

***Our vision is to be the best resource for business assistance, through collaborations and partnerships,
for all communities within and surrounding Glacier County.***

Glacier County Regional Port Authority
Tentative May Board Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2022, GCRPA Office, Cut Bank, MT and via Zoom

- I. Roll Call
 - A. Present: Tom McKay, Ken Hoyt, Tony Sitzmann, John Overcast, and Neal Bartleson. Mike Wineman and Rod Cline attended via Zoom. Absent/Excused: Skye Gilham
 - B. Guests: Christy Madsen. Sarah Converse attended via Zoom.
- II. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Tony at 2:00.
 - A. Tom moved, seconded by Mike, to approve the May agenda. All in favor, motion carried.
 - B. John moved, seconded by Tom, to approve the April minutes. All in favor, motion carried.
 - C. Mike moved, seconded by Tom, to approve the April financials. All in favor, motion carried.
 - D. Ken moved, seconded by John, to approve the current budget as presented. All in favor, motion carried.
 - E. No bills to present.
 - F. No correspondence.
- III. Economic Development Presentation by Christy Madsen of Christy’s Creations. Following a question and answer period, Rod moved, seconded by Tom, to table the decision for a June vote. All in favor, motion carried.
- IV. Old Business
 - A. Overpass signage, next step – DOT was contacted. As soon as contractor is secured, Shawn Appley, Cut Bank Section Supervisor is to be contacted to be present when signs are put in place.
 - B. By-Laws Update – Sarah will send a template to simplify the process.
 - C. Scholarship Update – Recipients were announced to board. Taylor Grant, Browning H.S. Graduate and Wyatt Berkram, Cut Bank H.S. graduate, will receive the \$500 Supporting Success Scholarships. One \$500 alumni scholarship will be advertised soon.
 - D. Business Pitch Night Report – email report from Rich Gannon was read. Rod and Sarah both commented and had suggestions for upcoming Pitch Night events.
 - E. Annual Meeting – June 16, 2022, 4:00 p.m. at Water to Wine Steakhouse in Cut Bank. Board Member and Guest dinner will take place following the public meeting.
 - F. Other Old Business – The board was reminded of our late Chairman Fred Greco’s memorial service coming up on May 21 at 2:00 at the Civic Center.
- V. New Business
 - A. Following Public Comment, the Board closed the session to discuss litigation strategy with legal counsel regarding Human Rights Bureau Case No. 0220154.
 - B. Other New Business – A preliminary renewal comparison from the Montana Association of Counties Property & Casual Trust was presented to the board. It has been reported that the last two years have been under rated by the actuary for Glacier County Regional Port Authority, which has resulted in a considerable increase in premium. Secondly, Brenda will be attending the Montana Economic Developers Association

conference in Anaconda 5/24-26 and will be out of the office but available by phone or email.

- VI. Strategic Planning – Discussion took place as to whether to revise representation areas, as well as the board vacancy honoring the need for a CB City Council member. Brenda suggested another strategic planning training with new 501c3 status.
- VII. Activity Reports
 - A. Browning and area communities – looking forward to Clean Up Week. In East Glacier Park, Siyeh has purchased Leo's, and the Two Medicine Grill is now open 6a.m.-2p.m. The Lodge will be opening earlier this year, and Amtrak will be stopping daily going both directions. It was suggested that we continue communications for highway signage to read "East Glacier Park", as this is the town's name (not "East Glacier" as most signs read.)
 - B. Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce – Rod reported that he is working with the State, and he and Lisa are part of the Beautification Committee. Their first project is to improve the façade of the former Fashion Crossroads building, along with the old Sears building. They are working toward having murals painted.
 - C. Sweetgrass Development – MEDA conference next week, there is a new executive director of the organization. SGD is starting the CEDS (Community Economic Development Strategy) and will be conducting informal, "pop-in" style meetings in coffee shops, breweries, etc. to encourage folks to fill out surveys. There is an Economic Summit coming up in Bozeman on 6/2. SGD continues to work on ARPA funding, and will be contracting with a new Business Development Specialist.
 - D. GFDA – earlier comments on Business Pitch events
- VIII. Public Comment – none
- IX. Adjournment – Following closed session, meeting adjourned at 4:00 by Tony. Next meeting to take place on June 16, 2022 at 4:00 at the Water to Wine Steakhouse.

The mission of the Glacier County Regional Port Authority is to promote, stimulate, and advance the general welfare, commerce, economic development, and prosperity of its region.