

STATE OF MONTANA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
**MONTANA COAL BOARD**  
**December 21, 2017 – Billings, Montana**  
**BOARD MEETING**

John Williams (Chair), Colstrip – Impact Area  
Sidney Fitzpatrick, Hardin– Impact Area  
Marianne Roose, Eureka – other  
Vacant – Attorney

Veronica Small-Eastman, Lodge Grass - Education  
Tim Schaff, Roundup – Education  
Shawn Fredrickson, Butte – other

**Notice of Public Meeting**

December 20, 2017: The Board will gather informally for a tour at MSU-Billings (The Science Building off University Drive) at 4:00 pm and then dinner at 6:30 p.m. at Commons 1882, (404 N 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Billings, MT). Members of the public are also invited to attend the tour and dinner at their own expense.

December 21, 2017: The Board will hold a quarterly meeting at 8:30 am, Thursday, December 21, 2017, at MSU Billings Student Union Building (1500 University Drive, Room Banquet A&B) in Billings, MT. For more information or to request reasonable accommodations for a disability, please contact CDD staff at (406) 841-2770 or at [DOCCB@mt.gov](mailto:DOCCB@mt.gov) before the meeting.

**Agenda:**

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Opportunity for public comment
4. Department of Commerce and Department of Revenue Updates
5. Approval of minutes (September 22, 2017)
6. Budget and Project Updates
  - Correspondence
7. Old Business (applications tabled September 22, 2017)

***Tabled Applications:***

No.	Applicant	Project	Amount requested
0832	MSU Billings	Yellowstone Science & Allied Health Bldg Renovation	\$500,000.00
0833	Musselshell County	Purchase of Road Grader	\$269,750.00
0834	Golden Valley County	Jaws of Life Purchase	\$27,363.00
0835	Big Sky Economic Dev	Coulson Park Master Plan	\$10,000.00
0836	Rosebud County	Sheriff's Office Equipment and Upgrades	\$188,000.00
0837	Town of Broadus	Powder River First Responders Capnography Machine	\$6,100.00
0838	Town of Roundup	Public Works Department End Dump Purchase	\$67,309.00
0839	City of Colstrip	Economic Diversification Strategy Implementation	\$175,000.00
0840	City of Forsyth	Fire Truck Purchase	\$184,000.00
<b>Total Funds Requested:</b>			<b>\$ 1,427,522.00</b>

8. New Business

***New Applications:***

\*Please note that as the Board reviews the following applications, action in the form of an environmental determination may be made by the Board.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount requested</u>
0841	Big Horn County	Law Enforcement Vehicle Fleet Upgrade	\$ 69,646.00
0842	Big Horn County	Library Capital Improvement Needs	\$ 30,433.00
0843	Big Horn County	Fairgrounds Improvements Project	\$ 66,785.00
0844	City of Hardin	HS Complete Pavement Restoration Project	\$ 169,296.00
0845	Rosebud County	Health Care Center Equipment Updating Project	\$ 66,000.00
0846	Hardin Public Schools	Activity Center Pool Roof Replacement	\$ 384,300.00
<b>Total Funds Requested:</b>			<b>\$ 786,460.00</b>

9. Opportunity for public comment

10. Board Matters

11. Adjourn

**Montana Coal Board  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2017**

Big Horn County Historical Museum, Hardin, MT

**Board Members Present**

Chairman John Williams, Vice-Chair Sidney Fitzpatrick, Veronica Small-Eastman, Shawn Fredrickson, Tim Schaff, and Marianne Roose.

**Montana Department of Commerce Staff Present**

Jennifer Olson, Division Administrator, A.C. Rothenbuecher, Grants Bureau Chief, Anne Pichette, Administrative Officer, Amy Barnes, Legal Counsel, and Amy Peck, Administrative Assistant.

