

***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 18, 2023, 2:00 p.m., Medicine Spring Library, Browning, MT and via Zoom

- I. Roll Call
 - A. Present: Tom McKay (had to leave early), Mike Wineman, Rod Cline, John Overcast, Ken Hoyt, Skye Gilham. Absent/Excused: Neal Bartleson. Absent/Unexcused: Doug Vermulm, Tony Sitzmann
 - B. Guests: Sarah Converse, Greg and Linda Ferguson, Gary and Becky Dupuis, Sanford Stone
- II. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Mike at 2:08
 - A. Rod moved, seconded by Ken, to approve the May Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.
 - B. John moved, seconded by Rod, to approve the April Minutes. All in favor, motion carried.
 - C. Rod moved, seconded by Skye, to approve the April Financials. All in favor, motion carried.
 - D. John moved, seconded by Rod, to approve the Current Budget. All in favor, motion carried.
 - E. No bills to present.
 - F. No correspondence.
- III. Economic Development Fund Presentations
 - A. Ferguson Cleaning Supplies – presented via Zoom
 - B. Polson Theatres re Glacier Cinema marquis – presented via Zoom
 - C. Board vote will take place at June meeting.
- IV. Old Business
 - A. EDF Board Motions, Discussion, Votes
 1. Rod motioned, seconded by John, to award Mario’s Italian Kitchen with \$2000 from the economic development fund. The motion was approved 4-1, with no vote necessary from Chairman Wineman.
 2. Ken motioned, seconded by Rod, to award Leaning Tree Campground and Cabin with \$5000 from the economic development fund. The motion was approved unanimously, with no vote necessary from Chairman Wineman.
 3. Ken motioned, seconded by John, to award Suzie’s Store with \$5000 from the economic development fund. The motion was approved unanimously, with no vote necessary from Chairman Wineman.
 - B. HRB Case No. 00220154 and PA Case No. CV-22-81-GF-BMM-JTJ – no updates were available at May meeting.
 - C. 2023 Supporting Success Scholarship Applications will be made “blind” and emailed to Board of Directors.
 - D. 2023 Annual Meeting – June 22, 4:00 p.m., Cattle Baron Supper Club, Babb, MT. Board dinner to follow.
 - E. GCRPA Board of Directors will have two vacancies due to expired terms, one being a Browning Community Representative, one being a City of Cut Bank Representative. Applications may be obtained on www.glacierportauthority.org or by emailing

glacierportauthority@gmail.com. Applications may be emailed or mailed (P.O. Box 178, Cut Bank, MT 59427) ideally before annual meeting.

- F. Special District Insurance Coverage Update – Suggestions were discussed with Sarah Converse, Sweetgrass Development Director. The process has been much more difficult than anticipated.
- V. New Business
 - A. Economic Development Fund Policy clarification/amendment: According to GCRPA Revolving Loan Fund and Grant Policies and Procedures, Section 1, Organizational Structure, Staffing, the Board of Directors will have ultimate responsibility for the Loan and Grant programs and approvals.
 - 1. The Board of Directors clarified multiple grant application questions to the following:
Up to \$5000 in one-time grant allocation may be awarded to a for-profit business.
For further funding, said business is welcome to apply for the GCRPA Small Business Loan.
 - B. Administrative Concerns – GCRPA needs its own business phone and phone number. Update of job description is a priority.
- VI. Strategic Planning Session – Opportunity: Board Vacancies – possible tribal involvement, reminder to recruit responsibly.
- VII. Activity Reports
 - A. Browning – concerns regarding small businesses changing ownership. Graduation on Sunday, 5/21, upcoming research conference, recognition of clean-up in Browning area, particularly the Rez Monkeys.
 - B. Babb/St. Mary – everything is opening up for 2023 season.
 - C. Cut Bank – Thanks to community expo sponsors. Congratulations to CB Area Chamber of Commerce Citizens of the Year, Rod and Lisa Cline. Clean-up of Glacier Hotel in process.
 - D. East Glacier Park – concerns regarding small businesses changing ownership.
 - E. Sweetgrass Development – Montana Economic Developers Association spring conference in Billings on 5/22-24 (Sarah on Exec Committee), small attendance at annual meeting – set policies for next year, RLF grant and Assessment grant – will receive word in the next week, Succession training coming in October, CEDS is on website, Working with State Small Business Credit Initiative/admin is focusing on rural this time, Meat and Poultry processing relending program – working with Bear Paw, Snowy Mountain, MBAC, and Headwaters, USDA Rural Development program – working on press release.
- VIII. Public Comment – none
- IX. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned by Mike at 4:04. The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting on June 22, 2023, 4:00 p.m., Cattle Baron Supper Club, Babb, MT, and possibly via Zoom. Board Dinner to follow.

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.