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EMIC Outreach Event

The EMIC partners and their “Energy Impact Study” consultant team, led by Jones, Lang, LaSalle, hosted a two day outreach event in Miles City, March 14th and 15th. The event was well attended by several community leaders from throughout eastern Montana. Topics of interest included housing, civil infrastructure, and public services, as well as rural land and assets. The public input received will be compiled, along with extensive data, to create a document that will provide a “roadmap” for sustainable impact mitigation.

The entire event, along with personal interviews, was filmed by Montana PBS producer Scott Sterling. Footage will be incorporated into a documentary entitled “Boomtown Country,” scheduled to debut in 2016.

Next EPEDC Quarterly Board Meeting

Wednesday
July 24, 2013
Baker, MT

at the Fallon County Courthouse
9:30 a.m.

Contact Information

Comments or questions?

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Local Project Updates

The Town of Terry Growth Policy was finally adopted April 11th. Both Evelyn Cameron Heritage, Inc. and the Prairie Co. Chamber of Commerce were happy to hear they received funding for their projects. ECH was awarded a Southeast MT tourism grant for the creation of an advertising video, and the chamber will benefit from a \$5,000 e-marketing grant from the MT DOC for a new website. Furthermore, the requested funding for Dawson Co./Glendive’s growth policy update was approved by the state’s Main Street program. Plevna Public Schools will also be receiving a grant from the BSTF to match funding put forward by the district. Funds will be utilized to research possible options for a housing development on school district property.

In legislative news, HB 11 which contains TSEP funds for Glendive, Dawson Co., and Plevna looks as if it will pass, as does HB 6 which also contains funding for those three entities. Revisions to the Tax Increment Financing District statute may provide additional options for developers, and continued Coal Board funding should benefit development of the Otter Creek area. An inflationary increase request made by the MT Econ. Dev. Assoc. (MEDA) for the core programs used by econ. dev. organizations was pulled of the table as funding grew limited. These programs have not received any increases in many years; MEDA will revisit the effort over the interim.

On a bright note, HB 218 which provides infrastructure funding for oil and gas impacted communities should pass into law. As it stands, the bill would make \$15 million available immediately and \$10 million available in each subsequent year through June 2020. This funding will be critical to the success of local projects designed to create and manage sustainable growth throughout eastern Montana.

New Regional Employees

The Eastern Montana Impact Coalition (EMIC) recently hired two new employees to fill positions created by the 16-county regional development project.

Regional Coordinator

Tori Matejovsky was raised in Bellingham, WA but has family ties in both Wolf Point and Butte. Most recently a Project Manager for the Ag/Extension department at Fort Peck Community College, Tori has six years of experience seeking funding for various projects in the agriculture and community education sector. She is married to Dana Matejovsky, and has two children – Annaleigh and Cash.



Tori is looking forward to working with GNDC and the Eastern Montana Impact Coalition to develop projects that best meet the needs of eastern Montana communities.

Regional Planner

A former Military Civil Engineer with nine years’ experience, Guy Hopkins recently received a Master’s degree in Bioregional Planning and Community Design with an emphasis in Economic Development from the University of Idaho. He has over six years of experience as a certified planner for USDA and is a member of the American Planning Association.



Having relocated from Idaho to Terry, Guy began work as the regional planner for EMIC in March and is excited about the prospect of working with local organizations, as well as municipal and county governments to address planning issues.

“The best way to predict the future is to create it.”

-Peter Drucker

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**The EPEDC serves the following participating counties and municipalities:
Carter County, Dawson County, Fallon County, Prairie County, and Wibaux County,
as well as the City of Baker, the Town of Ekalaka, the City of Glendive, the Town of Plevna,
the Town of Richey, the Town of Terry, and the Town of Wibaux.**