



Morgan County Economic Opportunity Board

Location: Morgan Business Resource Center/Virtual (Teams)

Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2025, 8:00 am – 10:00 am

Attendees Invited: John Barber, Mayor Steve Gale, Ty Bailey, Andrew Willis, Darren Rogers, Amanda Tullis, Carol Brooks, Stacy Clark, Traca Wardell, Sherry Stevens, Justin Rees, Mercer Owen, Kate Becker, Andrea Brooks

- 1) Welcome to Morgan County Economic Development Board
 - a. Approval of the February 2025 Agenda
 - Motion by Kate to approve February 2025 Agenda, seconded by Mayor.
 - b. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest
 - None
 - c. Approval of Minutes from January 8, 2025
 - Motion by Kate to approve Jan 2025 minutes, seconded by Justin.
- 2)Economic Outlook and Current Opportunities: **(2 minutes each)**
 - a. Workforce Services:
 - b. State Parks:
 - Mercer is the new manager at East Canyon resort, Congrats!
 - Ice is still undetermined if the fishing event will take place.
 - There is interest in a Nica bike course.
 - c. Business Resource Center:
 - It was discussed that with Amanda leaving the CEO Board Andrew will be the new voting member representing the BRC with Stacy at an alternate. Motion by Kate, seconded by Traca, all in favor.
 - d. Tourism:
 - e. Chamber of Commerce
 - f. School District
 - g. Governor's Office:
 - h. Morgan City:
 - i. Morgan County:
- 3) CEO Visit for January 22, Report Out
 - Albert Wilde: Brilliant, hard working with lots of ideas to move forward. He has sold topsoil. Discussion was mostly about moving forward.

- Debs Pizza: Deb and her daughter Emberlee have a good operation. During the visit we went through their history of Debs.
- Grounds for Coffee: operating hours are 6-2. No expansion is planned at this time.
- Julie talked about how difficult it was to bring a liquor store to Morgan. Business is doing well. No expansion planned right now.
- Smokin Box Car: Open 8-7 daily. Enough room for event space. It was suggested they may need help with marketing. They have a large business but are funding off savings and need capital. They do not have a website for their business and complained about when events come to town BBQ food trucks are invited and take away business that could come to them.
- Morgan Valley Crafts: Kristy Orn bought the business in January 2025. One barrier was the dept of commerce but the rest of the transition in purchase ran smoothly. She feels it is important to be part of the community. Struggling with being open all day and having a large family with activities and duties.
- Bingham's: Nate is doing great. Business is booming. He is interested in more Bomb vending machines and making improvements at the shop to open his sandwich making back up. He is applying for the local grant to help in both areas.

4) Budget Update - Kate

5) SOS Grant – Kate

- SOS has still not used the Grant issued previously.
- Make a business visit with SOS to discuss the grant being used by June 30th or returned. John will make this visit on February 26th during the CEO visits.

6) Approve Grant Applicants – John

- 29 Grant Applications, see attachment for information.
- Motion made by Traca to approve the grant applicants suggested with grant budget, seconded by Mayor, all in favor.
- Motion made by Traca to spend \$6260 out of the barrier grant money to get Bingham's sandwich shop up and running, Seconded by Justin, all in favor.
- It was mentioned that the \$50,000 for the fall grant round be focused on advertising needs.

7) Time permitting: Ideas for Rural Grant part A

8) Ed Shultz WRP

- Owned for 6 years now.
- Ed Shultz and Maria visited the CEO Board and discussed some direct impacts for Morgan County and how the construction is proceeding quickly.

- 2023 we generated 3.8 million to Morgan County
- At this time, we have 29 Units under construction condos and townhomes.
- 13 homes are under construction currently, 5 occupied.
- 25 breaking ground this year possibly up to 40 if all approvals go through.
- There is also significant progress on town center that will be completed this summer.
- 5 chair lifts and gondola
- Wasatch Peaks employs 272 people with 51 of those being county residents.
- On the indirect side of the 13 homes under construction there are approximately 150-200 people that will work on that home during construction from all trades. Local companies are included in these numbers.
- Community efforts of sponsorships, scholarships, donations etc. They support many kids through the fair with boosts. They support where they can, especially at the school, through different groups.
- 4 million dollars project driven by those individuals and Kate from the lawsuit.
- Justin asked what we could do as an Economic Board to help with WRP development. What do their residents want? Ed agreed consumables are in high demand. The grocery store Lee's has been a big asset.

Tour of WRP

Business visits will be on February 26th 9-11am. Those able to visit John, Andrew, Daren, Sherrie, Andrea, and Justin.

Next Meeting: March 5, 2025