20 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP AND PROGRESS

MEDA
MONTANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION

1993 - 2013
Before there was MEDA:


• Montana Economic Developers Association became incorporated on September 24, 1993.
A look back at
Economic Development
Professional Network - 1988

PRESENT:
- Butch Ott, Billings
- Evan Barrett, Butte
- Carol Daly, Kalispell
- Ron Klaphake, Missoula
- Jerry Tavegia, MDOC
- Elly Walkawiak, Lewistown
- Becky Smith, Bozeman

Purpose: Networking, Programs, and Public Policy

Membership Focus: Full time paid staff of an organization that has primary responsibility for economic development.

Several topics of the day: Taxation, Education, Workers’ Comp, Liability Tort Reform, Finance, and Incubators.
CHRISTMAS CARD LIST
FROM 1989

- Butch Ott, Billings
- Bob Heffner, MDOC
- Dixie Swenson, Bozeman
- David Hemion, Helena
- Evan Barrett, Butte
- Carol Daly, Kalispell
- Ivan Wallgren, Deer Lodge
- Ron Klapheke, Missoula
- Dennis Anderson, Great Falls
- Webb Brown, Thompson Falls
May 2, 1991

Dear Montana Economic Development Coalition Participant:

The semi-annual meeting of MEDC (Montana Economic Development Coalition) will be held at Big Sky, MT on June 6-7. MEDC was formed in May 1989 to create awareness of various programs for economic development, to create cooperation between program providers, to consolidate activities, where possible, and to cooperatively enhance the quality of economic development in Montana.

We are sorry for this short notice, but we wanted to see the outcome of the 1991 legislative session before planning the agenda and we need to do it before vacations. So come HELP PLAN MICRO-BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM and participate in our semi-annual meeting.

The 1991 Legislature appropriated $3.25 million to Business Development Division in the Department of Commerce for a micro-business finance program. That money will be lent at low interest, to capitalize up to twelve regional revolving loan funds. Bob Heffner will update us on the status of this initiative, identify some key issues to be settled in making rules for the new program, and ask for audience input on these rules.

In the enclosed tentative agenda there are two sessions set aside for your input called "What Works Sessions". We would like you to send us a FAX explaining programs you are aware of that work to create economic development. We will choose several to include in these sessions. Mail to MEDC or FAX to Jerry Christison, Secretary, at 449-5474. We also have not selected all the speakers for the other panels. If you would like to be included please contact Jerry at 449-5381 as soon as possible.

The lodging at Golden Eagle is very reasonable. $18.00, if you are willing to share a rustic suite with two other people. There are three baths per suite--or you can make your own reservation at Bucks T-Bar at 995-4111. Registration fee of $25.00 will include the network dinner (Steak or Chicken Barbecue). Please RSVP by May 20 so we can make your room arrangements and plan the meals.

For those of you who want to extend your stay...this is the peak of white water rafting, there are tennis courts, a golf course, fishing and a new restaurant at Lone Mountain Guest Ranch. You can call 1-800-548-4488 to extend your lodging or change to condos or other facilities.

We developed a notebook that contains information on the programs of all attending members. We encourage all resource providers who have not done so to fill out and send in your information on the enclosed sheets so you will be included. We have additional notebooks available for anyone who would like one for information and/or become members, for $5.00.

A look back at Montana Economic Development Coalition 1991

Members:
Unknown except Jerry Christison was Secretary.

Purpose: Meet semi-annually to create cooperation between program providers, to consolidate activities, and to cooperatively enhance the quality of economic development in Montana.

Membership Focus: Economic developers, program providers, those engaged in economic development events and activities.

Several topics of the day: What Works Sessions, gathering program information, micro-business finance, revolving loan funds.
A look back at
Professional Economic Development Developers
Association of Montana - 1992

MEMBERS:
• Jim Davison, Anaconda
• Carol Daly, Kalispell
• Butch Ott, Billings
• Jim Smitham, Butte
• Dixie Swenson, Bozeman
• Penny Copps, Missoula
• Evan Barrett, Butte
• Janet Seagrave, Great Falls
• Tony Preite, Havre
• David Hemion, Helena
• Ron Klaphake, Missoula

Purpose: Economic professionals who have a common interest in efficient and effective operation of key federal economic development programs.

Membership Criteria: Association of full time economic development directors in the state who represent communities of over 10,000 people.

Several topics of the day: rural development programs, Farmers Home Administration improvement.
December 2, 1992

Senator Max Baucus
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Max:

PEDA is the association of full-time economic development directors in the State of Montana who represent all of the communities in Montana, over 10,000 people. As a group, we have a common interest in the efficient and effective operation of key federal economic development programs, and the most important are the Farmers Home Administration and the Rural Development Program.

