

**Pagosa Springs CDC Work Session Notes**

**May 23, 2017**

**Board in Attendance:** Jason Cox, Jodi Scarpa, Laura Mijares, Nicole DeMarco, Jimmy Munozcano

**Board Absent:** Sherry Waner, Neal Johnson, Michael Whiting, Mike Heraty

**Staff & Guests:** Mary Jo Coulehan – Chamber; Jim Garrett – The SUN

The work session began at 11:10 a.m. with Jason welcoming the new board members and an explanation of how the CDC and meetings worked. He invited them to the Google docs link.

Mary Jo had sent out a new board member packet which Jodi did not receive. MJ will send it to her personal email. Jason also talked about the major projects of work that the CDC will work on this upcoming year. Mary Jo recruited Laura to be on the educational subcommittee to replace Cindi Galabota.

The meeting notes from April were reviewed with the following correction. Mary Jo slipped in an “S” into the CU Leeds School of Business. It should be the CU Leeds School, not the CSU Leeds School. The notes will be corrected. (Sorry Boulder)

The group reviewed the request from the annual meeting to make sure that the board positions were staggered appropriately. The Town and County reappoint yearly. Taking those positions out, 3 elected positions come up for reappointment every 2 years and 2 elected positions for 2 years come up every other year. For the remaining appointed positions one will come up for reappointment in 2018 and one in 2019. Therefore, in 2018, 3 positions will come up for reappointment and in 2019, 4 will come up for reappointment. This system seemed equitable.

Jason reviewed the financials. Mary Jo reported that we have 2 potential new members from the annual meeting. She also gave a membership form to PAWS and encouraged them to join.

Mary Jo reminded the board that they will need to think about officer positions and vote on those positions at the next regular meeting in July. After those appointments, she will get the bank signature cards changed.

She also asked that someone be assigned so that she and a CDC board member meet not every week, but perhaps every other week. This meeting keeps her on track, she can see if there is something she should be working on, and it is a good way to communicate. Jason stated that his schedule should be easing up and he should be able to make this commitment.

Nicole informed the group that there is going to be a Town work session on May 31 at 6 a.m. to discuss impact fees. There is the thought that the Town might put a moratorium on impact fees. She queried the group on their thoughts and a discussion was held. Jason said that he hoped that the Town and the County would be of the same mindset so that impact fees would not be confusing to potential businesses. Nicole felt that impact fees need to be a policy decision, not a “fire sale” to giving away credits that aren’t necessary. Impact fees shouldn’t be just based on square footage, but actual “impact” on the area.

Laura mentioned that there is a meeting to see if marijuana tax money can be used for schools for specific projects such as funding a counselor and student scholarships and other targeted community needs.

**Chamber Update**

Mary Jo gave a short update on the CDC annual meeting and the potential for some new members.

The Chamber is going to create a special category for the CDC on their database system so that we can keep better track of CDC membership renewals and billing. This will take effect by June.

Mary Jo has turned all the 2016 tax information into Derek, the accountant. He has finished most of the work, but did ask for an extension because he had to go out town for several weeks. He did clean up the balance sheet and reorganized some categories.

Liz Ross has resigned as the director of the SBDC. She is retiring.

The Chamber will be conducting a Human Resources Focus Group on May 24 with most of the major employers in the community. They are also working on a new hospitality training program that they would like to roll out to the community.

It was noted that Western Excelsior in Mancos had a major fire and 110 jobs were lost. Region 9 was working with them to try and place people.

Jimmy asked if it was possible that we follow up with business inquiries to see if they moved to Pagosa, if they didn’t why not. Mary Jo will work on performing this follow-up task.

**Broadband**

Jason noted that Michael and Rich Lindblad are both at the Mountain Connect Conference. We are looking forward to hearing what new technology is possible for Pagosa.

The CDC will give a broadband update at the joint Town/County meeting on May 30. We are waiting to hear from the County on the overlay of towers vs. terrain. The map will help us determine what is needed and where potential equipment can be placed.

We are also waiting to hear more on a new technology piece. We should have information by the time we report to the Town and County. Everyone is welcome to attend on May 30 at 8 a.m. at the County offices.

Laura needed to attend another commitment and departed the meeting at 12:35.

**Projects of Work**

Nicole mentioned earlier in the meeting about the policy decisions that may be coming out of the Town work session on May 31.

Mary Jo asked what kind of educational meeting would work for the 3rd quarter forum with Brian Lewandowski. The group agreed to a lunch meeting like last year. She should have some possible dates by the next meeting.

Broadband was already discussed earlier in the meeting.

With no further business, the work session was concluded at 12:55.