

MINUTES OF THE DUCHESNE COUNTY ECONOMIC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD JULY 22, 2025, BEGINNING AT 12:00 P.M. IN DUCHESNE, UT, AS WELL AS ON ZOOM

Present -

Commissioner Tracy Killian, Irene Hansen, Economic Development Director Deborah Herron, Jenny Adams, John Zilles, and Commission Executive Assistant Melissa Hughes

Attending & Participating via Zoom –

Cody Ivie, Lori Haslem with GOEO

Lezlee Whiting and Tyson Stewart were excused.

Opening Comments & Welcome

Commissioner Tracy Killian welcomed all attendees.

Approval of Minutes from May 6, 2025, Meeting

Irene Hansen motioned to approve the minutes from May 6, 2025, as presented. Jenny Adams seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposing votes.

FY 2025 Rural County Grant Report

Economic Development Director Deborah Herron presented the Status Report for the Rural County Grant. The grant's breakdown was as follows: \$20,000 for Business Recruitment, Development, and Expansion; \$10,000 for Workforce Training and Development; \$90,000 for Infrastructure and Capital Facilities Improvement for Business Development; and \$80,000 for Business and Community Volunteer Mentoring, totaling \$200,000. She explained the progress of the Business Expansion and Retention (BEAR) program, as well as Consulting, Customer Service, and the Main Street Matching Grants. Pictures of some of the businesses that have been helped were shown. She described the Business and Community Volunteer Mentoring Grant that assisted the Thompsen House of Hope. She will submit the Rural Grant Reporting through the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO) Grant Portal. The parties discussed the grant and future goals. *John Zilles made a motion to accept the report as presented. Jenny Adams seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposing votes.*

FY 2026 Rural County Grant Preparation

Looking Forward – The parties discussed various promotional ideas, including a "While You're in Town" website promoting businesses that have signed up for the program, as well as marketing strategies. They aim to help visitors understand what is available and what activities to enjoy. The parties discussed the items they would like to continue with the grant, such as the Thompsen House of Hope and the Mainstreet Matching grant. *Irene Hansen made a motion to proceed with the FY26 Rural Grant Application, allowing for flexibility and continuing the programs initiated this year. John Zilles amended the motion to include partnering with entities that increase education. Jenny Adams seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposing votes.*

Adjournment

Irene Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:18 p.m. John Zilles seconded the motion. The forum adjourned.