

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
(dba Glacier County Economic Development)
December Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 19th, 2024, 2:00 p.m.
GCRPA/GCED Office, Cut Bank MT, and via Google Meets

I. Roll Call:

Present: Rod Cline, Ken Hoyt, Mike Schultz, Tony Sitzmann, Neal Bartleson, Kim Stoltz, Arkaidy Wisniowska.

Late Arrival: Skye Gilham.

Absent Excused: John Overcast.

Absent Unexcused: Tom McKay.

Public Present: Lisa Cline, Janelle Eggly (USDARD), Cassie Powell (Babb Little Guy Wrestling).

II. Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Rod Cline at 2:03 p.m.

A. Mike motioned, seconded by Tony, to approve the December agenda. Motion carried.

B. Tony motioned, seconded by Neal, to approve November minutes as supplied. Motion carried.

C. Mike motioned, seconded by Tony, to approve the November financials. Motion carried.

Discussion: Unknown/past due \$40 credit card balance to be looked into.

D. Tony motioned, seconded by Neal, to accept the December expense budget. Motion carried.

Discussion: Scholarship budget should be at \$0, as we pay out scholarships in August.

E. No bills to present.

F. No correspondence.

III. Old Business:

A. Billboard Update: Stockman Bank paid for half, Glacier Tourism paid for other half. Next year we will look for new sponsors, and if we need to, we will pay half. The board was shown a print of the billboard design. Link to the discover cut bank website. No motion needed.

B. Scholarship Approval: We will again offer 2 scholarships of \$500 each, one in Browning and one in Cut Bank. Need to notify schools. Conversation about home schooled students and if they would be eligible. Ken motioned to keep scholarships as is, seconded by Tony. Motion carried.

C. Name Change: Paperwork has been filed and received. We are compliant and approved to do business as Glacier County Economic Development. No motion needed.

IV. New Business:

- A. Grant Request – Lisa Cline:** Lisa has made a request for \$5,000 to cover the cost of purchasing used coffee brewing equipment for a sit-down coffee shop to be built inside The Marketplace on Main. This new business will create at least 3 new jobs, increase traffic for current vendors inside The Marketplace, and create a meeting hub for the community. Lisa plans to work with the schools on school-to-work and also utilizing the shop and woodworking students to help build out counters. The business would need to net \$600 per month. Lisa will contribute \$2,000 of her own money for the renovation project. We will vote at the next meeting. No motion today.
- B. Marketplace on Main Winner:** Ruth Shea was the winner of the last shop local gift certificate from The Marketplace on Main. Drawing for the current winner from Napa Auto Parts will be this Saturday.
- C. Next Two Drawings for Shop Local:** January 6th – 19th will be Glacier Park Trading Company. January 20th – February 2nd will be Cut Bank Creek Brewery.
- D. Babb Little Guy Wrestling:** Cassie Powell spoke on behalf of Babb Little Guy Wrestling. They are trying to get the program going again and need help purchasing mats. Practice starts January 6th. Their Facebook page is Babb Little Guy Wrestling. There is a fundraiser with a Venmo link on their page for those who would like to donate.
- E. Executive Director Intro and Report:** Arkaidy Wisniowska introduced as the new Executive Director. Reported on spending time learning about the documents and processes of the organization. Spending a lot of time organizing folders and documents, and creating new templates. Arkaidy looks forward to working with local businesses, working on new grant opportunities, and also improving socials and current website.

V. Activity Reports:

- A. Browning:** None.
- B. East Glacier Park:** None.
- C. Babb/St. Mary:** None.
- D. Cut Bank:** None.

VI. Public Comment: None.

- VII. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned by Mike at 3:11pm. The next meeting will take place on January 16th, 2024, 2:00 p.m. at the Glacier County Satellite Office in Browning, MT and via Google Meet.

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.