

Regular Meeting Minutes | Tuesday, June 11, 2019 | 7:00 a.m.

Mountain View Restaurant | Monte Vista

**Attendees:** Marty Asplin, Linda Robinson, Bonnie Asplin, Dr. Cheryl Lovell, Shon Davis, Tom Slade, Andrea Oaks-Jaramillo, Tom Monaco, Pam Bricker, Gene Glover, Lyndsie Ferrell, Ron Fore, Marcus Shawcroft, Suzanne Benton, Gene Farish, Suzanne Bothell, Forrest Neuerburg, Tricia Slater, Brent Logan, John Noffske, and Patrick Shea.

**Call to Order** 7:13 by President, Andrea Oaks-Jaramillo.

- I. **Present Agenda:** M/S for approval by Bonnie Asplin/Gene Glover; approved.
- II. **Minutes of the May 14, 2018 meeting:** M/S for approval as presented by Bonnie Asplin/Pam Bricker; approved
- III. **Director's Report:**
  - a. Research on commercial buildings available for sale or lease in Monte Vista for possible hemp grow business.
  - b. Interview with Matt Kroschel, CBS Channel 4, Denver – regional recreation & economic impact and snakebite incident.
  - c. Attended ceremony by CTO awarding Raleigh Burt of Kristi Mountain Sports as one of the eight Top Frontline tourism Workers statewide.
  - d. Helped set up tour for Rio Grande Hospital, Del Norte River Front Project and Upper Rio Grande School District for Rural Philanthropy Days.
  - e. Spent time with Front Desk NM so they could film and create an article that will include Penitente Canyon, Del Norte River Front Project, and Pronghorn Trails. The article is being written for the LOR Foundation which has put \$2 million into the San Luis Valley via SLV CCI Grants
  - f. Continue working on the SLV Economic Summit on August 5<sup>th</sup> at ASU
  - g. Communications and rough out of adventure/heritage tourism tour guide itineraries for possible submittal to CTO's Field Guides on [www.colorado.com](http://www.colorado.com)
- IV. **Business:** One Example of Economic Development – the bike trails in Rio Grande County made the cover of *Colorado Central* magazine with an accompanying article.
- V. **Program:** Dr. Cheryl Lovell, President, Adams State University. Lovell highlighted some of the new programs at Adams State University. There is a new food study program that will consist of utilizing local food growers. This program draws on the attributes of the San Luis Valley as the local food economy is so strong. Another new degree is the Outdoor & Stewardship program with emphasis on conservation and adventure recreation. This degree will build on existing courses within the earth science program and adventure leadership. It creates a new degree focused on outdoor recreation. The program maximizes a student's experiences in real world recreation settings, and trains them in safe and responsible recreation practices. Other new programs include Public Relations, and Communications/Media Industry. The University is working to increase their online presence with new degrees. These new online courses will launch this fall and will offer several graduate programs. Lovell explained that they want to make this a destination campus. There are so many opportunities to offer

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students here: a lifelong learning experience (to aid in critical thinking, team playing, critical interpretations, thoughtful practices and problem solving), regional internships, service learning, and community-based opportunities. She stated that Adams State University's economic impact on Alamosa and the San Luis Valley was \$83.5 million. Some of those economic impacts were \$436.8 million in student living and personal expenses; \$5 million in employee impact on SLV health care; \$6.8 million on sponsored events and visitor spending; \$21.4 million in employee payroll and direct spending. The University will be celebrating their 100-year anniversary in May of 2021 and has plans for several events leading up to then. Questions and answers followed.

VI. **Regular Reports:**

- a) *Rio Grande County* – There is high water, but not calling it a flood. Jasper is a mess. The river is closed at Park Creek. Partial Fun Valley area is also closed.
- b) *Monte Vista* – Forrest Neuerburg reported that they are not working on their sewer project but the Friends of Ski Hi Park are working on the Ski Hi project to replace the events building. They are working on fund raising. They are getting ready for Stampede.
- c) *Del Norte* – Marty Asplin reported the they are working on their sewer project. Rio Grande Hospital had their grand opening. Gave tours to new services and equipment. Town concerts will be on Thursday nights in the park. Have a new motel, the Mellow Moon.
- d) *South Fork* – They are working on their water system. Loan closes today. They have 5 systems so far. There is high water, especially at he the confluence of the South Fork and the Rio Grande. Dan met with Davis Engineering looking at 5 different water companies. New restaurant opening July 1<sup>st</sup>. The July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration will be July 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- e) *Mineral County, Creede/RWEACT* – Celebration July 4<sup>th</sup> in Creede.
- f) *Saguache County/Center/Saguache/Crestone* – Saguache is working on sewer project and new school; Center is working on SRS program. Need to put crosswalks there.
- g) *Alamosa* – No report...
- h) *SLV SBDC* – Starting up Ag Business Program with Trinidad. Will be on Marketing and Branding. ASU intern started yesterday
- i) *SLVDRG/COG* – No report ....
- j) *Other* –

VII. **Next Meeting:** July 9, 2019, at Windsor Hotel, with program by Dr. Liz Hensley, ASU Business Department, Economic Impact Study.

VIII. **Adjourn:** at 8:05 on a motion by Gene Glover and second by Forrest Neuerburg

Respectfully submitted, Linda Robinson