**Public Present**

Jim Atchison	Southeastern Montana Development Corporation
Bill Hodges	Big Horn Hospital Association
Sandra Jones	City of Roundup
Katy Easton	Big Sky Economic Development
Robert Goffena	Musselshell County Commission
Jack Lane	City of Hardin
Dennis Gerke	Hardin Public Schools
Ed Joiner	Rosebud County Commission
Keith Raymond	Rosebud County DES
George Real Bird III	Big Horn County Commission
Kathie Bailey	Snowy Mountain Development Corporation
Thomas Stockert	Musselshell County Road Department
Allen Fulton	Rosebud County
Scott Klein	Forsyth City Fire Department
Brandon Heberle	Forsyth City Fire Department
Carole Raymond	City of Forsyth Council
Doris Pinkerton	City of Forsyth
Christy Wright	Wyola School District
Bob Pallas	Golden Valley County
Michael Egge	Golden Valley Fire Department
Bill Kennedy	
Rudy King Jr.	
Laurel Slattery	
Linda Hammett	
Tom Berry	
Robbie Carpenter	
Ron Larsen	
Dave Warne	
Brandon Good Luck	
Lon Sibley	

**Montana Coal Board  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2017**

Big Horn County Historical Museum, Hardin, MT

**Welcome – Call to order**

Chairman Williams called to order the meeting of the Montana Coal Board at 8:30 a.m. He thanked Bill Hodges, Big Horn County Hospital Association, Heritage Acres, and Big Horn County Historical Museum for their hospitality.

**Roll call**

Ms. Pichette called the roll for board members. The following board members were present: Chairman Williams, Vice-Chair Sidney Fitzpatrick, Shawn Fredrickson, Marianne Roose, Veronica Small-Eastman and Tim Schaff.

**Opportunity for Public Comment**

- George Real Bird – Big Horn County, welcomed the Board to Crow Country, Cheyenne Country, and Big Horn County; home to three of six coal mines in the state.
- Tom Stockert – Musselshell County, thanked the Board for all the assistance to the county through past grants.
- Bill Hodges – Big Horn County Hospital Association, welcomed everyone to the Museum and invited everyone to tour it if possible. He provided updates on the previous awards for the boilers and elevators in Heritage Acres long term facility.
- Bradley Good Luck – Wyola School District, commented on the security system and cameras needed for the school as well as funding assistance for a snow plow truck to assist with bus routes. Will be applying in the future.
- Tom Berry – former Representative, commented regarding Coal Board funding and that he had recently met with the Governor regarding supporting coal country.
- Jim Atchison – SEMDC, updated the Board on the Energy Open golf tournament held recently. He reported on the Colstrip Diversification Strategy and that the first phase funded by the Board where six major goals were identified and 18 strategies and that there has been a lot of interest shown from Washington DC to Washington State. (handouts were provided)
- Kathie Bailey – Snowy Mountain Development Corporation, thanked the Board for the funding provided to the coal impacted region. She provided information regarding a power summit in Billings that four economic councils are hosting and invited the Board and the public to attend and that economic training especially geared towards coal country will be provided given that 30 people at Signal Peak mine are being laid off in October and the possibility of 50 more later in the year.

**Department of Commerce Orientation Updates**

Ms. Olson introduced Amy Barnes, Legal Counsel to the Department and assistant to the Board, who presented a review of topics as discussed at the Orientation meeting held June 21, 2017. The following were reviewed:

1. Open Meeting Laws/Public Participation  
Ms. Barnes reviewed and discussed the process and provided documentation of this process. No questions and comments from the public or the Board were made.

**Montana Coal Board  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2017**

Big Horn County Historical Museum, Hardin, MT

2. Conflict of Interest  
Ms. Barnes reviewed and discussed the process and provided documentation of this process. Comments were received from the Board and Ms. Barnes provided clarification.
3. Environmental Review Process  
Ms. Barnes reviewed and discussed the process and provided documentation of this process. No questions and comments from the public or the Board were made.
4. Limitations on Grants  
Ms. Barnes reviewed and discussed the process and provided documentation of this process. Comments were received from the public and Ms. Barnes provided clarification.

**Approval of Minutes (June 21 and June 22, 2017)**

- Chairman Williams called for discussion from the Board regarding the minutes and any comments from the public. No comments were made.

**Action by the Board:** Ms. Roose made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Schaff seconded. Motion passed.

