



## COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** December 17, 2024

**ITEM TITLE, PRESENTER:** MOU for Deb Brown, Talia Hansen, Economic Development

**RECOMMENDATION:** MOU Facilitate an Idea Friendly Action Visit

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### SUMMARY

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes an agreement between San Juan County and Consultant Deb Brown to facilitate an Idea Friendly Action Visit and support the development of a county-wide Chamber of Commerce. Deb Brown will conduct a 1.5-day visit including community walkthroughs, stakeholder meetings, and brainstorming sessions, followed by 2 days focused on Chamber development, covering board creation, by-laws, and strategic planning. The engagement also includes follow-up reporting, data compilation, and a virtual webinar to share findings. Scheduled for February 22–27, 2025, the total cost of \$9,300 covers services and travel expenses, with payment split into a 50% deposit and the remainder due upon completion. The County will arrange housing for Deb Brown during the visit.

### HISTORY/PAST ACTION

Elaine Gizler contracted Deb Brown, cofounder of SaveYour.Town, as the keynote speaker for the 2024 San Juan County Business Basecamp. The event was a resounding success, with businesses and the chamber eager to invite Deb back. Her keynote, Unlocking Rural Potential with the Idea-Friendly Method, introduced an innovative approach to community-building, emphasizing collaboration, creative use of resources, and actionable steps. Attendees left inspired and equipped with practical tools to bring community visions to life.

### FISCAL IMPACT

Enter The cost for this visit will be covered by grant funds awarded through the RCG grant, which is specifically designated to support training initiatives in San Juan County.