



Campbell County  
Economic Development  
Corporation

■ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ■ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ■ WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

## 5-Year Economic Development Strategic Plan for Campbell County

# Steering Committee Meeting Notes

Cottonwood Room, George Amos Memorial Building

Monday, November 16, 2009

4:30 – 6:30 PM

### Committee Members Present:

Chris Shelledy, Megan Lehman, Doreen Schaar, Julie Simon, Dane Joslyn, Dan Barks, Jessica Louk, Mark Herrmann, Katie Allen, Linda Harris, Bob Zabel, Brenda Schladweiler, Clint Pickrel, Becky Pickrel, Stacy McDonald, Robyn Schonberg

### Planning Committee Members Present:

Jaime Tarver and Traci Conklin

### CCEDC Staff Present:

Philippe M. Chino and Mary Melaragno

- Co-Chair Chris Shelledy welcomed everyone to the second Steering Committee meeting. Chris also presented a Clarity of Process PowerPoint presentation. The slide explained that:
  - Task Forces to come up with one or two sentences that describes the Strength in general
  - Task Forces to come up with 5-10 bullet points that specify, through quantifiable measurements, why the above statement is a strength
  - Task Forces to come up with 5-10 bullet points to show how the strengths can be improved – Improvement Opportunities

The slides are on the Google Blog.

- Chris reported on how the task force members and the chairs of the task force should work with the three co-chairs:
  - Task Force members report to the Task Force Chairs

- The Task Force Chairs communicate with the Co-Chairs of Steering Committee and Philippe
  - The idea is not to micromanage but to make sure we have a fluid process
  - Task Force members should let their chairs or the co-chairs know if they have any ideas and use the CCEDC staff for any assistance needed
- Chris added that the Task Forces can reword the name of the Strengths if necessary. Also, if Strength did not make it in the top 10 initially, you can add it to only if it fits in with the rest of a Strength a task force is working on.

Each task force chair gave a five minute presentation on what they have worked on and the Steering Committee members had five minutes to discuss/make suggestions on what they heard.

### **EDUCATION TASK FORCE**

- Mark Herrmann, Chair, gave a PowerPoint presentation that described the Strengths and a few examples why they are quantifiable:
  - K-12 – Dropout rate/Graduation rate compared to Wyoming/ U.S, Testing Results
  - Gillette College – Percentage of enrollment increase in last 5 years, Number of programs
  - Family Oriented, Strong Sense of Community Pride/ Involvement – Business partner involvement in school organization, Number of volunteers in organizations, committees

Few suggestions from the Steering Committee members:

- Add dorms for Gillette College; K-12 school spirit is a strength; find student/teacher ratio; look at the number of kids who stay in college; find if there is a way to identify the number of students who attended Gillette College and staid in the community/state; parent-teacher conference attendance; consider the impact of the college on out of town kids, Moorcroft as an example.

### **TAX and FINANCE TASK FORCE**

- Dane Joslyn, Chair, gave an update for her task force:
  - So far they have assigned different responsibilities to the committee members
    - Bob Zabel is visiting with local bankers
    - Louann Borgialli is working on grants perspectives in the County
    - Susan McKay is looking into the tax advantages for businesses
    - Dane Joslyn is reviewing the current tax base and where it's going
  - The Task Force is trying to find what is quantifiable now.

### **GOVERNMENT TASK FORCE**

The Government Task Force thinks Strength #12, Good Financial Strengths of Government Entities, should be incorporated in the Tax and Finance Task Force. Both task forces agreed to share Strength #8, Business Friendly Tax/Regulation Environment.

- Katie Allen, chair, gave an update for her Task Force.
  - Determined that great infrastructure and facilities are Strengths and are working on breaking down public and private infrastructures
  - Assigned Clint Pickrel and Dan Barks to work with Wright
  - Working on finding out rates and who is comparable to Campbell County
  - Jaime Tarver is working with CCEDC to come up with a format to assist her committee members and be used in the future with potential businesses or anyone who wants to relocate to Campbell County
  - The task force realized after they found the Strengths, they were also finding a lot of weaknesses within that Strength

### **MINERALS AND AGRICULTURE TASK FORCE**

- Julie Simon, Chair, gave the update for her task force:
  - Needs to gather more information; task force found a lot of things that were opportunities, but need to work on finding things that are quantifiable.
  - Spent a lot of time on agriculture – which has turned into the hardest thing to quantify
  - Open to any help or contact information if anyone has any

A few suggestions from the Steering Committee: For agriculture look at a big industry such as hunting; agriculture gives us independence as a nation to be able to grow our own food and crops; possibly look at biotechnology related to agriculture; agriculture production may offset some of the mineral industry.

Chris stated the Steering Committee is looking for two or three volunteers to be on a P.R. committee. Some ideas mentioned were writing a blog, contacting the newspaper and local radio stations, write articles.

- Agreed to have the two or three individuals attend the on December 3<sup>rd</sup> so Philippe and Planning Committee can talk with them. Please contact CCEDC and let them know of anyone you have in mind
- Believe having a blog would be very beneficial so people can leave their comments and input; add phone numbers and email address in the newspaper articles so the public can give their input as well
- Steering Committee members should make sure to invite anyone that would like to provide input in our process, through the task forces. Experts in any of the areas the task forces are working need to be invited to come to the meetings.

**NEXT MEETING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> 4:30 – 6:30 PM. DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED.**

**WILL BE HELD IN THE WYOMING ROOM IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARY**