COLLABORATION, COOPERATION, AND CAVIAR ~
Perfecting Public and Private Partnerships

May 21 – 22, 2019

Thanks for joining us in Glendive!

MEDA 2019 Spring Conference Hosted By:
Eastern Plains Economic Development Council
Dawson County Economic Development Council
Dawson Community College

MEDA 2019 SPRING CONFERENCE SUMMARY
Montana Ambassador Amy Deines, (above left center) member of the Glasgow/Sidney/Glendive Chapter welcomed everyone to Eastern Montana. Local brews and spirits were shared and great networking was enjoyed by all.
Pre-conference Professional Development Training:
Intro to Montana Economic Development

Instructors: Jim Atchison, Sue Taylor, Kim Morisaki

Slides from “Everything you should know...”

Sponsored by: NorthWestern Energy
Pre-conference Professional Development Training:
Case Study: Julie Emmons and Jim Atchison

Transforming the Military Affairs Armory Building into the Miles Community College

**Workforce Readiness Center (MCC)**

**Presentation**

Rapid-Fire Presentations were provided by:
- MCDC
- MWTC
- MDT
- Blackstone Launchpad
- Montana Finance Authority

**What Julie had to do to make it to MEDA - video**

Sponsored by: NorthWestern Energy
Kickoff Luncheon sponsored by our incredible hosts:
Welcome from Hosts, Mayor Jimison, Congressional Reps, and MEDA
Special Guest: Daniel Norberg, US SBA Region VIII Administrator
Keynote: President Scott Mickelsen, President, DCC

Hosts Jason Stuart and Beth Epley

Mayor Jimison

Dan Norberg

Keynote Scott Mickelsen
“Relationships Matter”
All Things MEDA – Committee Updates, Legislative Report, Attendee Updates

MEDA President Steve Arveschoug

110 MEDA Members and Partners registered for the conference.
TWO KEY TOPICS: OPPORTUNITY ZONES AND OPPORTUNITY TOURISM

Finding Opportunities in Opportunity Zones
MT Dept. of Commerce and SBA teamed up with L to R
Mary Craigle, Tash Wisemiller, Sean Becker and (SBA)
Martin DeWitt

[Image: Presentation with the text "Badlands Ain’t so Bad: Leveraging your Tourism Assets"]

L to R: Jan Stoddard, MDOC; Sabre Moore, Carter County Museum; Chris Dantic, Manager, Makoshika State Park;
Dr. John Scannella, Curator of Paleontology, Museum of the Rockies.
TOUR TIME! LOADING UP FOR DOWNTOWN SUCCESS STORIES TOUR

Bus Tours Sponsored by:

- Hell Creek Music and More – Topic: nontraditional business growth
- Sugar Plum Jewelry – Topic: Grassroots culture change in your community
- Vint – Topic: Facade improvements and funding
- Country Girl Clay – Topic: Making art pay
- Enchanted Living and Enchanted Room – Topic: Succession planning
PHOTOS FROM THE DOWNTOWN TOUR

Hell Creek Music and More

Country Girl Clay

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<th>Business Name</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<td>Hell Creek Music and More</td>
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Tour Wrap-Up at

Sponsored by:

Hearing the Crisafulli story and tasting Yellowstone Caviar

Kim Morisaki and Adam Vauthier
Day Two: Field Trip to Intake, MT

BANDING TOGETHER IN THE BADLANDS – and incredible story of collaboration.

Thanks to our sponsors for making this tour possible:

James Brower – Passionate manager of the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation System
It is all about conservation, ecosystem, agriculture, and an amazing ancient-looking fish. [http://glendivechamber.com/paddlefish/](http://glendivechamber.com/paddlefish/) The roe is processed and sold to support nonprofits in the area.

Video of Jim Atchison searching for a paddlefish.

L to R: Kathy Archer, Annmarie Robinson, Katina Uecker and Jim Atchison
Back at Dawson Community College

KEYS TO COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION – Pulling it all Together

Rapid Fire Three Minute presentations where shared by Eastern Montana partners demonstrating the need to collaborate and coordinate for success.

LtoR: Beth Epley, Jim Atchison, Tori Matejovsky, and Katie Dasinger
Paddy Fleming, Nominating Committee Chair, led the MEDA Membership to approve the slate of Board Members and Officers for 2019.

Your MEDA Board

Thanks to Sue Taylor, Stephanie Ray, and Jim Davison for their years of service to the MEDA Board.
IT’S A WRAP!
Door Prizes, Evaluations, and Closing

The Grand Prize of four tickets from Cape Air were won by:
Becky Bey and Brian Obert
THANK YOU * THANK YOU * THANK YOU * THANK YOU

Many thanks to the MEDA Spring Conference Agenda Committee:
Co-Chairs Beth Epley and Jason Stuart, Tori Matejovsky, Amy Deines, Jim Atchison, Scott Mickelsen, Sean Becker, and Leslie Messer.

More thanks to the MEDA Professional Development and Scholarship Committee including: Co-Chairs Brett Doney and Anne Boothe, Sue Taylor, Jim Davison, Kim Morisaki, Rick Edwards, and Jim Atchison.
OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS MADE THIS CONFERENCE POSSIBLE!

Save the Date: MEDA Fall Conference
Lewistown, MT  September 11 – 13, 2019