



**Carbon Community Economic Development Board
Regular Meeting
December 17, 2024 10:00 AM
751 E 100 N Suite 2600 Price, Utah 84501**

Board Members Present:

Layne Miller
Larry Jensen
Oran Stainbrook
Jon Richens
Zak Konakis

Others Present:

Shanny Wilson
Debra McKee
Amy Anderson
John Reynolds

Meeting Minutes

Overview

The group reviewed grant applications, debating funding for established businesses versus newer applicants. They emphasized adhering to grant guidelines and prioritizing job creation and economic development. Some applications were ranked, with considerations for housing needs and community impact.

Action Items

Follow up with AJB to get more clarification on their application.

- 1.) **Welcome and Roll Call** - Layne Miller
- 2.) **Review, discuss, and approve previous meeting minutes from November 19, 2024** – Layne Miller. Jon's name is misspelled under Board Members.
Motion: Jon, as corrected
Second: Zak
Approved
- 3.) **Rural County Grant 2024 recipient report(s), if any** – Helper Beer, Swell Pet Supply
Amy from Helper Beer reported they were able to build a patio and purchase a box truck to help with deliveries, and unfortunately/fortunately they had to replace the roof that was not

planned. They have 20 employees, a great team, and everyone seems to enjoy working there. Business is a little slower than last year, but they are distributing a lot more beer up north.

John from Swell Pet Supply Plus discusses the expansion of their grooming services, including adding more tables and grooming classes. Their business has gone from five to three employees due to layoffs and resignations, but they are hiring again. They have increased their booking schedule for grooming from two weeks to five weeks and added reptiles, birds, and more shelving.

4.) **Begin discussion of Rural County Grant 2025 applications – Board**

The Rural County Grant budget for 2025 is \$202,000. A suggestion was made to hold off on awarding businesses that have received funding multiple times in the past and focus on newer applicants. The board discussed the need to follow the guidelines set for grant applications to avoid inconsistencies, and talked about the importance of sticking to the published deadline. Intermark Steel was eliminated from the ranking because their application was submitted late.

AJB Broadcasting is asking for help to purchase a business vehicle and there were questions about the specific budget and job creation. There were also concerns about the lack of detailed information in AJB's application. It was suggested to contact AJB for clarification before ranking their application accordingly.

Recollab was next. The board debated the feasibility of funding this project with the available budget. The board agreed that boarding-house style rooms do fit within the guidelines. The need for job creation and economic incentives were highlighted and this application was put as a medium priority.

Merit3D and Flawless Sheeting were mentioned next as they both have been funded more than once in the past. Merit 3D's application for a digital printer is a good idea, but it's similar to previous requests. Flawless application includes a building expansion and their ask far exceeds the \$50,000-max amount. However, they are expanding and providing jobs for the county. Both projects were ranked low for now.

Automail Industries applied for contactless sandblasting containers. The board discussed the potential impact of their project including job creation and economic incentives, but the board agreed to rank their application as low because of lack of information.

Carbon Country Club and the Castle Valley Animal Rescue applications were both concerning to the board because of the grant guidelines. Neither projects would have much of an economic impact. The Country Club wants to purchase chairs and update their outside facility. The Animal Rescue wants help with building costs and supplies. The board ranked these as low priorities for now.

CDE Property Management is asking for help with a new recovery home in Price and DDMK needs help with a comprehensive fire suppression system. Both projects have a positive economic impact with potential job creation. The board highlighted the need for

affordable housing and to continue the Helper Art Workshops. The Helper workshops have been a staple in Helper for 30 years. Both projects were ranked medium.

EMC Business Holdings was ranked low because their project to renovate the JC Penney building is too new to risk. The board likes this project, but they have been down this road before and hesitate awarding post performance projects.

Helper Saturday Vibes project to expand vendor spaces and purchase equipment was ranked high because of the positive impact they continue to have in the community. There is a lot of work that goes into these ongoing events.

Kilpatrick Fine Art project to help with HVAC implementation and parking was ranked medium. Kate's gallery is one of the only galleries/retail businesses open to the public. She is also a huge supporter of the community.

Marketing Elevated and Meaningful Mindz projects were ranked low because they're lacking the expansion piece of the application. Marketing Elevated is opening another arm of her business and Meaningful Mindz is asking for additional upgrades to their building.

5.) **Board member updates** – Shanny Wilson

Zak, Jon, and Oran re-applied to be on the board and were all approved. Congratulations.

6.) **Economic update** – Larry Jensen

The county has recently finalized the purchase of the Campbell land and are talking to three companies that want to locate on the property. Co2 Sync wants to purchase 10 acres and start with 2 units. Clean Development wants to lease 40 acres, they also have the ability to generate power which is encouraging. The third company we cannot talk about wants to purchase a large portion of the property and put in a rail loop. There's another 400 million dollar company that is starting to be very encouraging and would employ up to 200 people.

7.) **Other business?** We will meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:30am.

8.) **Adjourn**

Motion: Jon

Approved by board

Approved  _____
Layne Miller, Board Chair