

SAN LUIS VALLEY DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES GROUP
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
April 17, 2017

A business meeting of the Executive Board of the San Luis Valley Development Resources Group, Inc., was held at the 610 State Avenue, Alamosa, Colorado. The following were present:

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Jeffrey Larsen-Mayor of Creede
Karla Shriver, Rio Grande County Commissioner
Ken Anderson, Saguache County Commissioner
Kent Curtis, First Southwest Bank-via telephone conference
Lawrence Pacheco, Costilla County Commissioner-Secretary/Treasurer
Michael Yohn, Alamosa County Commissioner
Ramona Weber, Mineral County Commissioner
Tom Acre, Manager, Town of South Fork

PROXIES

Ty Coleman, Alamosa City Council-Chairman
John Sandoval, Conejos County Commissioner
TJ Brown, Del Norte Bank-Vice Chair
Preston Porter, San Luis Valley Board of Realtors

STAFF

Kevin Wilkins, Executive Director
Anne Jones, Chief Financial Officer
Sarah Stoeber, Director Business Development

MEETING MINUTES:

CALL TO ORDER. Lawrence Pacheco called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.; he welcomed everyone and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. There were none.

Tom Acre made a Motion to approve the Agenda for the April 17, 2017 meeting; Karla Shriver seconded and the Motion carried.

Lawrence asked if there were additions or corrections to the Minutes of the last meeting. There were none.

Karla Shriver made a Motion to approve the Board Minutes from 3/20/2017; Ken Anderson seconded and the Motion carried.

PROGRAM REPORTS

Kevin Wilkins:

Kevin reported that the VIP Branding Initiative is wrapping up. There is a meeting on 4/27/17. There are 9 images for possible logos. This will be culled down to 3 or 4.

Broadband meeting is this Thursday. He will have more information after that meeting.

The DRG hosted OEDIT's Meredith Marshall. There were conversations about the central hub of economic development in the Valley as it relates to URGED, ACED, Costilla County (Bob Rael). Meetings cut short due to illness of Ms. Marshall.

Kevin attended the Northern Colorado Hemp Expo. He said it was a large notable event. Representation from the Valley was impressive: PowerZone, SCEED and the DRG to name a few. Kevin also assisted the Denver Chamber of Commerce with the Colorado Space Symposium by manning a booth. He wanted to shore up asset representation for the Valley.

Anne Jones:

Anne reported that the audit is drawing to a close. We took care of a lot of unexpected expenses in 2016; we hope 2017 will be a more 'true' year. There are no surprises. We had \$265,000 in extra expenses in 2016. The trend for 2017 is going in the right direction. The P&L is in good shape compared to last year at this time.

Anne went on to say that we'd like the Board to consider creating an audit review committee to review the audit prior to its being presented to the full Board on May 15th. This is an effort to again transition leadership from prior to current in as transparent a fashion as possible. WSB will attend and present the audit at the DRG's May meeting. Lawrence Pacheco, Jeff Larsen and Mike Yohn will serve on the Audit Review Committee. They will schedule a time to meet with WSB prior to May 15th.

Ramona Weber made a Motion to approve the financials; Tom Acre seconded and the Motion carried.

Staff Reports given by Kevin:

Hew Hallock--Website – Update on the SLVDRG's new Website continues with the information about SLVDRG – "Organization" – now posted. It includes a description of SLVDRG and the other entities for which we are responsible: SLVCOG; SLV Community Action Agency; San Luis Valley Great Outdoors; San Luis Valley Transportation Planning Region; and San Luis Valley Regional Transit Council. The next section, "Programs", is updated with program descriptions, links and documents about CEDS, Enterprise Zone, business loan fund. Next up is research and data, community profile, transportation planning, COG mini-grants, and events.

Transportation – The next meeting of the SLV TPR is May 4. At that meeting, members will sign the new Intergovernmental Agreement circulated at and after the last TPR meeting. The IGA establishes the TPR – a regional planning council – by the local governments in the San Luis Valley and Chaffee County. Counties and municipalities are reminded to sign and submit their signature sheets to Hew before May 1. Also, at the May meeting, the group is expected to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement that designates SLVDRG as the agency responsible for managing and administering the TPR.

Tonya will be out of the office at a State Colorado Community Action Association (CCAA) board meeting in Monument in May; Sarah will be attending the State BLF meeting in Burlington also in May, but not the same dates. We've had a lot of loan activity in the last month. We are evaluating the cost effectiveness of CAA.

