

Regular Meeting Minutes | Tuesday, May 8, 2018 | 7:00 a.m.

Rio Grande Club | Creede

Attendees: Karla Shriver, Dan Hicks, Rodney Reed, Dusty Hicks, Dakota Hicks, Mike Hurst, Lori Dooley, L Van Osdol, Shon Davis, Bruce Steffens, Kris Steffens, Suzanne Benton, Traci Holmes, Todd Small, Linda Robinson, Marty Asplin, Lyndsie Ferrell, Forrest Neuerburg, Gene Glover, Joelle Boos-Medina, Suzanne Bothell, and Bonnie Asplin

- I. **Call to Order** 7:08 by Shon Davis
- II. **Present Agenda:** M/S by Bonnie Asplin/Suzanne Benton; approved
- III. **Minutes of the March 13, 2018 meeting:** M/S for approval by Forest Neuerburg/Gene Glover ; approved
- IV. **Treasurer's Report:** Linda Robinson reported the account balance to be \$93,713.05, obligated funds \$47,160.47; approved Mike Hurst/Gene Glover.
- V. **Director's Report:** Spent time talking with SLV Hemp regarding what is coming up before Congress. Gave presentation to Rio Grande Tourism Board with power point. Attended the Colorado Tourism Office Roadmap workshop. Continue with the SLV healthcare sectors partnerships. Meeting with Matt Nehring at ASU regarding ongoing projects including SLV VIP Brand, Value-Added Ag, SLV Economic Summit and ASU's Office of Civic Engagement.
- VI. **Business:**
 - a. Shon went over list of meeting for the next few months.
 - b. Membership in URGED. It is a good way to be a part of the community. Consider joining individually on a yearly basis. We are just making enough from dues to pay Marty and Bonnie.
 - c. One example of Economic Development: Bonnie passed out an article by Smart Asset showing that Rio Grande County is a good place to buy real estate. RGC is ranked number 1 based on the numbers. It is the number one place in Colorado to purchase real estate.
- VII. **Program:** Tom Small, General Manager, Rio Grande Club and Resort. Tom Small has been the general manager of the club since 2000. He has worked under several owners prior to the Freeman Holdings Group. The Freeman Holdings Group's main business is FBO's (fixed based operations) and real estate. This past year the company has spent \$3.2 million in the community in building and golf course upkeep and purchase of real estate. They now have a new marketing director and a golf pro. They have 10 fulltime employees with up to 45 employees in the high season. \$750,000 was spent in the community in salaries and taxes. Membership has grown from 24 members to 121 members. Still down from the original 320 members. 80 percent of the members are summer guests. A new chef has been hired and will be opening daily for lunch and dinner beginning Memorial Day weekend. Questions and Answers followed.
- VIII. **Regular Reports:**
 - a) *Rio Grande County* – Transportation department has 4-5 projects for SLV. They include the Wolf Creek project, project on 112, and the Bus route project. Rio Grande County Museum is getting ready for their audit. A new financial director has been hired.

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- b) *South Fork* – They have a new town board and re-elected their mayor. Three brand new members on the board. They had 100 kids searching for eggs at Easter which was the best turnout ever. They are working on new town signs. A marketing plan has been developed and presented it to the business community to continue every 6 months. Make South Fork your base camp for adventure. Gearing marketing plan to attract special interest groups, i.e. hiking, ATV, fishing etc. They have an opening for a finance manager. June 9th will be a yard sale event. Last year they had 50 attend and their goal is to grow the event. They will be building a schedule of events for the second Saturday of every month.
 - c) *Del Norte* – They are getting closer to getting the lift started in the first step on the \$9 million sewer project. The first part of June the Windsor Hotel with the Del Norte Chamber of Commerce is holding their Del Norte Trails Showcase. 4-5 people from Colorado Tourism will be attending along with some media influencers. The school will be breaking ground in June and the town is looking to repurposing the buildings. Head Start is taking over the current elementary school and the fire department is slated to take over the field house. The Windsor Hotel has new ownership and a new chef.
 - d) *Monte Vista* – Will be awarding the last segment of the sewer project at their next meeting. They have filmed each section of sewer line. They have a new council member, making 5 council members that have never served before. Grants have been received for sniffer dogs and both dogs are being trained for drugs. They are doing water conservation and sprinkler systems can only be run for 3 days each week. Spring clean up days are Friday and Saturday. They aren't cleaning the alleys this year due to last year taking 3 weeks due to budget. The Hot Rod Dirt Race is coming up. It will be held by the Movie Manor. The following weekend is a motorcycle rally to benefit the veterans of Home Lake. They have engaged Local Business Assist for Monte Vista Business recruiting and business coaching.
 - e) *Mineral County/Creede* – They are gearing up for the summer. The flume has been repaired and construction has been started on the diversion with completion expected in August. New signs will be going up this month. The theatre will be opening soon.
 - f) *REWACT* – Received 2 economic development grants and are getting close to spending the larger amount. The water commission has funded mobile radar to study the snow pack. It was put up for last summer's rain storms. CDOT has joined the process to obtain a radar fixed base unit that will be in Alamosa. Alamosa County has stepped up to own it. Other owners will help put it together. CDOT put a proposal which was approved in the top 5. The project could be up to 2.5 million. This will give us real weather and be a revenue source.
 - g) *Village at Wolf Creek* – Update on how the expansion is going.
- IX. **Next Meeting:** June 12th at 7:00 at Mountain View Restaurant
- X. **Program:** Christian Grill, World Wide Business Consulting, LLC
- XI. **Adjourn:** M/S by Gene Glover/Forrest Neuerburg. Respectfully submitted, Linda Robinson