**Budget & Financial Report**

	<u>Direct</u>
Funds available for 2019 Biennia:	\$6,822,204.00
<u>2018 State Fiscal Year (July '17 – June '18)</u>	
• Funds appropriated for SFY 2018:	\$3,403,336.00
• Coal Board funds awarded for SFY 2018:	\$1,573,427.00
• Revenue available in Coal Natural Resource account:	\$ 740,446.95
• Balance of available SFY 2018 appropriation:	<u>\$1,829,909.00</u>
• Balance of available revenue less awards made:	<u>(\$832,980.05)</u>
<u>2019 State Fiscal Year (July '18 – June '19)</u>	
• Funds appropriated for SFY 2019:	\$3,418,868.00
• Coal Board funds awarded for SFY 2019:	\$0
• Revenue available in Coal Natural Resource account:	\$0
• Balance of available SFY19 appropriation:	<u>\$3,418,868.00</u>
<b>Total awarded:</b>	<b>\$1,573,427.00</b>
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$ 740,446.95</b>
<b>Total appropriation available:</b>	<b>\$5,248,777.00</b>
<b>Balance of available revenue:</b>	<b>(\$832,980.05)</b>

**Montana Coal Board  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2017**

Big Horn County Historical Museum, Hardin, MT

Ms. Olson reviewed the budget and explained during the Orientation Meeting held on June 21, 2017 that the Department tracks the appropriation and how it can be allocated. This biennium is on a fiscal year allocation. The Coal Natural Resource account is the funding source; House Bill 2 separated it into two fiscal years. Ms. Olson detailed the current actual revenue deposited into the Coal Natural Resource account and the amounts awarded by the Board at the previous meeting. Due to the shortage of revenue available, the Department has not entered into contracts for the June awards. Ms. Olson drew attention to the Criteria for Award, Section C on availability of funds, and that this is a statutory consideration for any application.

- Chairman Williams – stated that appropriations have exceeded the revenue received to date. Staff will not issue contracts until revenue is received. As for the nine applications being considered at this meeting, no funds are available to award. He recommended that the Board hear the presentations and then table each until there are available funds. On the Agenda for the December meeting, Old Business will move in front of New Business so that the applications received at this meeting will be heard prior to the new applications. This will be an equitable treatment and allows time for applicants to complete the Environmental Review process.
- Kathie Bailey – SMDC, understood the issue and questioned as to whether there was a cash balance fund? Previously, a letter was sent to Staff requesting to remove an application from the table, will this apply for the December meeting? She requested that the Budget information be placed on the Department's website in the future.
- Chairman Williams – all applications will automatically be removed from the table at the next meeting.
- Ms. Olson – a public copy of the binder sent to the board members is available for review at each meeting which includes budget information as it can be difficult for a number of reasons to post all the information to the website. Also, it is believed that the cash balance is nearly zero; can provide an exact amount at next meeting.
- Jim Atchison – SEMDC, according to the Legislative Fiscal Division, the Coal Severance Tax collected \$58.8 million as of July 1 and 5.8% of that would be the \$6.8 million for the Coal Board so would it be that all accounts like the Coal Natural Resource are not receiving funds?
- Ms. Olson – that is a good question to be directed to the Department of Revenue.
- Chairman Williams – might it be possible to have a representative from the Department of Revenue be available to discuss the flow of cash and provide an update?
- Julie Emmons – SEMDC, questioned how long an awardee can have a contract before projects actually begin and the order in which those applications previously awarded would receive funding? The best use of funds may be to use funds on those awardees ready to proceed as opposed to those that are not.
- Ms. Olson – all startup conditions must be met prior to entering contracts.
- Chairman Williams – when are funds anticipated?
- Ms. Olson – assuming the same trend that has occurred in the past, December should have funds available.

**Montana Coal Board  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2017**

Big Horn County Historical Museum, Hardin, MT

- Bill Kennedy – MSU Billings, a contract affects the timeline of steps to move forward like the bidding process and start of construction. A delay today delays the project three to four months which can affect the dollars needed for a project.

**Project Updates**

- Number of projects awarded since the beginning of the 2019 Biennia: 13
- There are currently 29 open contracts; 2 are closed; 12 are in process.
- Ms. Pichette read the letter from the Town of Lodge Grass requesting to extend their contract #0742. The requested date is October 31, 2018.

**Action by the Board:** Mr. Schaff made a motion to extend the contract. Ms. Roose seconded. Motion passed.

**New Business**

**Application #0832 MSU Billings – Yellowstone Science and Allied Health Building \$500,000**

- The applicant is requesting \$500,000 to complete the renovation of the 70-year old Science facility at MSU Billings.
- Bill Kennedy – President/CEO, MSU Billings Foundation, provided a video presentation and handouts. An Environmental Review checklist was provided in the application and he commented the Board for MSU found the project to be categorically excluded.
- Ron Larson – Chancellor, MSU Billings, eastern Montana is served by MSU Billings which is committed to coal country. The building is currently insufficient to meet the demand. The ability to attract teachers will also improve with an improved facility.
- Dave Warren – MSU Billings Foundation volunteer, as an alum from 1972 and a teacher for many years, the importance and value of education and that most jobs require a college degree, cannot be over-emphasized. Also, many educators and students at the school come from eastern Montana.
- **Questions and comments from the Board** – due to the school’s timeline, could this be approved pending funding? The urgency is there for their process for other funding.
- Bill Kennedy – an appropriation can show we have funding to further our timeline.
- Ms. Olson – to enter into a contract, the Department needs a scope of work and a budget.