LOAN ACTIVITY REPORT

April 17, 2017

LOANS IN PROCESS--2

CLOSED—0

PAST DUES—2

FUNDS TO LOAN AS OF 3/31/17

Federal	\$443,240
Non-federal	\$1,683,105
Total to loan	\$2,126,346

Tonya has been working with Wall, Smith & Bateman as they were on-site for the audit. She has several loan inquiries that she's working through to see if they are viable to begin the application process. An Appropriate Determination (loan write-up) will be going to Loan Review Board today in the amount of \$32,480 for vote. CAA is time consuming due to DOLA regulations i.e. final annual reports, Community Needs Assessment and the Strategic Plan for the agency.

Sarah has had four inquiries for financing both from local partners and prospective borrowers alike. She has one loan package that was recently approved by the Loan Review Board (LRB) that is waiting to fund in conjunction with lead bank. She has a second file she hopes to have ready for LRB to review if all goes as planned—around the end of next week. She has a third loan file to write up as soon as she gets this one approved. She is very busy with loans right now.

All 2017 COG mini grant funds have been approved for use by the COG Board, contracted with local municipalities, and work is in process. Quarterly report to DOLA has been submitted.

Mick Daniel, Director of San Luis Valley Great Outdoors is currently an independent contractor. His primary goal is to enact the SLVGO's Master Plan in all 6 counties of the San Luis Valley. Mick has continued the work of SLVGO's roundtable in which he works with county/state/ federal land managers, stewardship and conservation nonprofits, user groups, and regional schools and universities. He currently has active projects in trails and outdoor recreation in all 6 counties that he is working on. Alamosa: Inspire, Trust for Public Land; Saguache: Eastern San Luis Valley Trails, Alpine Achievers; Costilla: Concept Paper with Ben Doon to GOCO Connect; Conejos: Conejos Clean Water Inspire grant; Mineral County: Disc Golf Course outside of Creede on forest service land; Rio Grande County: South Fork Ice Park idea, 12 Hours of Penitence? MTB Race, and DiRT (Divide Forest Service Trails Roundtable). He is also tasked with forming a non-profit, working on Board development, and developing a long term funding plan for SLVGO as an entity.

Kevin went on to say that there are still several COG members who have not paid their dues. They received letters from Kevin in March asking for payment and/or communication removing them from involvement.

Karla Shriver interjected that the COG is very beneficial to the Valley as it helps to distribute monies that all of us benefit from. It takes a burden off of the commissioners in all counties.

There was discussion surrounding the need for a retreat and the possibility of combining it with the COG. Kevin stated he'd like direction from this board in terms of what their desired outcomes for staff might be for 2018. We'd like to showcase talent of our staff to maximize assets of each. The website will have resume of each staff member. It was decided that there will be a combined retreat for DRG & COG next fall. We will begin preparations.

Ken Anderson said he'd like to 'get out and about'.

Karla Shriver said we need discussion to clarify roles, goals and would be good to include individual economic development groups. We need to define mission statement.

Tom Acre asked if there is a strategic plan in place. Kevin responded that there is not, but there is a targeted industries study.

Lawrence stated that Costilla County Commissioners went back and studied the last studies that were conducted for their area. From those they will determine which are on-going issues. He suggested that each member come with a list of issues the DRG may assist their individual communities with to the next meeting.

Updates Around the Region

Tom Acre said the Town of South Fork is 25 years old. There will be celebrations surrounding this. They are going to enter a 'home rule' vote on the next ballot. He hopes to have ATV issues resolved before the busy summer months.

Karla Shriver said Rio Grande County is dealing with issues with employees and elected officials. There are hiring a new emergency manager and their coroner is new. She thanked the COG for the mini grant and said that because of the one awarded on 2016, they now have signage for Summitville and have built a park shelter with picnic tables. There will be an open house this Saturday at the Rio Grande County Museum from 2-4 p.m. Floyd Getz and Bill Ellithorpe will be on hand to share memories of days gone by. There is an increase in new home construction in the county. They will possibly put a tax proposal on the next ballot.

Ken Anderson mentioned that the COG board approved Saguache county's mini grant application. They hope to remodel the airport. Their excise tax is coming in on marijuana. They have hired a code enforcement officer and that is working out well.

Jeff Larsen said the COG board awarded them a mini grant which will be used to update the town gazebo. He was thankful.

Mike Yohn said they have jail over-crowding that is very costly to Alamosa County. They are spending \$10 million to add onto the existing jail which will be at capacity as soon as it is completed. The contract for construction was awarded to Van Iwaarden after being put out for bid.

Lawrence Pacheco thanked all those who assisted Costilla County with their snow removal last month. It cost the county \$250,000.

The meeting was adjourned 6:05 p.m.

The next meeting will be on Monday, May 15th, 2017, 5 p.m. at the upstairs boardroom at the Depot.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Stoeber, Director of Business Development

Lawrence Pacheco, Secretary/Treasurer