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MEDA BOARD WEB PORTAL WORKING GROUP

June 19, 2013

10:00am – 11:00am

On the call: Chris Mehus, Chair; Tony Preite, J.P. Pendleton, Rick Edwards, Julie Foster, John Rogers, Elizabeth Williams, Andy Shirtliff, and Gloria O'Rourke.

Web Portal Working Group

Chris Mehus gave a brief background of the Web Portal Project which involves building an organized and effective web presence for Montana's economic development organizations and resources. Working in partnership with the state's web framework, it would further allow for continuity of message and a clear path to services for any business or site selector considering new or expanded operations in the state of Montana.

The idea is to present a clear picture to those within the state and outside the state of economic development activities and resources in Montana. Outcomes will be to influence recruitment, demonstrate existing business services and promote Montana overall.

In reviewing the draft for the state's website, there is an obvious demonstrated need for the economic development web portal. John Rogers agreed with this observation and said the main emphasis right now is the small business portal. John also said the vision from the state is to build much more than a website and to contain state-of-the-art interactive options. The state of Kentucky's site is a good example of where the state's website is headed.

Tasks:

Issuing the RFP

- Stipulate that the project will enact once funding is available.
- Begin the search for funding now.
- Advertise on Craig's List and MEDA, along with other Montana listserves.

Action Items:

- Julie will share an RFQ for the City of Hamilton's website.
- Gloria will share the RFP for the Innovation Working Group interns.
- Chris and Gloria work on the RFP and send out a draft by Friday; comments are to received from this committee 06/28.