

***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 March Board Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2023, 2:00 p.m., Medicine Spring Library, Browning, MT and via Zoom

- I. Roll Call
  - A. Present: Ken Hoyt, John Overcast, Rod Cline, Neal Bartleson, Skye Gilham, Tom McKay;  
Absent/Excused: Mike Wineman, Tony Sitzmann; Absent/Unexcused: Doug Vermulm
  - B. Guests: Sarah Converse, Sanford Stone
- II. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Rod at 2:06 p.m.
  - A. Tom moved, seconded by Ken, to approve the March agenda. All in favor, motion carried.
  - B. Neal moved, seconded by Tom, to approve the February minutes. All in favor, motion carried.
  - C. Neal moved, seconded by Tom, to approve the February financials. All in favor, motion carried.
  - D. Tom moved, seconded by Ken, to approve the current budget. All in favor, motion carried.
  - E. Bills to present – \$150 to the Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce for the Basic Membership. Ken moved, seconded by Tom, to approve. All in favor, motion carried.
  - F. Correspondence – none
- III. Economic Development Fund presentation by Mr. Mario McCullough of Mario’s Italian Kitchen and Big Chief E-Cigarettes in Cut Bank.
  - A. Follow-up to take place at April 2023 Board Meeting
- IV. Old Business
  - A. Human Rights Bureau Case No. 000220154 – no update after 3/21-3/22 hearing dates were vacated.
  - B. Port Authority Case No. CV-22-81-GF-BMM-JTJ – Federal hearing in Great Falls on 3/20 at 1:30 p.m.
    1. Executive Director to testify
  - C. Digital Loan Application – software purchased by Sweetgrass Development/GCRPA partner. The Board is fully in favor of utilizing the digital application.
  - D. Special District Insurance Coverage – As time is going by quickly, it was suggested to contact Rocky Mountain Insurance in Choteau, MT. Leavitt continues its search for an agent who represents Port Authorities.
  - E. 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Cut Bank Community Connection Expo – April 27, 2023, 6-8 p.m., Cut Bank High School Lobby
    1. Sponsored by Local Reimagining Rural Group in partnership with MSU Extension
    2. GCRPA is registered
    3. Tom moved, seconded by Neal, to freely allow Executive Director to purchase necessary items with which to participate in community functions. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. New Business
  - A. 2023 Supporting Success Scholarship – Board suggestions for essay prompt
    1. Relate the prompt to a current event. Email the Board for approval.

- B. 2023 Annual Meeting
  - 1. Date set as June 22, 2023
  - 2. Rod will speak to owners of Cattle Baron Supper Club in Babb, MT
- C. Glacier Cinema funding request
  - 1. EDF application will be sent and presented at April Board Meeting.
- VI. Strategic Planning Session
  - A. Discussion of board vacancies (two terms expiring) to be acted upon at or before Annual Meeting (one from Community of Browning, one from City of Cut Bank)
    - 1. Applications will be made available on website
    - 2. Advertisement suggested
- VII. Activity Reports'
  - A. Browning – Medicine Spring Library Annual Art Show 3/27-3/31. Glacier Peaks will have a St. Patrick's Day Event with Live Music from The Civilian on 3/18 from 9:00-1:15. The Skijoring event, organized by Manpower was a great success and is in the works for next year. 60 adults and 15 students were brought into the work force by Manpower for this event.
  - B. Babb/St. Mary – Extreme weather. Advertising and ideas on GNP reservation system are appreciated.
  - C. East Glacier Park – Glacier Park Women's Club had a potluck on Wednesday 3/15, featuring live music. The Peak Restaurant has a new phone number, 406-338-5722. The Peak also hosted the Skijoring and Manpower Event. The Fireman's Ball is back – it will take place on Saturday 3/25 from 6-9 p.m. at the East Glacier Park Women's Club and will feature live music by Drew Landry and Robert Hall. Tickets can be purchased at the door, \$25 for singles and \$45 for couples.
  - D. Cut Bank – CB Trails are looking for a new executive director. Beer & Business Pitch Event at Brewery was a tremendous success. New Businesses within Marketplace on Main: Border Ranch Western Wear, Stickleg Ranch, Happy Steer Ranch, Anna's Stash. Opportunities, Inc. is holding free Love & Laundry Parenting classes at Wash-A-Way Laundromat, March through May. Cut Bank Golf and Country Club will have St. Patrick's Day event on 3/17 at 5:00 p.m. Saturday, 3/18, the Shriner's Annual Crab Crack will take place at the Elk's. On Friday 3/17 5:00 p.m. through Sunday 3/19 2:00 p.m., the JMM Civic Center will host the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Shamrock Shootout.
  - E. Sweetgrass Development – On 4/26, Intro to Quickbooks Online from 9-4. On 4/27, Getting More out of Quickbooks Online from 9-4. Both will be taught by Wendy Weissman at the Conrad Moose Lodge. Sweetgrass Development will have their quarterly Board Meeting on March 30 at 2:00 p.m. at the Conrad Moose Lodge. Their 2023 Annual Meeting will take place at Buffalo Joe's in Dupuyer, MT
- VIII. Public Comment – concern for the Strategic Plan, with many Blackfeet Reservation businesses changing ownership.
- IX. Adjournment – Tom motioned, Neal seconded to adjourn. All in favor, and Rod adjourned at 3:35.
  - A. The next meeting will take place on April 20, 2:00 p.m. at the Cut Bank Office, and via Zoom.

***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.***