

**BITTER ROOT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**  
**MEETING MINUTES OF November 27, 2007**  
**Iron Horse Brew Pub**  
**Missoula, Montana**

Board Present: Jean Curtiss, Ed Childers, Tom Gorman, Kevin Chamberlain, Jim DeBree

Others: Matt Jones, Tracy Stone-Manning, Wolf Ametsbiechler, Tony Rudbach, Charlie Wright, Marcy Allen

**CALL TO ORDER:** Jean Curtiss called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Kevin Chamberlain moved to accept the minutes of the June 20, 2007, meeting Ed Childers seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Jim DeBree moved to accept the minutes of the May 17, 2007, meeting Tom Gorman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Marcy Allen reviewed the Budget and Expenses of end of FFYO7. Jim DeBree motioned to accept the end of year budget and Kevin Chamberlain seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Kevin asked if Mineral County was short on match hours? Marcy answered no. Marcy Allen presented the 3 year budget that was submitted to the EDA for the three year planning grant. Jim asked to put cost of living increases in the Salaries. Matt Jones said that EDA's authorization expires next year and he will look into the potential impacts to BREDD's funding. Motion to adopt the three year budget was made by Tom Gorman, and Kevin Chamberlain seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The need for more cash match in future years was mentioned. The idea of distributing it by Per Capita was mentioned by Marcy as used by other regional organizations. Wolf Ambetchilier mentioned that the MACo district of Missoula, Mineral, and Ravalli Counties divides their WIA money 23% Ravalli, 8% Mineral, and 69% Missoula. Marcy will come up with the benefits of BREDD sheet to present to each county by next board meeting. We need to approach the Counties before they do budgets. Marcy Allen presented Q1 report for FFY08. Tom motioned to accept and Jim DeBree accepted. The Motion was carried unanimously

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

- President Curtiss said that we have had two resignation and seats on the board that need to be filled. Steve Green has left the City of Hamilton, and the Mayor has been asked to replace him. A vacant seat left by Robert Doore needs to be filled. Suggestion were made: Scott Sproll, Toby Hansen, Owen Robbin, Greg Stahl, Dan Huls, Look at CEDS committee list ( Engineering firms), George Masnick( Havard Joint Center for Housing)
- A Nominating Committee was formed: Greg Chilcott, Jean Curtiss, Jim DeBree
- Jean appointed Bob Struckman as secretary.
- Jean is going to send a letter to the Mineral County Commissioner to see who would they like to appoint to the board.

- President Curtiss discuss the EDA peer review, and how nice it was to meet Forlesia Willis.

## **ED REPORT:**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- ED Marcy Allen discussed the Wage and Benefit Survey and Forum. And asked the board what they would like to see done moving forward.
  - Tom Gorman said he would put BREDD and the Wage and Benefit Forum in the Chamber Newsletter.
  - Wolf Suggested a clearing house for supply and demand of training needs
  - The idea of pretrained employs was mentioned
  - Distributing the information, Aka Roadshow:
    - Jean said she would order a DVD from MCAT
  - The question was asked: Is there more money from NWAFF to do more in this region? Marcy said she would look into it.
  - Tom mentioned the work readiness program from the US chamber of commerce.
    - <http://www.uschamber.com/icw/strategies/workreadinesscredential.htm>
- New West Real Estate and Development in the Northern Rockies. Great PR for BREDD and we collected names for the Land Use Forum.
  - Matt suggested the Land Use Forum be a series of presentations vs a big initial meeting. Suggested that we look into existing informal groups already. Marcy said she would put together a steering committee to look at the idea. BREDD ability to bring people together and to attract the federal and state electeds.
- Conference and Classes:
  - Marcy talked about her IEDC class and the future of classes in Montana
  - The MEDA conference in Great Falls

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- BREDD is working with Missoula County to apply for EDA funding for the Economic Assessment of the Stimson millsite. Missoula County would be the applicant and BREDD would administer the grant.
- BREDD is working with Mineral County Challenge to get EDA funding for project. Mineral County would be the applicant.
- Marcy would like to look into creating a strategy for BREDD to help guide the organization.
  - Kevin suggested that Marcy put together a skeleton and work with the board from there.
  - Jean and Marcy will talk with Melissa Bangs about the idea of a Board Retreat and Strategy development.
- Marcy mentioned the idea of a Communication Assessment for the region and wanted to know if this would be something the board would be interested in.

**ADJOURN:** The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