**Action by the Board:** Ms. Roose made a motion to table the application. Mr. Schaff seconded. Motion passed.

**Application #0833 Musselshell County – Motor Grader \$269,750**

- The applicant is requesting \$269,750 to complete the purchase of a new motor grader.
- Tom Stockert – Musselshell County Road Department, expressed appreciation for previous awards. Currently, one of the graders has no air-conditioning which impacts the health of the driver as windows must be left open. In the past three years, there have been \$40,000 in repairs to this grader.

**Montana Coal Board  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2017**

Big Horn County Historical Museum, Hardin, MT

- Kathie Bailey – SMDC, this request is included in the Comprehensive Economic Strategy and the CIP for the County.
- Bob Goffena – Commissioner, Musselshell County, if Signal Peak Mine were to shut down due to the challenges it faces, the County would lose 36% of revenues. The Bruner Mountain fire impacted the County and the Mine. The County is trying to stay ahead of failing equipment.

**Action by the Board:** Mr. Schaff made a motion to table the application. Mr. Fredrickson seconded. Motion passed.

**Action by the Board:** Vice-Chair Fitzpatrick amended the motion to table all remaining applications - #'s 0833 to 0840. Mr. Schaff seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion of applications prior to tabling:

**Application #0834 Golden Valley County – Jaws of Life** **\$27,363**

- The applicant is requesting funds to complete the purchase of a new Jaws of Life for emergency services to replace existing equipment.
- Bab Pallas – Volunteer Fire Department, the current equipment is outdated and not repairable any longer.

**Action by the Board:** Vice-Chair Fitzpatrick amended the motion to table all remaining applications - #'s 0833 to 0840. Mr. Schaff seconded. Motion passed.

**Application #0835 Big Sky Economic Development – Coulson Park Master Plan** **\$10,000**

- The applicant is requesting funds to complete the Coulson Park Master Plan in Billings.
- Katy Easton – Big Sky Economic Development, this area is managed by the City of Billings and has the capacity to be a major regional park that would significantly improve a currently blighted, crime-ridden property, as well as spur economic development in the area. Many coal and energy employees live within Billings and Yellowstone County. (handouts were provided)
- **Questions and comments from the Board:** This is in the heart of Crow Country. Will the old, abandoned power plant be part of the park?
- Katy Easton – it is hoped that the future owner of the plant will partner with the City to continue improvements and access to the park per the Master Plan.

**Action by the Board:** Vice-Chair Fitzpatrick amended the motion to table all remaining applications - #'s 0833 to 0840. Mr. Schaff seconded. Motion passed.

**Application #0836 Rosebud County – Sheriff's Office Equipment** **\$188,000**

- The applicant is requesting funds to complete the purchase and installation of equipment for the Sheriff's Office.
- Ed Joiner – Commissioner, Rosebud County, the County is maxed in Mills and the budget is extremely tight. Equipment age has put employees at risk. (handouts were provided)

**Montana Coal Board  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2017**

Big Horn County Historical Museum, Hardin, MT

- Allen Fulton – Sheriff, Rosebud County, all this equipment requested has become more and more necessary; car cameras, body cameras, tasers, and others are to save lives of the people, in the case of the boat, and the officers of this county. Provided handouts to help complete the Environmental Review as requested by staff.
- Jim Atchison – SEMDC, Colstrip has begun the overhaul on Unit 1. Four to five hundred workers are coming to assist. This request will help meet the needs of these people should they need help too.

**Action by the Board:** Vice-Chair Fitzpatrick amended the motion to table all remaining applications - #'s 0833 to 0840. Mr. Schaff seconded. Motion passed.