For administrators agricultural loans as well as the rural economic development programs we have previously mentioned. In the past, those appointed to the Director's position have been more schooled in agricultural loans than they have been in rural economic development. Because of this, Montana's FMHA office is virtually impotent when it comes to rural economic development programs.

We all know that the condition of the rural economy is a disaster. The rejuvenating of the rural economies in Montana will be accomplished not only from increased agricultural revenues, but from an energetic application of rural economic development programs. Only then can we sustain the main streets of small town Montana in the face of the structural...
MEDA IS INCORPORATED WITH THE STATE OF MT
SEPTEMBER 24, 1993
MEDA’S FIRST BOARD MEETING
October 13, 1993

FIRST OFFICERS:
• Ron Klapakhe, President
• Dixie Swenson, Vice President
• Jim Davison, Treasurer
• Jim Smitham, Secretary

ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBERS:
• David Hemion
• Penny Copps
• Dick King
• Evan Barrett

MEMORANDUM

TO:       Rick Jones
FROM:     Jim Smitham
DATE:     2/7/94
RE:       Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA)

Recently the "Dirty Dozen" formally organized and filed letters of incorporation. The new group is known as the Montana Economic Developers Association. We would like to invite you to join the organization and attend our next meeting in Bozeman on 2/4/94 at the Grantree Inn. The meeting is scheduled to start at 12:00 with a no host lunch and should adjourn by 4:00. The agenda for this meeting will be coming out soon. Hope to see you in Bozeman.

This memo is historic for several reasons:
* Written to Rick Jones, for whom MEDA Scholarships are named.
* Written reference to “Dirty Dozen”.
* Montana Power Company letterhead.
MEDA FINANCIALS
1994

MEDA had 38 members at this time.

Four additional board seats were filled at the July 26, 1994 meeting:

- Kara Ricketts, Park County Economic Development Corp
- Gary Moe, Missouri Valley Development Corp
- Pat Blade, Beaverhead Development Corp
- Ray Beck, DNRC
Andy Poole
A true champion for Montana!
What is MEDA?
An association of economic development professionals, business specialists, government employees, and staff members of affiliated non-profit organizations which promote or foster economic development activities in Montana.

Purpose
Sponsors educational seminars, workshops and conferences to advance the economic development profession.

Membership
Open to individuals who promote community and economic development in MT on a full-time basis or who are employed by an organization devoted to fostering economic development.

Scholarships Begin
The founders of MEDA were pleased to describe MEDA as “high on networking and mutual assistance but low on organizational structure.”

- Prior to December, 1998, the MEDA President was responsible for keeping track of MEDA’s membership.


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Agreement for Services between
The Montana Economic Developers Association and
The Montana Rural Development Partners, Inc.

This is an agreement between the Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA) and the Montana Rural Development Partners, Inc., (MTRDP). This agreement outlines the services the MTRDP will provide for MEDA. This agreement starts on this date, December 11, 1998 and continues through December 31, 1999.

The MTRDP will provide staff support services for MEDA. The hourly rate for these services will be $25/hour with a total amount not to exceed $1,500 for the term outlined in this agreement. The materials required to perform the assigned MEDA services, such as paper, copying charges, long distance telephone charges, postage and mailing materials, or other required supplies, will be accounted for separately and will not exceed $500 for the period outlined. To the best of their ability, MTRDP will account for the hourly work and materials required to perform the MEDA assigned activities. MTRDP will submit an accounting of the hours worked and materials used to MEDA on a quarterly basis. If during the contract period, the MEDA assigned work exceeds the total contract amount or the materials cost exceed the contract amount, approval from the MEDA Board of Directors will be required to change the contract amounts.

The MEDA activities identified as of this date include: sending out and processing the annual membership applications and dues; establishing and maintaining the MEDA membership list, e-mail, and fax tree; preparing a MEDA membership directory; preparing, mailing meeting notices and processing registrations for the Spring and Fall MEDA conferences. Other work assignments requested by a MEDA member that will require a substantial amount of time or material requires approval by the MEDA president, vice president, treasurer or secretary before MTRDP performs the work.

We, the undersigned, representing our respective organizations, agree to the conditions, term, amounts and projects outlined in this agreement.

Jim Smitham, President
Montana Economic Developers Assoc.

