

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 Economic Development
December Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 18th, 2025, 2:00 p.m.
Glacier Satellite Office, Browning, MT, and via Google Meets

I. Roll Call:

Present: Rod Cline, Tony Sitzmann, John Overcast, Mike Schultz, Tom McKay, George Heavy Runner, Arkaidy Wisniowska

Late Arrival: Ken Hoyt

Absent Excused: Mary Jo Bremner, Skye Gilham

Absent Unexcused:

Public Present:

II. Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Rod Cline at 2:00 p.m.

III. Reports:

- A. John motioned, seconded by Mike, to approve the December agenda. Motion carried.
- B. Tony motioned, seconded by Mike, to amend the November minutes. Motion carried.

Discussion: Tom should be marked excused, not unexcused, on the roll call. Motion to amend minutes is made and passes.

- C. Mike motioned, seconded by Tony, to approve the November financials. Motion carried.
- D. Mike motioned, seconded by John, to accept the December expense budget. Motion carried.

IV. Old Business:

- A. Shop Local Winners:** Last 2 winners include Ryder Vanek for The Chop Shop, and Dale Rides at the Door for Cut Bank Auto Body. The current BOW is Subway in Browning.
- B. Present/Approve Final Strategic Plan:** The FINAL version of our new Strategic Plan is ready. No further changes are requested. Arkaidy will add graphic design elements to the final plan and publish it on our website. Mike motioned, seconded by Tom, to approve the final version of the Strategic Plan. Motion carried.
- C. Present/Approve Grant-Back Program Contract:** A contract has been developed utilizing the elements of the Grant-Back Loan Program Overview. Contract was sent out prior to the meeting for the board to review. Slight tweaks made, no major changes requested. Mike motioned,

seconded by George, to approve the contract. The program will go LIVE on January 1st. Motion carried.

V. New Business:

A. Next 2 Shop Local Businesses: O Reilly's Auto and Tee to Green, both in Cut Bank.

B. Executive Director Report:

- **USDA Grant Report:** Rod and Arkaidy met with Lad Barney, USDA contact for our USDA RBDG Grant. Things are still slow, but there has been some positive movement. We will continue to watch and be ready.
- **Reimagining Rural:** Arkaidy informed the board on a new possible partnership with The Blackfeet Planning Department and MSU-Extension to nominate the community of Browning for the 2026 Reimagining Rural Program.

VI. Activity Reports:

Browning: Christmas dinner giveaway December 18th at the Stickgame Arbor. Gathering of Sober People event held December 15th and will be held 1 Monday every month at the Crystal Creek Lodge. Holiday Youth Bazaar also on December 15th at the Stickgame Arbor.

East Glacier Park: Didn't find anything of note. Please add if you know of something!

Babb/St. Mary: Community meeting was held on December 8th in Babb to elect a community representative. Cassie Powell was elected. Blackfeet Language and Philosophy class December 18th, and every Thursday at the Bunkhouse at 6 p.m.

Cut Bank: Parade of Lights and Festival of Trees was held on December 6th. Lots of other holiday events have taken place including cookie exchanges, breakfasts, and church celebrations.

VII. Correspondence: None.

VIII. Public Comment:

IX. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m. by Rod. The next meeting will be on January 15th, at 2 p.m., at the GCED Office in Cut Bank, MT and via Google meets.

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