

***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 January Board Meeting Minutes  
January 19, 2023, 2:00 p.m., Medicine Spring Library, Browning, MT, and via Zoom

- I. Roll Call
  - A. Present: Ken Hoyt, Neal Bartleson, Tom McKay, Mike Wineman, John Overcast (Zoom); Absent/Excused: Skye Gilham, Tony Sitzmann, Rod Cline; Absent/Unexcused: Doug Vermulm
  - B. Guests: Sarah Converse, Lailani Upham (both via Zoom)
- II. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Mike at 2:10 p.m.
  - A. Tom moved, seconded by Ken, to approve the January agenda. All in favor, motion carried.
  - B. Neal moved, seconded by Tom, to approve the December minutes. All in favor, motion carried.
  - C. December financials unavailable, tabled until February meeting.
  - D. Neal moved, seconded by Ken, to approve the current budget. All in favor, motion carried.
  - E. Bills to Present – Invoice from Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA). Per advice from MEDA Board Member Sarah Converse, the GCRPA will renew its membership at the individual level priced at \$250. Tom motioned to accept, seconded by Neal. All were in favor, motion carried.
  - F. No correspondence received.
- III. Old Business
  - A. Human Rights Bureau Case No. 00220154, Port Authority Case No. CV-22-81-GF-BMM-JYJ Updates
    1. Closed meeting with attorney on December 20, 2022. Board brought up to date, attorneys actively working. Dates continue to fluctuate between State and Federal.
  - B. Loan Application – Board chose a format from documents presented. Neal moved, seconded by Ken, to table approval until a draft is presented via email. All in favor, motion carried.
  - C. Discussion of Board Members with expired terms. Applications to GCRPA Board were available and will be advertised as available on the website and social media. Tom moved, seconded by Neal, to accept applications until no later than February 13, 2023. All in favor, motion carried. Applications received will be reviewed for consideration at February 16 Board Meeting.
  - D. Special District Insurance Coverage Update
    1. No update from Leavitt, Brenda will begin working on search with Sarah.
- IV. New Business
  - A. Board Applications – covered in Old Business. Applications are available to download from [www.glacierportauthority.org](http://www.glacierportauthority.org)
  - B. FYI – Brenda attending Glacier Country Tourism retreat 1/22-1/24. Glacier County now has a full slate of officers on the Commission including Brenda, Ashley Kavanagh, Lailani Upham, and Linda Howard. Glacier County, Cut Bank, Browning, and Babb/St. Mary are aptly represented.

- C. Other New Business – Economic Development Day in Helena on February 7 in Capitol Building under the Rotunda. Reception for networking the evening of February 6. Tom moved, seconded by Neal, that Brenda be approved to attend. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. Strategic Planning Session
  - A. Discussed responsible recruitment process
  - B. Updated Board on funding request contacts. Follow up will be done with each contact, as our goal is to use what we have budgeted for Economic Development.
- VI. Activity Reports
  - A. Browning – Concern voiced on recent burglaries. BCC classes started on 1/17/23. The Medicine Spring Library has a “Maker Friday” where one can utilize all art and craft supplies. It is ongoing every Friday. Congratulations to C&C Meat Processing, Iron Shield Creative, and Sweet Pine Outfitters on being awarded grants from the Indian Equity Fund.
  - B. East Glacier Park – On Friday 1/20, there was a monthly Potluck Friday from 6:30-8:00 at the East Glacier Park Women’s Club. This was a community feed with live music and storytelling from local artists. Free entry was given for those who brought a dish, and prizes were awarded for the best main course, best salad, and best dessert. Advertisements have begun for the 2023 Glacier Half Marathon.
  - C. Babb/St. Mary – On February 11 (pending) there will be a Valentine’s dinner and dance at the Cattle Baron. Music will be provided by Scott Paisley, and everyone is encouraged to make reservations. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mike Augare Memorial Ice Fishing Derby at Duck Lake is on February 4 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For information, please call or text 406-450-1372 or 406-529-6112. A tribal fishing license may be obtained at [www.blackfeetfishandwildlife.net](http://www.blackfeetfishandwildlife.net).
  - D. Cut Bank – Cut Bank’s First Friday event will be on February 3 and will include card making, string art, and pasta making. First Friday is now partnering with the Cut Bank Public Schools Adult Education program. Event sites are Marketplace on Main, the Rose Petal, Illuminate Wellness, and Glacier Creative Arts. Marketplace on Main is taking shape and moving forward daily. The Cut Bank Elk’s Club is actively looking for a Club Manager. The Village has new owners, and is now open seven days a week. The Cut Bank Creek Brewery was recently featured on KRTV, and hosted a Pub Crawl on January 21. Participating with the Brewery were BJ’s, the Den, the Village, and the Pioneer. Dance classes have begun at Glacier Creative Arts, as of January 30.
  - E. Sweetgrass Development – SGD had a sponsor table for board members at the Great Falls Chamber Banquet. The SGD quarterly board meeting was on Thursday, January 26, at 2:00 at the Conrad Moose Lodge. Sean McGuire has finished his time with SGD and will be relocating to Denver. The legislative session is being closely monitored to protect the interests of economic development. The spring Montana Economic Developers Association Conference will be held in Billings. SGD is currently scheduling trainings for the rest of the year, to include DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise), Quickbooks, Social Media, and Customer Service. Ideas are being discussed for cleanup for the Glacier Hotel, as well as East Glacier Park. Requests for funding for Brownfield and Revolving Loan Fund have been submitted, results will be known in May.
- VII. Public Comment – None
- VIII. Adjournment – At 3:20, Neal moved, seconded by Tom, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, meeting adjourned. The next meeting will take place on February 16, 2023, 2:00 p.m. at the GCRPA Office in Cut Bank, MT, and via Zoom.

DRAFT