

Regular Meeting Minutes | Tuesday, August 14, 2018 | 7:00 a.m.

Mountain View Restaurant | Monte Vista

Attendees: Tom Slade, Shon Davis, Bernadette Martinez, Kathy Rogers, Traci Holmes, Andrea Oaks-Jaramillo, Tom Monaco, Marty Asplin, Pam Bricker, Larry Crowder, Suzanne Bothell, Karla Shriver, Linda Robinson, Earl Robinson, Joelle Boos-Medina, Gene Glover, Jim Clare, Erin Minks, Gene Farish, Gary Johnson, Ron Douglas, John Noffske, and Bonnie Asplin.

- I. **Call to Order** 7:08 by President, Tom Slade
- II. **Present Agenda:** M/S by Bonnie Asplin/Karla Shriver; approved
- III. **Minutes of the July 10, 2018 meeting:** M/S for approval as presented by Andrea Oaks-Jaramillo/ Kathy Rogers; approved
- IV. **Director's Report:**
 - a. Community Open House for Flight Week: Unmanned Aircraft Atmospheric Research at Leach Airport. Met with several team from University of Colorado and other universities. SLV has potential to test UAVs in 25 of the 26 points. Alamosa County is trying to steer this industry to the Valley. Has the potential to grow. Education is one of the biggest things they are looking at to bring the industry here.
 - b. Radio interviews at KSLV: Mountain Biking in the Valley.
 - c. Helped with the 2nd Annual SLV Economic Summit.
 - d. SLV Air Service: Cal Air was originally chosen for air service at Alamosa Airport. They have changed their mind back to Boutique. Boutique has added a couple of King Airs and United Airlines has entered into an agreement with them.
- V. **Business:**
 - a. The calendar is complete for Programs for the year except for December. We hope to get December confirmed quickly.
 - b. Example of Economic Development: Flier on Art Scape. Alamosa is actively seeking a way to bring art down town. The idea of sculpture in public settings is a driver for this. It causes people to stop to see it. This gets people out of their cars and into businesses.
- VI. **Program:**

Ron Douglas, Local Business Assist spoke about Economic development in Monte Vista. He has been working with the City of Monte Vista for about five months. He is helping several businesses with how to manage business, manage funds and manage employees. He also does head hunting for businesses. Has met with several big corporations and given them a tour of the area. He is working with empty buildings and turning them into new businesses. This is the first time he has taken on a whole town to develop and has been learning what the different organizations are looking for. He has also been impressed with how many people in the valley are working on economic development. There is a gym opening in the old Radio Shack building next week, a sushi bar is soon coming to town, and a company working on water filtration is starting up. Potential businesses must go through an interview process before they start

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business in these locations. Some potential companies looking at Monte Vista are T-Mobile, a pizza brewery, and a tech school. Questions and answers followed.

VII. **Regular Reports:**

- a) *Rio Grande County* – Today they are going to preview the airport that was completed by CDOT. CDOT has made the Del Norte Airport their flagship airport. Ron Encore has moved his business to the airport in Del Norte. Harvest is on the way. They have started killing the potatoes. Jail nurse is in place and working on an agreement with Saguache.
- b) *Monte Vista* – Ron Douglas is not restricted to Monte Vista. The concept when it was set up was for all the Valley. Monte Vista had a foreclosure and used that as a business incubator. The foreclosed building is rented to a for-profit business with the agreement that the business would have to purchase the building in two years. The money from the sale of that building would go to the purchase of another building and so on.
- c) *Del Norte* – Friday at the Windsor is a public presentation of the Del Norte River Front Project. They can start advertising for the sewer project which is a 9-million-dollar project. The Board denied a liquor license for Alta. Town Board voted on a 2% increase to the sales tax. It now has to go on the ballot for vote.
- d) *South Fork* – They have a meeting planned the end of the month to do serious work/paperwork for the new water system.
- e) *REWACT* – Moving forward for radar project which is Doppler Radar. They are hoping to have it up and running by the end of next year.
- f) *Saguache* – They are moving forward with their school and sewer project.
- g) *Alamosa* – They are looking for a new police chief. Last weekend they built another Kaboom park which is a boys and girls park. The new Adams State University president started last month. Back to school starts next week and all the sanctions have been removed. Working on downtown art project and downtown improvement in general. They are doing a design study of the downtown area. Hoping to have a new plan on how to make it more business friendly and improve traffic flow.
- h) *SBA* – Tom is trying to reach out to all the communities in the Valley to get a better understanding of the community needs. Education programs for each community should be set up by next year. The SBA is located in Alamosa but it is not Alamosa based. He plans on spending one day each week in different communities. They are there to help.
- i) *Other* – The Farm Bill is moving forward in the Senate. Hemp has been declassified. Amtrak is not leaving the Valley. Alamosa Early Iron Festival is coming soon. September 8th is the Potato Festival. Creede Balloon Festival is around the same time.

VIII. **Next Meeting:** September 11th, Windsor Hotel, Del Norte

IX. **Program:** Jody Kearns, Rio Grande County Workforce Training.

X. **Adjourn:** Approved upon a motion by Gene Glover and second by Kathy Rogers at 8:13.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Robinson