

Volume

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Eastern Plains Economic Development Corporation

EPEDC

... providing support for a better economy.



this issue

Innovate MT conference

Both EPEDC staff members, Beth Epley and Elizabeth Smith, traveled to the Innovate MT conference held in Billings, July 13th and 14th.

Governor Steve Bullock was on hand to interview a diverse group of entrepreneurs from all over the state, regarding their experiences as business owners.

The event was well-attended by economic development personnel, nonprofit groups, industry leaders, makers of all ages, as well as state and federal entity representatives. The keynote speaker for the conference was Debbie Sterling, founder and CEO of GoldieBlox.

Next EPEDC Quarterly Board Meeting

**Wednesday
October 19, 2016
Baker, MT
at the Fallon County Courthouse
9:30 a.m.**

Contact Information

Comments or questions?

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Local Project Updates

A TSEP construction grant application, seeking additional funds for Prairie County's Milwaukee Road Bridge Rehabilitation project, was submitted to the MT Department of Commerce at the end of April.

The Prairie Community Hospital board held its project bid opening June 21st. The hospital will be entering project construction soon. An additional \$7,500 in project funding from TransCanada will provide for the installation of new emergency lighting in the facility.

The Fallon County Water and Sewer District (FCWSD) held its project bid opening June 27th.

The EPEDC is helping Evelyn Cameron Heritage, Inc. in Terry prepare a Tourism Infrastructure Grant to fund the organization's bathroom addition project.

A note from Executive Director Beth Epley

My first month with the EPEDC has been a whirlwind (with a tornado literally hitting my house and many others in Baker). What a way to start! Both nationally and internationally, destruction and violence has been at the forefront of the news and foremost in our minds. In the midst of all the chaos, I am encouraged to see people from all across eastern Montana come together and unite for a common purpose. Their willingness to pitch in and to sacrifice

for the benefit of others are some of the most noble characteristics a person can display, and eastern Montanans are consistent in demonstrating these features.

The Prairie Community Hospital team has shown resilience and commitment in the face of budget issues. They speak frankly and honestly when addressing problems and have made difficult decisions with the patients' and the community's interest in mind. Once completed, the improvements at PCH will be a testament to the work of a wonderful team. In the same way, Dawson County has shown great perseverance in their pursuit of the Dawson County Wastewater System Project. They have made extraordinary efforts to connect West Glendive and Glendive through infrastructure and through their commitment to service. The Town of Terry has opted to gather more information, so that they can move forward fully-informed and assured that the integrity of the town's project remains intact.

It is because of examples such as these, as well as countless others, that I am both excited and proud to be from Montana and to get to work with such quality individuals. The EPEDC will remain passionate about supporting Carter, Dawson, Fallon, Prairie and Wibaux counties, while doing all that we can to improve the lives of the wonderful people who live here.

"Innovation is taking two things that already exist and putting them together in a new way."

- Tom Freston,
American entertainment industry executive

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 Elkalaka, the City of Glendive, the Town of Plevna,
the Town of Richey, the Town of Terry, and the Town of Wibaux.



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