

Regular Meeting Minutes | Tuesday, June 12, 2018 | 7:00 a.m.

Mountain View | Monte Vista

**Attendees:** Kris Steffens, L Van Osdol, Tom Slade, Marty Asplin, Forrest Neuerburg, Suzanne Benton, Suzanne Bothell, Bernadette Martinez, Linda Robinson, Roni Wisdom, Andrea Oaks Jaramillo, Joelle Boos-Medina, Larry Crowder, Jim Clare, Christian Grill, Traci Holmes, Gene Farish, Kevin Wilkins, Karla Shriver, Gene Glover, Dan Hicks, Mike Hurst, and Bonnie Asplin.

- I. **Call to Order** 7:07 by Tom Slade
- II. **Present Agenda:** M/S by Bonnie Asplin/Suzanne Benton; approved
- III. **Minutes of the May 8, 2018 meeting:** M/S for approval by Forest Neuerburg/Gene Glover; approved
- IV. **Comment about Financials:** Tom Slade announced that the treasurer's report would no longer be presented and any member who wished could get information from a Board Member or Linda Robinson.
- V. **Director's Report:**
  - a. Marty spoke about regional and state media effect on our tourism and our report to the Rio Grande Tourism board about media attendance and attention at the recent Trails Showcase.
  - b. He noted the CU Boulder's Leeds School of Business's latest *Colorado Business Review* with multiple articles about Colorado's outdoor industry as a change agent, its impacts on rural Colorado, and its confluence with higher education.
  - c. Colorado Workforce educational session on mini lessons for soft skills videos through their Virtual Job Shadowing program; introduction to Prove-It tool for employers in their screening process; discussion of their job readiness classes; etc.
  - d. Working to set up this year's Valley wide Economic Summit on August 6<sup>th</sup> at ASU with excellent speakers and presentations. Plan to attend.
- VI. **Business:**
  - a. The Program Schedule is complete for the entire year with the exception of December.
  - b. Example of Economic Development: Efforts of the City of Monte Vista to maintain the Enterprise Zone which helps with Stampede. Taking advantage of the Enterprise Zone and get tax credit for their donation. A lot of people donated to the Valley Theatre and the Ski Hi Project.
- VII. **Program:**

Christian Grill, owner of World Wide Business Consulting, LLC gave the program. He discussed his background as a business leader with 25+ year of success in manufacturing and technology sectors for both global and start-up companies. Industry pacesetter talented in defining the right strategies, leveraging leadership and p & L experience for sales, marketing, operations and engineering activities on 4 continents. He is fluent in English, Spanish, Swedish and German. He went on to discuss organizational needs and the solutions and benefits. He discussed leadership styles, Strategic planning cycle.
- VIII. **Regular Reports:**

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- a) *Rio Grande County* – June 28-30 will be the second annual tour of Summitville. It is a beautiful site. A couple of years ago they put tables and interpretive signs. Sheriffs department jail project looking to hire a nurse to work at the jail and hospital. The bus route kicked off.
  - b) *Monte Vista* – June 30 is the first annual “Taste of the San Luis Valley” from 10 – 6 at Chapman Park. Some changes have been made to the court system. This has had a favorable impact on the jail. Saved \$15,000 over last year. The biggest news is the Ski Hi Building. The building has been considered safe. They will continue to work to improve the building. The City has put a water restriction in place for this year.
  - c) *Del Norte* – The sewer project is moving forward. Schedule is going out in July. Working every other week on planning Land Use Program. Construction on street lights should be wrapped up in the next 3-4 weeks. Movies in the Park will be starting Thursday.
  - d) *South Fork* – They are in the process of resurrecting their brand. “Base Camp for Adventure”. They had a ribbon cutting on low income housing project with 40 apartments. They are almost all filled up. The rent ranges from \$0 to \$600 depending upon income. Starting a major project for the town central water system. The engineering report was done 8 years ago. The focus is on three areas of town and will take it one area at a time. They now need to get funding. They expect it to take 2-3 years.
  - e) *REWACT* – Radar project is moving forward. This will help the valley monitor storms.
  - f) *Creede* – Creede Reparatory Theatre will be playing “Barefoot in the Park” and “The Wizard of Oz”.
  - g) *Saguache County* – Has a new school going up.
  - h) *SLVSBDC* – Has a new man on board. He started yesterday and will be a nice enhancement. He is excited to tackle leading edge business courses. They will open up a new contract and have recapitalization by October. Venture Fund has 9 million they need to deploy in Rio Grande County. Has 6 opportunity zones.
  - i) *Other* – San Juan Forest went into Stage 3. Rumor is that we aren’t far behind. Town fire works have been banned. Is there something we can do to tackle the media and explain that our forest is not shut down. Discussion about fire danger, tourism and what we can do about it commenced.
- IX. **Next Meeting:** July 6, Windsor Hotel, Del Norte
- X. **Program:** Arlene Harms, CEO Rio Grande Hospital to update the construction and renovation project at Rio Grande Hospital and the new programs to be offered.
- XI. **Adjourn:** 8:24 a.m. all approved. Respectfully submitted, Linda Robinson