**Application #0837 Town of Broadus – First Responder Capnography Machine \$6,100**

- The applicant is requesting funds to complete the purchase of two capnography machines for use throughout the county by the Powder River First Responders.
- Julie Emmons – SEMDC, Powder River is unique; there is no doctor in whole county, all EMT's are volunteers. The closest doctor and hospital are 90 miles away. 45% of the population are above age 62. The ER has been completed. A letter of commitment from Powder River Endowment Fund received \$1 million donation. \$6,100 will be matching funds to an award from the Coal Board. SEMDC and the Town of Broadus will donate the administrative fees from the grant for approximately \$650. (handouts were provided)
- Jim Atchison – SEMDC, Montana is a rapidly aging state; by 2030 it will be the fourth oldest in population. Powder River follows this trend. This request is much needed.

**Action by the Board:** Vice-Chair Fitzpatrick amended the motion to table all remaining applications - #'s 0833 to 0840. Mr. Schaff seconded. Motion passed.

**Application #0838 Town of Roundup – End Dump Truck \$67,309**

- The applicant is requesting funds to complete the purchase of an end dump truck.
- Sandra Jones – Mayor, City of Roundup, thanked the Board for previous critical awards in the City, schools and hospital. 60.2% of the population is below the poverty level and this equipment is listed in the CIP. The requested new truck is necessary to meet emissions regulations; it is difficult to find good used vehicles. The ER process has been completed. (handouts were provided)

**Action by the Board:** Vice-Chair Fitzpatrick amended the motion to table all remaining applications - #'s 0833 to 0840. Mr. Schaff seconded. Motion passed.

**Application #0839 City of Colstrip – Economic Diversification Strategy Implementation \$175,000**

- The applicant is requesting funds to complete the implementation of the recent economic diversification strategy.
- Jim Atchison – SEMDC, the strategy was completed in May. In October/November 2015 CEDS document, Colstrip challenged SEMDC to provide specifics; a targeted approach for the coming

**Montana Coal Board  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2017**

Big Horn County Historical Museum, Hardin, MT

potential impact to the City due to the downturn in coal production. Colstrip needs to move on the implementations. Colstrip United, a group on social media, has provided support. Also, the request is **amended to \$70,000** due to funding received from other sources. (handouts were provided)

- Ed Joiner – Rosebud County, in full support of this request. The Strategy has made a huge, positive impact on Colstrip.

**Action by the Board:** Vice-Chair Fitzpatrick amended the motion to table all remaining applications - #'s 0833 to 0840. Mr. Schaff seconded. Motion passed.

**Application #0840 City of Forsyth – Fire Truck**

**\$184,000**

- The applicant is requesting funds to complete the purchase of a new pumper fire truck.
- Keith Raymond – Volunteer Fire Department, the truck being looked at is a demo which will save money. The current 1973 truck really cannot be a front-line truck any longer; having to manufacture parts since they are no longer available for purchase. This will increase firefighter and civilian safety. The City provides mutual aid to surrounding areas; as far away as Miles City. This equipment is listed in the Growth Plan. (handouts were provided)
- Jim Atchison – SEMDC, this purchase is listed on the Infrastructure Needs list and is strongly supported.
- Ed Joiner – Rosebud County, the Commission fully supports this request.

**Action by the Board:** Vice-Chair Fitzpatrick amended the motion to table all remaining applications - #'s 0833 to 0840. Mr. Schaff seconded. Motion passed.

The Board and members of the public had closing comments regarding the Environmental Review process as previously discussed.

**Old Business**

None.

**Board Matters**

- Marianne Roose – the concerns and expectations of applicants were understandable but felt it prudent to wait for funding and to table the applications.
- A.C. Rothenbuecher – staff will have a funding update sometime in early October.
- Chairman Williams – noted that the amount of PM10 from the forest fires this summer alone would have taken the four plants in Colstrip to operate 100 years to exude the same amount.
- Bill Kennedy – MSU Billings extended the invitation to hold the next meeting at the school.

**Montana Coal Board  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2017**  
Big Horn County Historical Museum, Hardin, MT

**Adjournment**

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Williams at 1:15 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2017 in Billings, Montana, location to be announced.

