

Volume

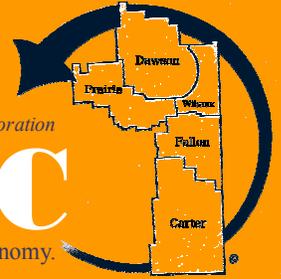
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July 24, 2013

Eastern Plains Economic Development Corporation

EPEDC

... providing support for a better economy.



Upcoming Events

Montana Economic Development Summit

Butte

September 16-17, 2013

Downtown Conference

Billings

September 25-27, 2013

Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA)

Sidney

October 3-4, 2013

Next EPEDC Quarterly Board Meeting

Wednesday

October 23, 2013

Ekalaka, MT

at the Ekalaka Event Center

9:30 a.m.

Contact Information

Comments or questions?

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Local Project Updates

The members of the Eastern Montana Impact Coalition (EMIC), in conjunction with North Dakota Southwest Developers, held a MonDak meeting at the Gem Theater in Wibaux April 26th. Eighteen professionals shared a host of concerns, project updates, and best practices related to rapid regional development. EMIC promised to share the final draft of their regional study when it's finished in October. To view a summary of ND's recent activities, visit: <http://www.visionwestnd.com>

May came and went in a flurry of activity! EPEDC staff attended both the Eastern MT Energy Expo in Glendive May 15-16th as well as the MT Housing Partnership Conference May 21-23rd in Missoula. It has already been announced that next year's conference will be in Miles City, May 20-22nd.

While regrettably no infrastructure/impact funding was provided via HB 218, TSEP funds that were approved will help complete two planning projects in Terry and Fallon Co., in addition to two construction projects in Plevna and Dawson County. Tash Wisemiller, coordinator for the MT Main Street Program, also visited the area to announce his program would continue to provide funding for planning projects. Plus, a successful BSTF application will help complete a feasibility study related to the expansion of municipal services along the Sidney highway near Glendive.

In other news, regional planner, Guy Hopkins, recently helped formulate an emergency management plan for Dawson Community College. EMIC/EPEDC staff is currently in the process of searching for funding that will hopefully provide new locks for the campus and dormitories.

Also, the Ekalaka amendment to the Carter County Growth Policy was adopted, and the new Ekalaka Library opened its doors to the public June 3rd. A round of successful grant applications provided Caviar grants to the Pierre Wibaux Museum for new signage and to ECH for materials to refurbish its facility. PPL awarded ECH an additional \$10,000 for the Evelyn Cameron Heritage Center façade (pictured above l to r: Lisa Perry, PPL; Glenda Ueland, ECH; Jason Rittal, EPEDC). Meanwhile, the Prairie County Museum is moving forward with plans to further update its main building.

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EDFP Certification

On July 12, EPEDC Assistant Elizabeth Smith received certification as an Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP) from the National Development Council (NDC). Certification is a designation given to individuals who successfully complete an intensive economic development training series that is conducted by NDC. The courses provide individuals working in the field of economic development with training in credit analysis, real estate financing, loan packaging, deal structuring and negotiating, as well as the creation and implementation of development programs.

The New York based NDC was established in 1972 and is a private, non-profit corporation, specializing in economic/housing development training and technical assistance. NDC has provided training to approximately 50,000 development professionals. EPEDC Executive Director Rittal received his EDFP certification in 1997.

The MT Department of Commerce helped facilitate the NDC training series. An average of 30 participants from MT and WY took part in the four courses required for certification over a two-year period.

"Continuous effort – not strength or intelligence – is the key to unlocking our potential."

-Winston Churchill

Eastern Plains Economic Development Corporation
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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.**