



STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 15, 2025

ITEM TITLE, PRESENTER: 2025 Rural County Grant Program (RCGP) Selected Awardees Approval and MOU Authorization
Presented by Talia, San Juan County Economic Development Manager

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Commission approve the selected awardees for the 2025 Rural County Grant Program and authorize the execution of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with each recipient outlining funding expectations and compliance requirements.

SUMMARY

San Juan County received 39 applications for the 2025 Rural County Grant Program (RCGP), administered through the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO). Applications were distributed across three tiers:

- Tier 1: 12 applicants
- Tier 2: 16 applicants
- Tier 3: 10 applicants

Awardees were selected through a scoring and review process conducted by the San Juan County Economic Development Board, established specifically for the execution and oversight of the Rural County Grant Program. Selections align with both the goals of the RCGP and GOEO, which support projects that address the economic development needs of rural counties.

The RCGP supports projects including:

- Business recruitment, development, and expansion
- Workforce training and development
- Infrastructure and capital facilities improvements for business development

The total award for 2025 is \$140,010. Award notifications will be formally announced on April 28, 2025, at the San Juan County Business Basecamp Conference.

Selected Awardees by Tier:

Tier 1

- Desert Rose Inn, LLC

Tier 2

- Smoke Pizza Company LLC
- Monticello Merc, Inc.
- Cow Canyon Trading Post

Tier 3

- Bluff Coffee Shop LLC
- Comb Ridge Coffee, LLC
- Hunts Trading Post, LLC

HISTORY/PAST ACTION

San Juan County applied for and was awarded Rural County Grant Program funds through the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO) to support locally led economic development projects. The Economic Development Board was formed in alignment with grant requirements to ensure transparency and fairness in the evaluation and award process.

FISCAL IMPACT

Each awardee will enter into an MOU with the County outlining allowable use of funds, reporting requirements. The funds are provided through a GOEO grant and do not impact the County funds.