Gene Vuckovich, Executive Director
Montana Rural Development Partners, Inc.
MONTANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION (MEDA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHARTER/FOUNDING DIRECTORS (9)

Organization/ Designated Representative

Anaconda Local Development Corporation - Jim Davison
Bear Paw Development Corporation (Havre) - Dick King
Billings Area Chamber of Commerce - Pamela Wagner
Butte Local Development Corporation - Evan Barrett
Gallatin Development Corporation (Bozeman) - Christina Boyle
Gateway Development Corporation (Helena) - Lynn Robson
High Plains Development Authority (Great Falls) - Tim Ryan
Jobs Now, Inc. (Kalispell) - Alf Barnette
Missoula Area Economic Development Corporation - Ron Klapheke

ROTATING DIRECTORS (up to 11)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name/Organization</th>
<th>Term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill Barr - Richland Development Corporation (LDC - Sidney)</td>
<td>2001</td>
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<td>Ray Beck - Montana Department of Natural Resources (Government - State)</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td>Anne Boothe - PhilCo Economic Growth Council (LDC - Malta)</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td>Janene Brown - First National Bank of Libby (Business - Banking)</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td>Kate Chiotisis - Southeastern MT Economic Development Corp. (LDC - Colstrip)</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td>Matt Long - Park County Economic Development Corporation (LDC - Livingston)</td>
<td>2001</td>
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<td>Andy Poole - Montana Department of Commerce (Government - State)</td>
<td>2001</td>
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<td>Linda Reed - US WEST Communications (Business - Telecommunications)</td>
<td>2001</td>
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<td>Jim Smitham - Montana Power Company (Business - Electricity/Natural Gas)</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Tuss - Glacier Action &amp; Involvement Now (LDC - Cut Bank)</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td>Vacancy</td>
<td>2001</td>
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1999-2000 OFFICERS

Jim Davison - President
Paul Tuss - Vice President
Bill Barr - Secretary
Dick King - Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS 1999 - 2001
MEDA BOARD TODAY

Nine permanent seats

- Anaconda – Jim Davison, Anaconda Local Development Corporation
- Butte – Jim Smitham, Butte Local Development Corporation
- Billings – Steve Arveschoug, Big Sky Economic Development Authority
- Bozeman – Stuart Leidner, Prospera Business Network
- Great Falls – Brett Doney, Great Falls Development Authority
- Havre – Paul Tuss, Bear Paw Development Corporation
- Helena - Joe McClure, Montana Business Assistance Connection
- Kalispell - Kellie Danielson, Montana West Economic Development
- Missoula – James Grunke, Missoula Economic Partnership

Rotating Seats

- Martin DeWitt, Great Northern Development, and Native American seat (2014)
- Jason Rittal, Eastern Plains EDC/CRDC (2015)
- Anne Boothe, Triangle Telephone*, Malta (2014)
- Larry Mires, St. Mary’s Rehab Project, Glasgow, (2014)
- Ken Richardson, CTA Architects Engineers*, Missoula (2014)
- Kathie Bailey, Snowy Mountain Development Corp. (2015)
- (Brian Gion, Montana Cooperative Development Center, Great Falls/statewide (2015)
- Andy Poole, Montana Department of Commerce, Helena (2015)
- Tracy McIntyre, Eureka Rural Development Partners (2015)
- Jim Atchison, Southeastern MT Development Corp., (2015)
- Chris Cerquone, NewFields, Missoula, MT

Officers:
President – Tracy McIntyre
Past President – Larry Mires
Vice President – Jason Rittal
Treasurer – Rick Edwards

Ex Officio: John Rogers, GOED; Meg O’Leary, MDOC, Tony Preite, USDA/RD and Gloria O’Rourke, Secretary.
MEDA 10th Anniversary, Butte, 2003
L to R: Evan Barrett, Dick King, Paul Tuss, Jim Davison, Dixie Swenson, Tony Preite and Jim Smitham

Conference in Helena, 2003

Conference in Polson
2006
MEDA Fall 2007

MEDA Spring 2007

2009 MEDA in Libby

Bear Paw 2005
MEDA Laurel Resource Team in 2007

Eastern MT Coalition 2012

Certified Regional Development Corps Meet August 2011

Rotunda Day 2011
MEDA Lockwood Resource Team 2013

Economic Summit 2013

Julie Foster, Kellie Danielson, Tracy McIntyre

MEDA BEAR Roundup Spring 2013
Leslie hasn’t lost her marbles.

Brett and Ignite Montana!

Proof Jim is well balanced.
Today MEDA’s Membership is 209.
20 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP AND PROGRESS

Thank you for your partnership and involvement in MEDA!