

San Juan County Economic Development Board
Monday January 13th, 2025
Zoom Meeting

CED Board Members

Name	Role	Position	Term Expires	PM Training
Ben Muhlestein	Vice-Chair	Municipality Representative, Blanding City	01/31/2025	Y
Kaeden Kulow	Chair	Municipality Representative, Monticello City	01/31/2025	Y
Linda Sosa	Board Member	Municipality Representative, Bluff Town	01/31/2025	Y
Karry Deeter	Board Member	San Juan County Private Sector Representative	01/31/2025	Y
Silvia Stubbs	Board Member	Representative of San Juan County	01/31/2025	Y
Ryan Benally	Board Member	At Large	01/31/2025	
Hannah Bailey	Board Member	At Large	01/31/2025	Y
Open	Board Member	San Juan County Private Sector Representative		
Open	Board Member	San Juan County Private Sector Representative		
Open	Board Member	Workforce Development Representative		

Attendance:

Members Present: Kaeden Kulow, Linda Sosa, Hannah Bailey, Ben Muhlestein, Karry Deeter, Silvia Stubbs, Ryan Benally

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Talia Hansen, Mack McDonald

Staff Absent: Nate Pitts

Guests: Mick Thornton

- I. Kaeden calls the meeting to order.
- II. Ben motions to approve the meeting minutes from the November 12th, 2024 meeting. Linda seconded. All in favor.
- III. Public Comment: None
- IV. Presentations: Talia shares updates on the 2025 Rural County Grant Program and talks about qualifying grant projects, along with how the grant will function.
Talia talks about the upcoming Business Basecamp on April 28th and reflects on activities for the basecamp.
- V. Discussion and Action Items:
 - a. Talia discusses completing the Open and Public Meetings Act Training. Kaeden shares information on the training.
 - b. Kaeden shares the CED Board Handbook online. Talia discusses the content of the updated CED Board Handbook.
Ryan motions to adopt the 2025 CED Board Handbook. Ben seconded. All in favor.
 - c. Kaeden and Talia discuss the Rural County Grant Program including the administration process, the application, the scoring criteria, a pre-selection subcommittee, the evaluation dates, and a presentation schedule. Kaeden asks for two Board Members to volunteer on the pre-selection sub-committee to help screen grant applications. Karry and Ryan volunteered. Kaeden discusses the evaluation dates and determines that Monday March 17th, in person at the Monticello Co working space at 3pm. Kaeden suggested a back up meeting date of March 31st. Ryan motions to approve the six Rural County Grant Program items. Karry seconded. All in favor.
- VI. Talia shares that she is applying for the 2025 USDA Rural Business Development Grant and talks about projects that it will cover. Kaeden asks for approval of a letter of support from the Board Members. Ben motions to approve the letter of support for the 2025 USDA Rural Business Development Grant. Linda seconded. All in favor.
- VII. Talia and Silvia discuss a blanket letter, which the San Juan County Commission has approved, to be used as a letter of support seeking matching funds for Economic Development initiatives through foundations.
- VIII. Talia presents information on partnering with Wildcat funds and that a letter of support will be needed, but will first need SJC Commission approval. Talia provides details of the program with Wildcat.
- IX. General Discussion:
 - a. Talia provides an update on the revival of the San Juan County Chamber of Commerce and shares information on an upcoming stakeholder meeting. The meeting will be on February 19th from 10AM to 1130AM at the Twin Rocks Cafe in Bluff. Deb Brown will be in attendance.

- b. Talia reflects on the benefit of visiting businesses in the different communities and completing the Community Survey. The board members agree to assist with completing surveys in their communities. Silvia shares that she is pursuing several grant opportunities.

X. Reports:

- a. Blanding - Ben shares that Blanding City has received the Rural Counties Opportunity Grant and talks about projects that will be funded through the grant.
- b. Monticello - Kaeden shares that Monticello City has also been awarded the Rural Counties Opportunity Grant funding and talks about projects that will occur based on the grant.
- c. Bluff - Linda shares information on the annual Balloon Festival and talks about the Dark Skies designation for Bluff. Talia asks about the trails completion and Linda provides updates.

XI. Future Agenda Items:

- a. Kaeden talks about future agenda items and potentially hearing from other board members during the reporting section of the meetings.
- b. The next meeting will be held on April 2nd at 3pm in person at the USU Arts and Events Center.
- c. There will be a special meeting held on March 17th at 3pm in person at the Monticello Co Working Space to review grant applications.
- d. The San Juan County Business Basecamp is set to be held on April 28th.

XII. Ben motions to adjourn the meeting. Linda seconded. All in favor.