it happen? How?

Brandy – Do you want to do it? When? We would definitely need to have a neutral facilitator. Maybe the evening of Monday February 27th? 5:00-9:00 Let's hope for 30-50 people. Volpe is reaching out to The Lariat to see about having the Summit there.

MOTION: Boyd moved to have the Summit at the Lariat on February 27, 2017; Trustee seconded – motion approved unanimously.

Members of EVAB have been asked to help Brandy invite participants and get the word out.

B. Economic Development Strategy Project.

Volpe asked about the interviews for the ED plan and Smith, Robertson and Reitter answered questions expressing their confidence in the process and the consulting company that was picked. The BOT will review the findings and hopefully approve on Tuesday 1.24.17.

Volpe – are we sure that we are getting results from what we are getting for \$50K? Reitter and Robertson answered yes. We don't want to make the same mistakes as we did with Norris.

Reitter / Trusty: Actual community involvement was important to this process and will continue to be.

C. Pilot Program – Arts & Culture Commission

Pushed to agenda in February.

D. Broadband Assessment Project

Asking the BOT to review a final proposal from HR Green out of CO Springs. We are focusing on implementation. Bryan Jordan will be helping. Brandy would like EVAB to help out with the implementation.

STAFF/COUNSEL REPORTS

A. Town Administrator

No Updates.

B. Assistant to Town Administrator

No Updates.


STAFF/COUNSEL INTERACTION

No Updates.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 AM. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 7:00AM in the Aspen Room at the Community Center located at 715 East Main.

Respectfully submitted:



Jay Boyd, Chair