



2010 MEDA Fall Conference
Energizing Montana's Economy

September 14th – 15th, 2010 * Copper King Hotel, Butte, MT

Thanks to our sponsors:



Tuesday, September 14th

Registration and Meet-n-Greet. Attendees enjoyed beverages and fingerfoods while waiting for everyone to make their way across Butte after the closing of the Montana Economic Summit.



The conference began with an update from the Governor's Office of Economic Development. View the presentation titled [Montana is on the Move](#) which contains Governor Schweitzer's vision for economic development for Montana, Montana's Economic Development Scorecard and much more. Presenter: Chief Business Officer, Evan Barrett, GOED

Dore Schwinden, pictured right, Director, Montana Department of Commerce, provided a brief update on MDOC activities. Each attendee was introduced to Dore and shared a project they are working on at this time.



John Rogers, left, Economic Development Officer for EDA, shared an important powerpoint presentation that detailed changes taking place within the EDA grant application process. If you missed the conference, you can catch up on the changes by [viewing the presentation](#).

Review and Discussion of Legislative Issues and Agenda Items

To help MEDA Members obtain a clearer picture of pending legislative issues, two partners were asked to present their legislative agendas: Webb Brown, Montana Chamber and Harold Blattie, MACo.



Webb Brown, Montana Chamber
[Click here for Information on Montana Chamber issues](#)



Harold Blattie, MACo
[MACo Proposed Resolution List](#)



An SBA Program Update was provided by Robert Much, SBA

To truly showcase Butte, the Butte hosts planned a tour and dinner at Our Lady of the Rockies.



Our expert (and energetic) bus driver.



The view from the top.



Zanya Betley, Bryan Reilly and Ken Richardson



Steve Arveschoug, Ken Richardson and Chad DeLong



A peek inside (l to r) tour guide, Sam Korsmoe, Larry Gallagher and Bryan Reilly



A view from the back.



A traditional Pasty Dinner was sponsored by NorthWestern Energy.

Wednesday, September 15th

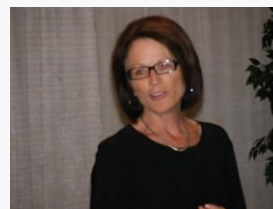
The morning began with Congressional Greetings. Thanks were extended to MEDA for supporting the Montana Economic Summit.



Erin Gabrian, Rep. Rehberg



Pam Haxby Cote, Sen. Tester



Kim Krueger and Liz Ching, Sen. Baucus



MEDA Members Legislative Discussion



MEDA Legislative Committee Chair Rick Edwards led a discussion of issues and agenda items of importance to MEDA in the upcoming legislative session.

[View the One Time Only Report](#)

Putting an Energy Project Together: Mill Creek

Panelists shared how the Mill Creek Project came to fruition.



Panelists John Fitzpatrick, NorthWestern Energy (standing), Director of Government Affairs; Becky Guay, Chief Executive, Anaconda Deer Lodge County (far left), Jim Davison, Director, ALDC and Headwaters RC&D.

MEDA Working Groups

MEDA's Membership indicated interest in reforming or starting the following Working Groups:

- Value Added Ag: Jan Tusick (Chair), Collin Watters, Joel Clairmont, Brian Gion, Sarah Converse and Tracy McIntyre
- Energy: Debbie Singer (Chair), Warren Harden, Tracy McIntyre, Sarah Converse,
- Innovation and Strategic Planning (Forwarding Economic Development in MT): Steve Arveschoug (Chair), Marcy Allen, Sam Korsmoe and Russ Fletcher.
- Leadership Support and Training: Gib Turner (Chair) and Kara Graetz
- Transportation: Zanya Betley (Chair), Brian Gion, Kara Graetz
- Brownfields: Gib Turner (Chair), Linda Twitchell and BarkAlbee
- Economic Gardening: Marcy Allen (Chair), Kara Graetz and Kim Morisaki
- Native American Economic Development: Barbara Stiffarm (Chair)
- Workforce and Education: Zanya Betley (Chair), Sandra Long, and Kara Graetz

An email will be sent informing the MEDA membership of these groups. Members will be invited to join a group of interest to them. The Chair will then schedule a conference call for next steps.

THANK YOU TO THE MEDA FALL CONFERENCE AGENDA COMMITTEE:

Rick Edwards, Chair; Jim Davison, Warren Harden and Jim Smitham