**Pagosa Springs CDC Regular Meeting**

**July 11, 2018, Pagosa Springs Chamber of Commerce**

**Board in Attendance:** Jodi Scarpa, Matt DeGuise, Mike Heraty, Neal Johnson, Mike Dreyspring, Jim Garrett, Michael Whiting, Sherry Waner - phone

**Board Absent:** Laura Mijares

**Guests & Staff:** Mary Jo Coulehan – staff, Laura Lewis Marchino – Region 9, Chris Mannara – The SUN, Jason Cox

A quorum was established and the meeting called to order at 5:38 p.m.

The meeting minutes from May 9, 2018 were presented. There was one correction to the minutes. It was Mike Dreyspring who nominated Sherry Waner for Secretary, not Michael Whiting. Michael Whiting motioned to approve the minutes with the correction, Mike Heraty seconded. The meeting minutes were approved with the correction.

The financials were presented to the board. There were no questions. Mike Dreyspring moved to accept the financials as presented, Michael Whiting seconded. The financials were accepted.

**Broadband Project Manager**

Mary Jo and Jason presented the board with a review of the RFP responses and the RFP selection candidate and why they were chosen. The RFP was broken down in assessment and planning. The subcommittee chose The Lindblad Group based on the expertise in the field of project management, their knowledge of the community and the needs of the RFP. However, it was felt that the other two candidates could come in at a later point in time when we are looking for grants and implementation of the plan. *Mike Heraty moved to accept The Lindblad Group as the RFP recipient, Neal Johnson seconded. The motion was approved unanimously*. The group stated that they liked the way the RFP was rewritten and the selection process. Mary Jo will contact all the candidates.

**Committee Reports**

**Discussion of Committees**

Jodi led the discussion of work by subcommittees. All the subcommittees were reviewed and individuals asked to join the committee of their choice. See attached subcommittee list.

**Broadband**

Mary Jo gave a brief update of broadband efforts. Still working on the SCAN contract with the understanding from both parties that the fiber that the town and county own are 36 strands (1/2 the 72 in the ground). The Lindbland Group has visited several communities and are doing some comparative studies and we will be purchasing the GIS software system soon as well. We will ask them to present at the next work session.

**Data Analytics**

Mike H. felt that data analytics had been shelved due to the ED2020 efforts. It was decided that we need to determine what types of data we want and each group spearhead their data. What kinds of data can we work on together and share and which is good for tourism and which for economic development. Mike will continue to work on moving forward with data analytics.

**Policy**

There was a discussion of what types of policies the CDC should look at or support. Jim mentioned that perhaps the new tax increase for the jail or the mil levy for the school were things we should look at. the group decided that we should inform the public of the issues and not take a stand.

After Laura Lewis-Marchino spoke about the Opportunity Zones, it was decided that the policy committee could assist with this initiative, help formulate projects and disseminate policy from the state.

**Education**

Michael informed the group that Carolyn White from Brownstein Hyatt who is an expert in municipal funding will be coming to Pagosa to speak on July 19. He will get an invite out to the group about the location and time.

**Loan**

This group has appointed members on it. The group is looking to add a banker or real estate agent since Jimmy Munozcano left. We have added Jason Peterson but would like another member.

We are still trying to recoup some money from the default loan.

**Decision Agenda**

**Appointment of New Board Member**

Jim Garrett has expressed an interest in being appointed to the board. He submitted his resume and letter of interest. Neal Johnson motioned to appoint Jim Garret, Michael Whiting seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Conflict of Interest Disclosure**

Jodi reviewed the need for the individuals of the group to fill out Conflict of Interest disclosures. This would include any jobs you are getting paid for even in a consulting capacity, boards you may sit on, or volunteer organizations. Please fill out the forms and return to Mary Jo.

**By-law Amendment**

The board was presented with the rewording of which board members would be allowed to sign the checks.

Laura asked if there was the need for two signatures. Mary Jo indicated that she cannot sign on any of the accounts nor can she have access to them. She can only see them from a Quickbooks standpoint and through the monthly statements to reconcile the books. We need to add Mike Heraty and Sherry Waner to the signature cards. Mike Heraty moved to approve the bylaw amendment, Michael Whiting seconded.

**Policies and Procedures**

We incorporated the changes that the board sent in. Sherry had a few more suggestions. It was noted that we could have a financial review instead of audit depending on the activity of the organization. At the time of the review or audit, it will be put out to bid. Mary Jo will revise the P&P and include in the board books.

**Meeting Schedule**

Jodi spoke about possibly changing the meeting and work session schedules. It was recommended that there be a work session every other month in the even months and regular meetings every odd month. Mary Jo will send out a new calendar.

**Chamber Update**

* Mary Jo referred the board to their handouts of work done in the month of June and July.
* EDCC will be held October 24-26 in Estes Park. Mary Jo would like to attend. She has offered to volunteer to try and help reduce some costs although Laura wasn’t sure this would be possible this year.
* Business Inquires
  + We had 5 business assistance consultations in June.
  + One consult was multiple visits regarding business licensing issues.
  + One visit was for several years away but they were checking out the community and interested in the school system and religious organizations and what jobs they could get here in about 3 years.
  + One consult was for financial assistance and Mary Jo referred them to Region 9
  + One of the consults was lengthy in identifying the various lifestyle options for the family including schools, living off the grid, job opportunities community growth and active engagement.
* Mary Jo will invite Yvonne to the July 25 work session to revise the activity calendar.

**Public Comment**

Michael Whiting stated that there is a new climbing/bouldering gym open at Hopi and Bastille that benefits outdoor education for kids.

**Region 9**

* Laura Lewis Marchino explained about the new federal tax bill where corporate tax gains can be deferred through Opportunity Zones. Region 9 would be the connector between projects and funds. There could be multiple investors working on multiple projects. It is similar to a 1031 exchange but with much better results.
* She mentioned that the SCAPE showcase will be on August 16 from 3-6 p.m. at Ft. Lewis College. Jennelle Syverson of the Choke Cherry Tree is one of the presenters and the first one from Pagosa Springs.
* Currently the Region 9 board from Archuleta County is Clint and Andrea from the Town, Todd Starr from the County, and Mary Jo as an at large member. There may be some changes coming up with town and county representation.
* Laura asked about the impact of the fire. Matt deGuise noted that it is more about the dryness than the impact of the fire. Between the evacuations and the fire, the outdoor recreation businesses and the train have been crushed as has Silverton. But everyone is trying to stay positive and move forward. Region 9 is working on some emergency loan funding.

Michael Whiting and Mike Dreyspring noted that they will not be able to attend the next work session on July 25.

With no further business, Mike Heraty moved to adjourn the meeting, Michael Whiting seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.