

KIOWA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
MEETING OF JANUARY 18, 2017 MINUTES

PRESENT: Mike Lening, Sean Lening, Donald Oswald, Kelly Courkamp, Dennis Pearson and Jan Richards. Absent were Jerry Weber and Craig Kerfoot.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM with the above listed parties present. Minutes of the November 16, 2016 meeting were reviewed as there was no meeting held during December. Sean Lening moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Kelly Courkamp and passed unanimously.

The Board then reviewed the written Treasurer's Report. Jan noted a payment received from Frontier Bank that will be passed through to Weisbrod Hospital. KCEDF has historically been the pass through agency for this payment that originates from a trust fund to benefit the hospital. Oswald moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Sean Lening and passed unanimously.

Jan submitted a written Coordinator's Report which the Board reviewed. Jan noted KCEDF had received some video-conferencing equipment from Sector Partnerships to utilize for meetings if desired. Jan also noted the Amity and Ft. Lyon canal companies were cleaning ditches and waterways in preparation for putting water into the Great Plains Reservoirs beginning in February. There was also discussion regarding the placemats Jan has created and the advertising being listed on the placemats.

Kelly Courkamp inquired about the Sewing Center that had been proposed for Haswell. Jan reported the development of the center is still a work in progress, with no definite timetable. Lamar Community College is in the process of developing training in sewing and also sewing machine repair.

The proposed apartment complex on the southern edge of Eads along Lowell Street was discussed. The process to move the project forward is continuing. The grant request is on-going, but even if grant is received, it will be four to five months later before project would actually begin.

Given that all the lots currently platted in Kiowa Creek Estates have been sold, Jan inquired as to the Board's interest in platting out additional lots on the southern edge of the residential development that has previously been designated as open space. There were some questions regarding water access for new lots, but the Board agreed the possibility of creating new lots should be explored. The Board will bring additional ideas to the February meeting.

Plans for the Aerospace Day to be held in April are moving forward. Jan reported the invitees will only be the smaller school districts in the area, thereby excluding Lamar and La Junta.

Potential annexation of KCEDF property by the Town of Eads was discussed. The Board needs to know from the Town which ground they wish to annex before agreeing to any annexation.

Pearson, the Town of Eads representative on the KCEDF Board, will take the request to Town Council in an effort to get clarification.

Jan then presented a contract between KCEDF and Atmos Energy for installation of a new natural gas line from Lowell Street to the end of the cul-de-sac in Kiowa Creek Estates. The contract cost is \$11,687.00. Following review, Oswald moved to approve the contract. The motion was seconded by Kelly Courkamp and passed unanimously.

There was then discussion regarding the MOU between KCEDF and the Kiowa County Commissioners regarding use of the KCEDF office. The MOU for 2017 has not yet been formulated, but Commissioner Oswald stated he did not believe the numbers involved in the MOU were going to change. Kelly Courkamp moved to approve the MOU in advance, as long as the numbers remain the same as in 2016. The motion was seconded by Sean Lening and passed unanimously.

Jan requested Board permission to utilize Jami Kraft a few more hours than the Board has previously authorized in order to help with increasing job duties. Following discussion, Kelly Courkamp moved to authorize Jan to utilize up to \$6,000 for the year to pay part-time help as needed. The motion was seconded by Sean Lening and passed unanimously.

Jan also noted her computer was becoming aged and needed to be upgraded to a newer model. The Board authorized Jan to obtain estimates and bring back to the Board in February.

The February Snow Goose Festival, which includes tours into Kiowa County, was discussed. Jan noted KCEDF had paid for an insert in the Kiowa county Independent advertising the festival's photography contest and had supplied Sand Creek pins and brochures for the "goodie bags" attendees will receive. The Eads Chamber of Commerce will be furnishing breakfast for the tour group visiting Kiowa County on Sunday morning, February 19th.

An individual named Mike Sullivan, who was actively involved in the Aerospace Day event in Northeast Colorado last year, has offered to help KCEDF and the local groups sponsoring in Eads April 27. Sullivan has requested his expenses to be reimbursed if he does travel to Eads to assist. The Board tabled the discussion until they know how the funding for the event is working out.

Jan presented forms from the FSA that Chairman Lening is required to sign concerning property owned by KCEDF.

A general discussion was held regarding the effort southeast Economic Development Directors (including Jan) had to put out to create a statutorily required for SCEDD. The task was the responsibility of SCEDD staff, but did not occur to the level required, so the county based Economic Development Directors were asked to take over the project without compensation, which they are doing. The discussion deemed there to be a great many problems and issues currently with SCEDD and the Board thanked Jan for her effort.

There were Committee Reports to present. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.