

Yampa Valley Economic Development Council

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MINUTES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Centennial Hall, Steamboat Springs, Colorado

1.0 Open Meeting/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM by Tom Gilchrist. YVEDC/RB members present include Tom Gilchrist, City of Craig; Dan Ellison, Routt County; Ken Gibbon, Town of Hayden; Kim Cook, Rio Blanco County; Nancy Kramer, City of Steamboat Springs; Susan Dellinger, City of Steamboat Springs alternate. Absent: Saed Tayyara, Moffat County. Staff members present: Winnie DelliQuadri, City of Steamboat Springs.

2.0 Introductions

Individuals present include: Judy Wiegard, Routt County Clerk; Ann Copeland, Routt County Regional Airport; Vince O'Connor, City of Steamboat Springs Information Systems; Kip Pyle, Steamboat Springs Information Systems; Linda Kakela, Steamboat Spring Intergovernmental Services; Wendy DuBord, Steamboat Springs Deputy City Manager; Terry Barber, Routt County Information Systems; Brandon Johannsen, Craig Daily Press; Ginger Scott, Steamboat Springs Intergovernmental Services; Kent Morrison, Steamboat Springs Information Systems.

3.0 Old Business: On-going YVEDC Initiatives

3.1 Open Egov Project

Kent Morrison reviewed the Open Egov project. All Open Egov information is available on the www.openegov.net website. Mr. Morrison provided a brief history of the project, reviewed content management systems, demonstrated three beta web sites (Steamboat Springs, City of Craig, Moffat County), reviewed features of the egov software, demonstrated the "back end" interface for web page development. Finally, Mr. Morrison noted the immediate next steps and then discussed long term potential for the egov project.

The Open Egov basic software is complete and final programming work is occurring on the modules. The entire software (basic and modules) will be complete by the end of the summer. Cultural Heritage Tourism components (template and image archive) will be developed in the fall.

Mr. Morrison noted that he would like to see a Phase II of the project to develop further modules and functionality of the open egov software. In addition to any Phase II project, the open egov website will be able to serve as a clearinghouse for extensions and modules for the open egov software. Mr. Morrison noted that if you were to buy the open egov software commercially, it would be a \$50,000 to \$60,000 software package. Mr. Morrison noted that the software has the capability with existing extensions to do transactions, however these would need to be modified for government, and each of the agencies would need to set up internal procedures for handling transactions.

Mr. Morrison noted that the target date to start training staff from all agencies on the software in the beginning of August. Wendy DuBord asked the elected officials if the Open Egov project had resulted in what they had anticipated and in what they were interested in achieving, and they answered that it had.

3.2 Cultural Heritage Tourism

Winnie DelliQuadri reported the National Trust for Historic Preservation sponsored Share Your Heritage workshop held June 10 and 11 was well attended by approximately 35 folks from throughout the region. The workshop was a success in terms of the work accomplished. The report from the workshop was distributed in the meeting packets and the YVEDC reviewed workshop content and outcomes.

Ms. DelliQuadri reported on the budget versus actual financial status of the CHT initiative and the workshop and the YVEDC reviewed the information in the packet. The CHT initiative and the workshop are on budget and are operating in the black.

Ms. DelliQuadri noted that work on the CHT initiative over the summer would consist of developing a “to do list” or tactical plan, merging the coordinating committee and the steering committee, developing authenticity standards and guidelines, and working on other big issues. The YVEDC discussed the status of the coordinating committee and the steering committee, noted that the coordinating committee is empowered but is not regional, while the steering committee is regional, but has not really gelled. The YVEDC also discussed the issues of needing to get each community group working, needing to have one strong steering/coordinating committee that was regional and effective, and needing to develop an organizational structure. Ms. DelliQuadri noted that the organizational structure issue would be complex and requested that the elected officials be involved directly in the discussions as to the organizational structure and not delegate this to a committee without their full participation. The YVEDC discussed this and noted that it was critical and that they would be directly involved in all organizational structure discussions.

