



## Story County Economic Development Group Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2017

### Public Meeting Room – Story County Administration Building (Nevada)

ATTENDEES: Jennifer Davies, Scott DeYoung, Greg Schlueter, Amy Kohlwes, Dan Culhane, Matt Sexton, Lynn Schulte, Lauris Olson, Leanne Harter, Brenda Dryer, Mark Jackson, Abby Huff, Marty Chitty, John Haldeman, LaVon Schiltz, Jennifer Heithoff, Karen Davis, Jodi Meredith, Steven Gast, Sonia Arellano Dodd

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

**2. Approval of Minutes from August 17, 2017.**

*Scott DeYoung motioned, LaVon Schiltz second. Passed unanimously.*

**3. Presentation – Matt Sexton/Senator Ernst regarding Farm Bill and impacts on Story County**

Mr. Matt Sexton addressed the attendees, outlining the challenges and opportunities relating to the approaching deadline of the Farm Bill. The group collectively discussed issues related to the RFS, USDA loan guarantee programs, broadband, rural water, workforce, immigration, and rural transportation needs and challenges.

**4. Review and Approval of FY2018 Annual Allocation to each Community/Entity**

Chair Jennifer Davies handed out information regarding potential amounts. There was discussion as to how the amount for special projects and allocations have been determined based on past practices. Mr. DeYoung indicated support of not doing project funds, commenting that removes grant tensions away from the entire group. Mr. Steve Gast commented he was not in favor of removing funding for special projects. Mr. John Haldeman questioned whether funding would be added to the base amount. Ms. Lauris Olson noted the historical societies questioned whether some of their projects would qualify for funding. Mr. Mark Jackson reminded the group that funds need to be set aside every other year to assist with the Laborshed Study. Mr. Gast questioned whether changing amount for special projects would require amending bylaws.

*Motion: Approve as presented for FY18. Bring language forward to amend the bylaws at the next meeting noting each eligible community gets \$1,000 and up to \$4,000 for FY19.*

Steve Gast motioned, Greg Schlueter second. Passed unanimously.

## **5. Forms and Logos**

Ms. Leanne Harter distributed forms as required in the by-laws and logo developed by AEDC for usage by SCEDG.

*Motion: Approve logo and forms as presented.*

Steve Gast motioned, Dan Culhane second. Passed unanimously.

## **6. Community and County Updates**

*Maxwell*

The city is working with Story County to update comprehensive plan and urban revitalization plan. There is a developer interested in northeast area of the community.

*Collins*

The new firehouse is finished and occupied. A business acquired and is using the old.

*Colo*

The city is still working with the developer on a preliminary plat for the residential development west of town. The school bond issued failed, and communities are working with the school district for a questionnaire for newsletters.

*Ames*

The city has begun working through the comp plan process.

*Roland (EDC)*

New street banners have been installed. Continue meeting with property owners to have them keep going on plans.

*Gilbert*

South Gretten has re-opened. Fourteen acres each of city hall purchased by a developer, which will build out as a combination of residential and commercial. The wastewater system is at capacity.

*Story City*

All roads are now open. The North Park improvements in progress.

*Story County*

Story County considering paving highly traveled roads. At 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the way through the budget year, Story County is where thought to be during budget time.

*Huxley*

Three new site plans received along with 70 plus lots for residential subdivision.

*Nevada*

There continues to be a need for more housing in the community. The rec center is progressing, which may be shared school and city project.

*Zearing*

The new businesses opened 6 months ago closed, but a tentative other business has expressed interest.

*Roland (City)*

City Hall will be located now on main street.

*Kelley*

The city is working with Story County on the county shed development. A new business has opened and negotiations for sale of the empty lot on main street underway.

*Slater*

Building on Hwy 210 purchased by new business. City is working on citywide street paving.

**7. Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Items**

Ms. Dryer and Ms. Leanne Harter distributed and reviewed a preliminary proposal for consideration for the SCEDG to plan and host a countywide economic development summit in 2018. More details will be brought forward in January.

**8. Dates to Remember: none noted.**

**9. Next Meeting**

Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am in Story City.

**10. Adjournment**