

**MINUTES OF THE MILLARD COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
AT THE COUNTY OFFICES IN FILMORE
THIS 7TH DAY OF AUGUST 2024**

**BOARD MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Evelyn Warnick Chairman of the Board
Dan Davies..... Vice- Chairman of the Board
Mark Huntsman Economic Development Board Member
David Styler Economic Development Board Member
Greg Roper..... Economic Development Board Member
Lucas Stevens..... Economic Development Board Member

**BOARD MEMBERS
NOT PRESENT:**

Kelly Carter..... Economic Development Board Member
Kolton Taylor..... Economic Development Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Paula Dewsnup..... Economic Development Secretary
Vicki Lyman- Via Phone County Commissioner
Patrick Mullen..... UAC

1. Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. Evelyn Warnick conducted and welcomed all in attendance.

2. Review and possible Approval of June 19th Minutes

David Styler made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mark Huntsman seconded. Motion carried.

3. Discussion on Snow College Grant – Jacob Nielson

Jacob went over a grant application with the board for final review. We are trying to put boundaries around who is eligible, that we want to do. We need to decide if we want to pay this per credit, show a passing score. We need to create a board so the applications can get the scholarships can get approved.

The application process would be the school, what degree they are going into, when is the expected graduation date. Are they enrolled or plan to enroll in the education program. Residency and what is the total cost.

This is the first step to the application process; the next step is to have a meeting with Snow College on the 28th. This is the interest meeting, and then start marketing to invite as much interest as possible. To see how many we will have. Snow College will send us some marketing information that we can post in the industries.

Mark said he had a couple of questions, you tie up this money and if the receipt fails how, you get off the ram out and does the money go to the applicant, and what assurances do we have that the money goes to where it is supposed to go. Whoever applies needs to know that if you don't finish this course the money won't be reimbursed. This needs to be on the application, or a discloser form.

Jacob, that is where the board needs to decide if it is all paid for at once or it is paid by credit. Then the next part they need to bring in proof that a passing grade and the class was completed before they get the next amount. That needs to be the boundary and a cap on this. We need to figure out how much we want to offer it depends on the course, but the cap can be \$5000 it just depends on the course. Evelyn said we have \$80,000 available for scholarships. That would be 16 students. We would need a minimum of five students to enroll to break even.

Evelyn said we decided to start this program and at the first of the new year reevaluate and see how things are going and what we need to change. Jacob said Snow College is hoping that we can help them create this program. This is a new thing for them. The \$85 is just credit, it doesn't include tuition fees, and the cost of the professors. Evelyn said Millard County will pay for the professors through the grant money.

Dave said that Snow College needs to provide a counseling service, to help the students. Evelyn said they do not need to apply for the Scholarship they can still come and take the classes, or even go through Snow it can be what college they want if they show that the classes were completed. This is just what we are providing.

Evelyn said we need to see what interest there is and set the end line for December 31st. So, we can see where we are at and continue or at least see where we are at. I don't want

to be tied past this year if we have issues, or if we need to make changes. Mark said then that way we can manage the expectations. Lucas said we just need to start, because there are people that don't go because they can't afford to do this, it just gets them in the door to start.

Jacob said he would get the application to the board for review and final approval. Then we will meet with Snow and let the board know what the next steps are.

4. Update on New Projects – Adam Richins

Adam gave a brief update on some new projects that are happening. There will be an RFP put out this week through IPP. Inviting any interested parties to make proposals. They will look at those and report back to the legislature by November. So, in the next couple of months, we will have a lot of people showing their cards. Two of the interested parties reached out and wanted to know what they had to do for zoning. They are not all data centers. There is a lot of movement going on. This has brought up some discussion for growth and what that may look like.

We have construction going on in the current projects, and this is before the new converter station starts along with the solar. So, construction will be here for an extended period. Some of the opportunities are around for that workforce will be prolonged and the accommodations will stay. So, anyone that is offering housing will like that.

