MINUTES OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

June 4, 2018, 10AM, Commissioners’ Room, Afton

Board Attendees: Kathy Buyers, Bob King, DeLand Lainhart, Jeremy Larsen, Merridee Matson and Joel Neuenschwander. Also attending were Marti Halverson and John Woodward. Attending by video conference in Kemmerer were Amy Butler, Kate Zimmerman and a representative from All West. There were no representatives from Cokeville, Diamondville, LaBarge or Opal.

Chairman King called the meeting to order at 10AM. He asked for approval of the agenda. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Agenda. Everyone voted affirmatively.

Kate Zimmerman discussed her request and plans for her retail location in Kemmerer. The request of $5,650 is for electric, painting and flooring. The buildings are owned by JC Penney. The Board made a decision to postpone any action until such time that Kate works with Elaina on a business plan. She could then schedule another meeting with LCED.

Amy Butler discussed the Big Spring Scenic Backway in detail. Since its designation in the 1990’s, nothing has been done to market the area. She requested $20,000 for a planning grant that will include identification of trails and services, marketing and signage. After the plan is complete, she would apply for grants to implement recommendations. Because of the potential economic impact, DeLand made a motion to approve on the first reading; Kathy seconded.

Town Reports. Thayne. DeLand discussed the expansion of the market, and all agreed that it is extremely well stocked and spacious. Star Valley Ranch. Kathy said the Town’s Natural Resources Board is hosting a week of activities including the dog park opening. She will be traveling to Cheyenne to meet with SLIB. Afton. Joel said they have hired a new town administrator. Alpine. Jeremy said Melvin’s had its busiest weekend ever during Memorial weekend. He discussed the annexation and building in and near the town.
Marti Halverson discussed the Prevention Management Organization for at risk youth. They need volunteers for the Board and will be reaching out to the towns for recommendations. Marti will be going to Girls’ State next Saturday.

Commissioners’ Report. Bob was asked about the 5th Penny Tax, and he explained his position based on the fact that he has not seen all the documents.

SV Chamber. Merridee mentioned the grand openings, business after hours and the schedule for the Wasatch advertising campaign for the County.

Planning and Engineering. John discussed KJ’s at Alpine Junction. He noted that it should be open before July 4th. He talked about five more projects that will require sewer; the campground with cabins and open parking; and the 24-plex. New housing starts in Star Valley will easily exceed 120. He said there is a breath of new life for the Encana property, and he discussed in detail the public/private cooperation in providing fiber in the most rural areas of the County.

Old Business.

Funding for the Stockdog group was discussed. Since the fee structure was resolved between the Commission and the Fair Board, no further monies are being approved by the Board.

Funding for the Star Valley Half Marathon was approved on the second reading. DeLand made the motion to approve, and Joel seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve.

Funding for the advertising campaign for the Wasatch Front was discussed. Kathy made the motion to approve an amount up to $7,500; DeLand seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.
The Secretary/Treasurer duties and transition were discussed. Merridee said that the minutes and agenda should be published on the County’s website and asked for volunteers to do that. Sheriff Johnson said his office could handle this task.

New Business.

None.

At 11:55AM a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The next LCED meeting will be held on July 9, 2018 in Afton.

Respectfully submitted,

Merridee Matson