

**MINUTES OF THE MILLARD COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
AT THE COUNTY OFFICES IN DELTA
THIS 28th DAY OF MAY 2025**

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Dan Davies..... Chairman of the Board
Kolton Taylor..... Vice-Chairman of the Board
Lucas Stevens..... Economic Development Board Member
Jeff Christensen..... Economic Development Board Member
Adam Richins..... Economic Development Board Member

BOARD MEMBERS

NOT PRESENT:

Evelyn Warnick Economic Development Board Member
Becky Callister..... Economic Development Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Bill Wright Commissioner
Jacob Nielson Millard County
Elaine Christensen Kousins Floral
Rod Christensen Kousins Floral
Brandon Shurtz Vortex Wireless
Abby Ivory R-6

1. Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m. Chair Davies conducted and welcomed all in attendance.

2. Review and possible Approval of April 30, 2025, Minutes

Abby Ivory asked to make an amendment to minutes. Adam Richins made a motion to approve the minutes with changes. Kolton Taylor seconded. Motion carried with changes.

3. Review and Discussion of Applications

Elaine Christian and her husband Rod. They are the new owners of **Kousins Floral**. It has not had any upkeep in many years. We have put a lot of money into this and modernize it. Kousins Floral has been a huge asset to this community. We have every funeral between Nephi and Fillmore, school dances, birthdays. We do this because we are the only ones in the valley.

It would be nice to drive by and see a cute little flower shop and a repaired building and that was inviting. That is what we are hoping to do, and it is on Main Street so this would add to the beauty of Delta.

Jeff asked if they would give a brief update on what they are updating and what they would use the funding for. Elaine said the sewer and the roof were repaired not too long ago. So, we are looking to do the surface on the outside of the building, new windows, doors a LED sign.

Brandon Shurtz with **Vortex Wireless**, we provide internet services to local people in Millard County. We purchased this company two years ago, and we are looking for purchase some equipment and upgrade. We have put close to \$60,000 of our own money into this. So we can have a more reliable service and cover more areas. It has a use life of 7 to 10 years.

Dan asked how this would benefit the economy of Millard County. Brandon said the high speeds can go 19 miles out and with the new equipment this can help more people remotely and have a longer range. Right now, we are only able to go five miles out.

Jacob said these are some things that I have put into consideration: is cost per job that is created. What is the quality of the job, full-time, part-time. Do they offer benefits. Is it wage competitive for the region? The sustainability of the job, industry type and local economy impact and then does it meet the criteria of the specific grant. I have a scoring matrix based on each of those key considerations that would give a point system to each one of those criteria's. This would give an objective way of measuring each of the applications and be consistent.

Dan said after you run it through that metric, and it approved it does not apply or cannot apply we really do have an interest in helping. Abby asked if the board is using the Rural County Grant funds, because they need to be used by the end of June. It doesn't have to be spent by them but it does need to be assigned to a business. So, when I put in my report, this business was given this much in a grant but has not spent it.

Dan asked Jacob to send an email to the board about the metric guideline system and more board involvement. Commissioner Wright suggested that in the guidelines we add community impact.

4. Update on Current Projects- Data Centers – Adam

Adam there have been several companies that have approached the county and indicated that they are pursuing projects. I will speak loosely on those as some have not submitted applications or are still getting information. In looking at the impact of the projects we have the tax base which has come up. The larger the tax base the smaller out individual proportionate share the actual dollars each of us must contribute towards funding operations of the county where the schools are diminished, which is quite nice.

There is a project that is being discussed and moved forward by McCormick, it is a data center with a generation component. There are also a couple of companies looking are areas around the Power Plant. This is the first application we have received for action, however not only application, they will be Fibernet Mercury Delta and do clean energy. At the last session some rules changed that allow them to generate, if they are over 50 megawatts, so they can come in and produce their own. These are big numbers so to point out this is at completion, and 20 years down the road and if everything goes the way they hope it will.

5. Presentation/Discussion with Abby Ivory

Abby said I did go to Commission Meeting and brought up a couple of things I am working with Fillmore City on a blueprint project that's with the Governor's office. It's mini economics strategy plan that they do. We are the first ones in the State that are doing this.

We have also applied to be in the Utah Main Street program. It is a program that's run through State Historical. This allows private business owners to apply for grants that can help with interior and exterior work.

I am working with Dave's Farms doing a UDAF grant. That is the Department of Ag and Food security grant. Abby went over a presentation with the board.

6. Other Business

The next meeting will be on June 11th in Fillmore

7. Adjournment

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