---

John Williams, Board Chair

DRAFT

# CROW TRIBE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

P.O. BOX 159 BAACHEEICHE AVE  
CROW AGENCY, MT 59022



Alvin Not Afraid, Jr.  
CHAIRMAN

Carlson Goes Ahead  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

R. Knute Old Crow, Sr.  
SECRETARY

Shawn Backbone  
VICE-SECRETARY

December 11, 2017

Mr. John Williams, Chair  
Montana Coal Board  
PO Box 200523  
Helena MT 59620-0523

**RE: Terminating Coal Board Planning Grant Contract MT-CB-PL-15-0745**

Dear Mr. Williams:

On behalf of the Crow Tribe of Indians, I respectfully request to terminate Coal Board Planning Grant Contract MT-CB-PL-15-0745. No additional work on the project will be done at this time. I understand, by terminating the contract, the Tribe is forfeiting \$15,000 in undrawn Coal Board grant funds. As you may recall, the scope of work described in the contract includes the following: architectural, structural, and electrical design of the new dance arbor; electrical design of the vendors circle; preparation of bid documents, including plans and specifications; and construction administration.

The Tribe has decided to delay planning, fundraising, and construction efforts with regard to the new dance arbor. I know there are many needs in Coal Country and the forfeited funds could help bring another project to fruition.

I appreciate the Coal Board's generosity and support of a significant cultural public facility within the Crow community. When the Tribe resumes its fundraising efforts with regard to the new dance arbor, I will be in contact with the Coal Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alvin Not Afraid, Jr.", written over a faint circular watermark of the Crow Tribe logo.

Alvin Not Afraid, Jr.  
CHAIRMAN

# ROSEBUD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

P.O. BOX 47  
FORSYTH, MT 59327  
406-346-2251  
FAX 406-346-7551

Robert E. Lee, Member  
Douglas D. Martens, Member  
Ed Joiner, Member

October 24, 2017

RECEIVED

OCT 27 2017

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Community Development Division  
Department of Commerce  
301 S. Park Ave  
PO Box 200523  
Helena, MT 59620

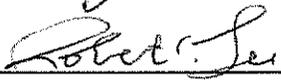
Dear Coal Board Members:

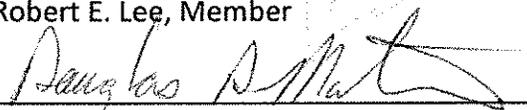
The Northern Cheyenne Ministerial Association received a Coal Board grant to start a thrift store in Lame Deer, MT. The coal board grant was to be used for Architect and Engineering \$28,000.00 and upper level construction (shell only) \$272,000.00. The land acquisition, site preparation, and lower level construction was completed with funds on hand and donated labor. The inside finish work is not done yet, because they are still trying to get funding to finish the inside through Murdock Trust. The portion that the Coal Board funded has been finished. The remaining Coal Board funds of \$6,000.00 are being requested by Rosebud County and Northern Cheyenne Ministerial Association to pay Tom Robinson Construction for work completed and invoiced June 16, 2017.

Coal Board members, please authorize the release of the final \$6,000.00, because the work funded by the Coal Board has been completed.

ROSEBUD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ed Joiner, Presiding Officer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert E. Lee, Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas D. Martens, Member

Scanned

November 28, 2017

Dear Members of the Coal Board,

Six months ago a coalition was formed in Lodge Grass to begin community transformation work. A 12-member professional leadership team was formed and we were awarded a \$60,000 planning grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to receive mentoring in human centered design. We then engaged in research and evaluation to determine strategies that would be supported by the community to begin making significant changes to our town. We are currently prototyping plans for educational, economic, and structural changes. While these plans have strong community support, having been generated through community input, we have come to the realization that we cannot begin many of these projects and ideas without first clearing the space to develop them.

In the next 4 months our group plans to initiate community clean-up efforts in the following areas:

1. Clear all scrap metal from existing lots within the boundaries of the town of Lodge Grass. The majority of this scrap metal is resulting from burned and abandoned mobile homes.
2. Clear all trees deemed dangerous or that hinder lots from being developed and landscaped for homes or businesses.
3. Level the ground on lots that are currently inhospitable to new housing.
4. Properly dispose of remaining in-ground foundations for demolished homes and buildings and prepare these lots for development as parks, homes, or businesses.
5. Remove and dispose of all surrendered junk vehicles.
6. Clear trash and establish a normal, accessible, and established policy for trash disposal.
7. Begin landscaping and improvements of individual lots owned by community members who join the "Together We Are Raising Lodge Grass" collective. This may require demolition, digging lines for sewer or water, removal of construction debris, etc.
8. Establish a facility where residents can rent (cash or timeshare) basic yard and home maintenance equipment.

