

MEDA Legislative Call
January 5, 2022
7am

Participants: Paddy Fleming, Courtney Loeffler, Susan Brurud, Sarah Converse, Brett Doney, Tracy McIntyre, Kim Morisaki, Christy Cummings Dawson, Joe Willauer, Allison Corbyn, Brian Obert, and Gloria O'Rourke.

Note: The committee agreed to switch back to the Zoom format.

MEDA Legislative Document Edits:

- Paul Reichert and Susan Brurud are the only two thus far who have submitted edits.
- Discuss the documents via zoom next week. Set a date to send to the board for approval.

Action items for this committee:

- Contribute to and follow state ARPA money requests (SSBCI, RLF, etc.)
- Advocate for setting priorities for legislative session – with OUR initiatives. For example, encourage financially the use of automation (banking, manufacturing, etc.)
- Set one, two, or three priorities separate from MEDA initiative(s)
- Work together to obtain federal funds to support our state efforts
- Outreach plan for candidates as well as our key partners; emphasize individual members to reach out to their candidates
- Restructure this committee so that we know proposals ahead of time, do research ahead of time, and come to the meeting prepared.

Discussion:

- MEDA Executive Director to reach out and be the conduit for MACo, MLCT, MT Chamber, etc.
- Should MEDA hold a statewide training? No; needs to be done on the local level. A training could be for members on how to reach out to candidates and share.
- Need to come to consensus on at least one priority. Then educate membership on that one issue.
- Hard conversation: what is relevant?
- MEDA Executive Committee is tasked with figuring out how to come to consensus.
- What about proposals as a result of the NextGen study?
- Allison update: Carey (MT Bankers Association) is reviewing the draft infrastructure proposal. She will send what she shared with this group and encouraged everyone to share the draft with their banking network.

Immediate To Do:

- **Switch to zoom – everyone to review documents prior to Wednesday.**
- **Exec Com come up with a process to set priorities – quick and efficient.**

- **Set board meeting to approve Allison's proposal once bankers review.**
- **Brett will compile proposal for SSBCI mechanics to review.**
- **Restructure MEDA Legislative Committee so that more efficient with sharing and compiling information.**
- **Gloria to post minutes.**