Ms. DelliQuadri noted that she had met with the Office of Economic Development to learn about the state’s new branding and branding assessment program. Ms. DelliQuadri provided information on the program and noted that the program could be used to help develop a regional brand at the appropriate time. Ms. DelliQuadri also noted her attendance at the statewide strategic planning workshop for the state’s Cultural Heritage Tourism plan, and she noted the importance of waiting to develop a brand for NW Colorado until after the State developed the CHT brand for the state, so that the two brands could be synergistic.

Nancy Kramer noted that she was invited to speak at the Governor's conference on tourism and cultural heritage tourism in September. She will find out more information in the next few weeks. The session will be at 10 AM on September 21, 2005.

Winnie DelliQuadri noted that Arianthe Stettner was tapped to serve on the advisory council for the state cultural heritage tourism program.

3.3 Beanpole Project

Winnie DelliQuadri noted that the contract with consultants for additional transition work was complete and that consultants Frank Edlin and Jerry McCarthy were working on the project. Ms. DelliQuadri noted that the white paper will be out by the end of July and that there were no new developments in terms of services.

4.0 Review of Minutes

4.1 June 1, 2005

The minutes from June 1, 2005 were reviewed. It was noted that on page 3 the information on the energy impact hearing should read July 20th, not June 28 and that Rio Blanco County will be

meeting with DOLA staff about the Energy Impact program on July 19, 2005. The minutes were approved as amended.

5.0 Public Comment

None

6.0 Member Reports

Nancy Kramer noted that the Steamboat Springs City council is moving through the budget process and awaiting planning on the base area.

Kim Cook noted that Rio Blanco County continues to spend time on oil and gas issues. Mr. Cook noted that southern Ireland effectively did Cultural Heritage Tourism, especially in the areas of linking communities together and addressing CHT as a region.

Tom Gilchrist noted that the City of Craig is opening a recycling center on Friday. The recycling center is a big deal in Craig.

Tom Gilchrist noted that the City of Craig is working on a year long process to change the City Charter. The current Charter has too many personnel management items in it, and these needed to be moved so that the charter is policy and personnel issues are addressed in a personnel policy. The new Charter would be voted on in November 2006.

Tom Gilchrist noted that Craig is redoing their subdivision requirements and is starting design work on a water treatment plant expansion project.

Nancy Kramer asked what the status of the Kmart property in Craig. Tom Gilchrist noted that Kmart will stay Kmart, however the Country General store will be remodeled to serve as a Big R store.

Susan Dellinger noted that she will be attending the dedication of the new crematorium at the Animal Shelter in Steamboat Springs.

Ken Gibbon noted that the SummerFest will be held in Hayden this Saturday, July 2nd. The Town will close off the street next to the town park and will have events, music, and activities.

Ken Gibbon noted that Hayden will be building a new ball park complex and that the community is beginning to struggle with pro/con sentiments regarding Triple Crown.

7.0 Other Business

7.1 YVEDC Administrative Costs:

Winnie DelliQuadri noted that for the past 5 years, YVEDC Administrative costs such as meals and mileage have been covered by beanpole interest funds. The beanpole interest funds have been spent, and now the YVEDC needs to find some other way to pay for basic administrative expenses. The YVEDC members discussed options and noted that prior to beanpole interest funds, all expenses had been shared by member agencies.

MOTION: Nancy Kramer moved that the YVEDC adopt a \$5,000 administrative budget for 2006, or \$833.33 per entity, with the City of Steamboat Springs as fiscal agent, and entities covering the meal expenses for the remaining portion of this year. Dan Ellison seconded. Motion passed.

8.0 Next Meeting

Future YVECC meeting dates and locations follow, all meetings begin at 6 PM.

- September 7 – Meeker (Kilowatt Korner)
It was noted that the September YVEDC meeting coincides with the first day of the Sheep Dog Trials in Meeker.
- October 5 – Hayden (Hayden Town Hall)

9.0 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

All agendas and minutes from the YVEDC are posted in the “document archive” link at www.yvedc.org. To automatically receive email notices about Yampa Valley Economic Development Council meetings and activities, join our email listserv by clicking on the “subscribe” link on the YVEDC home page.

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