Our team has a number of professionals who can perform heavy equipment operations, metal cutting, construction, and logging duties, but we lack the equipment in Lodge Grass to carry out these plans in a timely and cost-effective manner. A total of \$2000 of our grant can be spent on these activities so our resources are limited to providing our own labor and seeking contributions of time and equipment from others.

In the process of our community interviews, we learned about past opportunities offered by the Coal Board to support Lodge Grass that were sadly passed up. The Lodge Grass community was therefore unable to benefit from your partnership and generosity to make much-needed improvements. At this time we would like to appeal to your members to ascertain if there may be resources we could now access as an established community group, capable of carrying out significant positive change in a responsible, and accountable way. I believe you will find that our leaders have a great deal of integrity and will manage any support you are able to provide with care and frugality and also deep gratitude. Thank you for considering our request for assistance on behalf of the Lodge Grass community and Raising Places – Lodge Grass.

Sincerely,



Dr. Megkian Doyle and the Raising Places Leadership

[doyle@montana.edu](mailto:doyle@montana.edu)

(406) 209-0109

Grant No.	Grantee:	Project Description:	Direct Award Amount:	Contingent Award:	Amount Spent:	% Spent:	Award Date:	Status:	Date Closed:	Recaptured:	Notes:
<b>2015 Biennium</b>											
0742	Town of Lodge Grass	Wastewater Project	\$200,000.00		\$20,816.63	10%	9/27/2013	Open			extension exp. 12/17 request to Board approved, amendment routing
0743	Savage 2M Sewer Dist.	Savage Water Project	\$100,000.00		\$71,160.00	71%	6/14/2013	Open			extension through 6/18
0745	Crow Tribe of Indians	Arbor Engineering	\$30,000.00		\$15,000.00	50%	1/14/2014	Open			extension through 12/17, letter to Board to terminate
0753	Town of Broadus	PER & WW Sys. Eval.	\$39,000.00		\$19,500.00	50%	4/15/2014	Closed			
<b>2017 Biennium</b>											
0759	City of Colstrip	Phase 1 Wastewater	\$500,000.00		\$0.00	0%	6/12/2015	Open			extension exp. 6/18
0775	Forsyth, City of	Sewer Vacuum Truck	\$110,000.00		\$ 110,000.00	100%	6/16/2016	Closed	6/26/2017	\$0.00	
0781	Musselshell County	Social Services Facility	\$500,000.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0785	Big Horn County	Lodge Grass Hill Rd Imp	\$203,280.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0786	Big Horn County	Rd & FD Vehicles	\$197,510.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0787	Crow Tribe of Indians	Phase 3c WW Collection	\$200,000.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0789	Lodge Grass PS	Football field	\$175,000.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0790	Broadview Fire Dpt	Fire Hall Additon	\$60,000.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0793	NCUC	Accounting System	\$45,710.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0796	Hardin Public Schools	Track Repair	\$291,400.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0798	City of Colstrip	Economic Strategy	\$25,000.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0799	City of Colstrip	Water Storage Tank	\$138,000.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0800	Hardin, City of	Landfill Compactor	\$357,500.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0801	Big Horn County	PAR for Detention Facility	\$45,000.00		\$0.00	0%	6/16/2016	Open			
0802	Rosebud County	Construct New Thrift Store	\$300,000.00		\$252,475.85	84%	6/16/2016	Open			letter request to Board for \$\$
0803	Yellowstone County	Road Repairs		\$89,400.00	\$0.00	0%	9/22/2016	Open			
0804	Musselshell County	Road Equipment	\$147,000.00	\$53,000.00	\$0.00	0%	9/22/2016	Open			
0805	Musselshell County	Road repairs		\$154,154	\$0.00	0%	12/19/2016	Open			
0807	Lodge Grass Schools	Track & Field Repairs	\$100,000.00	\$410,347.00	\$0.00	0%	9/22/2016	Open			
0808	Crow Tribe of Indians	PAR for Head Start	\$70,000.00		\$0.00	0%	9/22/2016	Open			
0810	Big Horn Hospital Assoc	Elevator Replacement	\$149,000.00		\$0.00	0%	12/19/2016	Open			
0811	Big Horn Hospital Assoc	Boiler Replacement	\$65,597.00	\$21,653.00	\$0.00	0%	12/19/2016	Open			
0812	Colstrip FD	Fire Tender Purchase		\$132,500.00	\$0.00	0%	12/19/2016	Open			
0813	Musselshell County	Healthcare Equipment		\$300,000.00	\$0.00	0%	12/19/2016	Open			
0815	Big Horn County #2	Fire Dept Vehicle Purchase	\$85,663.00		\$0.00	0%	12/19/2016	Open			
0818	City of Miles City	Ambulance Purchase	\$50,000.00		\$0.00	0%	12/19/2016	Open			
0819	City of Roundup	Roundup School Water Main Extension	\$50,782.00		\$0.00	0%	6/22/2017	Open			

