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### EMIC Update

The Eastern Montana Impact Coalition (EMIC) has collected numerous comments on the Regional Impact Study from various individuals and entities. The Coalition is working through those comments with the project's contractor Jones, Lang, LaSalle (JLL). Our intent is to include as much additional material and address as many comments as possible, within the scope and funding available for the project. Please know that your comments did not go unnoticed and that we are working to improve the draft. When a revised/final draft is available, it will be posted on the EPEDC website and word will be spread regarding its availability.

### Next EPEDC Quarterly Board Meeting

**Wednesday**  
**April 23, 2014**  
**Glendive, MT**  
 in Carney Room #2 at the  
 Glendive Medical Center  
**9:30 a.m.**

### Contact Information

#### Comments or questions?

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### Local Project Updates

Several infrastructure projects in the region continue to move forward. Plans and specifications for Phase I of Plevna's water improvement project have been submitted to DEQ for review. The first part of the two phase project will go to bid in the next few months; construction is set to begin Spring/Summer 2014. Applications for Phase II funding are being prepared by the EPEDC and will be submitted in May. The EPEDC will also be preparing grant applications for the Fallon County Water & Sewer District (FCWSD), as well as the Town of Terry, whose Preliminary Engineering reports are well underway. The consultant hired to complete the Sidney Highway feasibility study in Dawson County recently met with property owners and is looking at alternatives for extending city water, in addition to determining an appropriate "planning area" that would be serviced and proposed for annexation.

The EPEDC helped Dawson County submit two applications for funding related to the expansion of their county jail and justice center. Plevna Public Schools received its consultant's market study, outlining a high demand for housing in the area, and is currently working on conservative site layouts for property development.

Also, in response to an expressed interest in expanding Carter County/Ekalaka's tourism potential and the need for an updated community needs assessment, the EPEDC assisted the Carter Co. Chamber assemble a MT Tourism Assessment & Planning Program (MTAPP) application. While the state elected to award Ennis with assessment assistance, the EPEDC will continue to support both the county and town as they move forward with various tourism and/or planning projects.

The EPEDC is helping Terry Public Schools with their search for funding which would provide additional infrastructure related to campus safety. And, last but not least, the new Prairie Co. Chamber and Prairie Co. Government websites are finally complete! Please feel free to visit: [visitterrymontana.com](http://visitterrymontana.com).

### EPEDC Board President Retires

The EPEDC staff and Board of Directors want to take this opportunity to acknowledge William "Bill" Loehding for his service as the EPEDC Board President from its inception in the fall of 2006 through the end of 2013. Bill's leadership, understanding of key regional issues, and support were essential in giving the EPEDC time to prove itself as a regional organization.

Bill served through numerous projects – some that involved Carter County/Ekalaka, as well as many that did not. Yet, he always found time to give his thoughts and perspective regarding how to proceed when tough decisions needed to be made. He truly understands the relationship between the region's counties, communities, and residents, as well as how important it is to work together for the greater good.

If you happen to run into Bill, please thank him for his service to Carter County and the EPEDC, and be sure to wish him well in his much deserved retirement.



"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."

-Albert Schweitzer

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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.**