One of those projects are looking at is the Shane Church project east of Delta. They came before the County Commission yesterday; they are looking to finish up without annexing into the city. One of the discussions is they going to be able to use those funds without doing that. So, they can bridge some gaps with infrastructure. That may look possible in the future, but not at this time

There are some interesting business licenses that are coming in that come through. Some of the basis of them. So, this group is aware of what is happening, one is a car dealer, and they must have a brick and mortar. He is putting it in a remote location in Millard County. So, he doesn't have to staff it, and mortar lets him operate under State requirements.

A couple of other things that are going on are down by Cove Fort there are a couple of Zone changes. By expanding and doing other projects. Another one is the Hodges they are looking at doing a tire shop.

5. Discussion on Grants for Next Year – Stuart

Evelyn introduced Wayne Cedar to the board. I work with New England transportation and have been with them for 15 years and I am the executive vice-president of recruiting driving and development. We run four CDL Schools they are called premier, we have one in Salt Lake City, Dallas, LA and Chicago. We have been a school for over 30 years, we have trained thousands of drivers. We have a strong system and spend a lot of time and energy trying to set up a training program efficiently. To give them the necessary driving time. 2020 was a crazy thing for our business. We have made a dramatic shift as an organization. We said OK we are going to move to a dedicated type of model. We used to be strictly over the road, but the rest of the network moved to more dedicated type positions. A lot of the huge private carriers made a difference on how our schools worked. We didn't need to hire as many students, we are able to hire drivers in different demographics. So recently we have opened our schools to the public. In the last year we have taken on 60 people a week, throughout the four schools. It takes ten days to get your CDL if you go through the process correctly. We have a dorm at our facility in Salt Lake City. So, they go through this high-speed process and stay in the dorm. They must have their permit beforehand. They must go to the DLD, get a physical but once they come to us, we take care of the rest. We will CLD them on site, and this is very effective.

I was talking to Stuart and asked him if there was any opportunity throughout the state and counties that need help getting their CDL. There are colleges that will take students however it takes a long time to get it done and you must wait in line to get there. Together we could fix both of those challenges. Our tuition is not cheap, it is \$5995 to come in. Part of the reason it is so high is we must get our own recruiters, travel and other things that cost money. If we could make some kind of agreement through the county, we could lower the price.

Evelyn asked how they handle the driving hours in ten days. Wayne said they were there driving the entire day. We don't do a lot of class work; they are required to come in with a permit. The state of Utah has reduced the requirement on the pre-trip. So, it takes a lot less class time. So, we put that time on the road, it is a 120-hour program, and they get a lot of driving and backing. They drive every assignment, and we track it. We have a recruiter that will help them with the materials and plan the course.

Wayne said one other thing that I want to bring up is this a compliment that Millard County does with the Colleges. I know that there is a need for CDL's, we would like to be complimentary on that. We have been around for 100 years; we would like to hire some of these drivers if we could and build a long-term relationship with Millard County.

The difference between what we were and what we are now is that we don't expect them to come to work for us. They can be on the road and work wherever; you go and get your CDL and there is nothing tied to us. They just can't have any interstate restrictions. Our success rate for the ten days is 50 percent. We have a strong relationship with the state, and they have asked us to train most of their evaluators, outside of our facilities. We try to fall in line with their standards. We try to give them as much time as possible to get their CDL.

Jacon said we would like to schedule a time to come and tour the facility. Partick said the thing we have been talking about is the opportunity on their side could be a pilot program. We have major workforce needs in the country and one of them is in this space. The idea is not to turn outward facing is how to create a public structure that is scalable. So hopefully the interest is there. This is a way to demonstrate on a small scale something that can be scaled statewide. We must figure out where the high institutional fit.

6. Other Business

Evelyn said I have invited Jenna Draper to come to the next meeting, along with ACES. It will be held on September 18th in Delta.

Stuart said he would put together an application for the board to review for final review to hand out to applicants.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.