Grant No.	Grantee:	Project Description:	Direct Award Amount:	Contingent Award:	Amount Spent:	% Spent:	Award Date:	Status:	Date Closed:	Recaptured:
<b>2019 Biennium</b>										
0819	City of Roundup	Roundup School Water Main Extension	\$131,218.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0820	City of Hardin	Hardin High School Pavement Restoration	\$243,903.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0821	Hardin Public Schools #1	School Facilities Assessment	\$37,800.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0822	Rosebud County	Hospital Roof	\$100,000.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0823	Big Horn Hospital Association	Heritage Acres Renovation and Equipment repl.	\$252,000.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0824	City of Hysham	PER Wastewater System	\$16,000.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0825	Lame Deer Public Schools	School Housing Purchase	\$120,000.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0826	Big Horn County 1	Belly Dump and Grader	\$205,000.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0827	Big Horn County 2	Ambulance Replacement (two vehicles)	\$131,000.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0828	Hardin Public Schools #2	AED Units and Training	\$8,250.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0829	Musselshell County	End Dump Truck	\$114,000.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0830	Northern Cheyenne Utilities Commission	Water and Wastewater Equipment	\$170,356.00				6/22/2017	Open		
0831	City of Miles City	Airport PER and Snow Removal Equipment purch.	\$43,900.00				6/22/2017	Open		



**Applications for Consideration**  
September 2017

Legislative Appropriation (HB 209):	\$6,822,204.00
FY 2018 Appropriation:	\$3,403,336.00
FY 2019 Appropriation:	\$3,418,868.00
Revenue Available to Date:	\$740,446.95
Awards Made to Date:	\$1,573,427.00
Revenue Available (to award this meeting):	(\$832,980.05)

Grant #	Grantee	Project Description	Funds Requested	Total Project Costs	Notes
0832	MSU Billings	Science & Allied Health Building Renovation	\$500,000.00	\$15,000,000.00	
0833	Musselshell County	Motor Grader	\$269,750.00	\$319,750.00	
0834	Golden Valley County	Jaws of Life	\$27,363.00	\$30,363.00	
0835	Big Sky Economic Development	Coulson Park Master Plan	\$10,000.00	\$75,000.00	
0836	Rosebud County	Sheriff's Office Equipment	\$188,000.00	\$188,000.00	
0837	Town of Broadus	First Responder Capnography Machine	\$6,100.00	\$12,850.00	
0838	Town of Roundup	End Dump Truck	\$67,309.00	\$74,809.00	
0839	City of Colstrip	Economic Diversification Strategy Implementation Project	\$175,000.00	\$375,000.00	
0840	City of Forsyth	Fire Truck	\$184,000.00	\$384,000.00	

**Applications for Consideration**  
December 2017

Legislative Appropriation (HB 209):	\$6,822,204.00
FY 2018 Appropriation:	\$3,403,336.00
FY 2019 Appropriation:	\$3,418,868.00
Revenue Available to Date:	\$1,110,793.42
Awards Made to Date:	\$1,573,427.00
Revenue Available (to award this meeting):	(\$462,633.58)

Grant #	Grantee	Project Description	Funds Requested	Total Project Costs	Notes
0841	Big Horn County	Law Enforcement Vehicle Fleet Upgrade	\$69,646.00	\$99,646.00	
0842	Big Horn County	Library Capital Improvement Needs	\$30,433.00	\$40,433.00	
0843	Big Horn County	Fairgrounds Improvements Project	\$66,785.00	\$116,785.00	
0844	City of Hardin	HS Complete Pavement Restoration Project	\$169,296.00	\$537,803.00	
0845	Rosebud County	Health Care Center Equipment Updating Project	\$66,000.00	\$66,700.00	
0846	Hardin Public Schools	Activity Center Pool Roof Replacement	\$384,300.00	\$499,690.00	