



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 Rm, George Amos Building

Tuesday, January 19, 2010

4:30 – 6:30 PM

### Committee Members Present:

Megan Lehman, Doreen Schaar, Dan Barks, Linda Harris, Norine Kasperik, Luann Borgialli, Nolene Wright, Stacie McDonald, Steve Laakso, Michael Surface, Bob Zabel. Guests, Dave Spencer and Paul Andrade

### Planning Committee Members Present:

Traci Conklin

### CCEDC Staff Present:

Philippe Chino, Brandi Beecher and Mary Melaragno

- Co-Chair Megan Lehman welcomed everyone.

### Minerals and Agriculture

- Doreen Schaar gave an update on behalf of Chair Julie Simon's task force:
  - Went over previous meetings PowerPoint
  - Wyoming is the largest in energy producers
  - Methane and oil are a large part of the economy
  - Tourism could be improved

## Tax and Finance

- Bob Zabel gave update on behalf of Chair Dane Joslyn's task force:
  - There are three different size banks representing Gillette:
    - National Banks – Wells Fargo, US Bank
    - Regional Banks – Bank of the West, First Interstate Bank, Pinnacle Bank
    - Community Banks – American National Bank, Bank of Gillette, First National Bank, Security State Bank
  - These appeal to businesses of varying sizes because of the ability to fund their present finance needs and future growth
  - Tax Benefits:
    - No personal state income taxes
    - No corporate state income taxes
    - No inventory taxes
    - Low property taxes. Various websites include coal severance tax so it looks like Wyoming has high property taxes, will need to explain

## Education K-12

- Norine Kasperik gave an update on behalf of Chair Mark Herrmann's task force:
  - K-12
    - Parental support, how can show is strong. Can show with parent/teacher conference, but can also be a weakness.
    - Brief discussion of turnover of students and the dropout rate
      - College
    - Discussed strong cross-section of community leaders from various industries
    - Support college by participating on Advisory Boards
      - Recreation
    - Amount of parks exceed per capita.
    - Have 67 miles of walking trails
    - Will add that Bell Nob Golf Course is 27 holes

## Government

- Megan Lehman gave an update on behalf of Chair Katie Allen's task force:
  - The City holds its annual Citizen's Summit
  - Commercial lenders love to see big numbers for commercial real estate
  - Need to be prepared to answer how community pays for infrastructure, etc. if are going to include large dollar amounts. Need to let know is not taken from taxes
  
- Philippe explained will compile the information with PR individuals from various businesses and come up with a unique marketing message.

- Weaknesses will begin on February 4th. Will have an assignment is to recruit 3 people with you who are interested in the weaknesses, whether they would like to be on a Task Force or have knowledge and information about a weakness.
- Norine is concerned haven't addressed health care as a strength. Philippe acknowledged but need to find ways to say Gillette's hospital is better than surrounding communities. Dave Spencer noted that the insurance in Campbell County is very good; some places don't get a lot of money because of bad insurance. Also noted that this hospital is an Acute Care Center. If anyone is interested in gathering strength information for the healthcare, is more than welcome to give the information to CCEDC staff.

**NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH 4:30 – 6:30 PM. DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED.**

**WILL BE HELD IN THE COTTONWOOD ROOM IN THE GEORGE AMOS MEMORIAL BUILDING**