



**BIG \* SKY**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

**Agenda**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Big Sky Chamber of Commerce**  
**55 Lone Mountain Trail | Big Sky, Montana 59716**  
**406-995-3000**  
**3:00 PM Big Sky Chapel**  
**July 23, 2015**  
[www.bigskychamber.com](http://www.bigskychamber.com)

- I. Call to Order regular Public Meeting
- II. Public Comment
- III. VBS Liaison Report

<u>Action Items</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>
IV. Appoint Board Vacancy	DOC
V. Approve Minutes	DOC
VI. Execute New Conflict of Interest Forms	DOC

**Discussion Items**

VII. Chairman's Report	DOC
VIII. TEDD Planning Process and Update Public Meeting July	Think Tank Kevin
IX. CDBG Grant, Community Housing Planning	Kitty, Comma Q
X. 191 Corridor Planning Process and Project Kick-Off	Kitty
XI. Directors Report	Kitty
a. Draft Financial, June 2015 Year End	
b. Host Week/Customer Service	
c. Summer Welcome Center Traffic	
d. Chet Huntley donation, Gateway Foundation	
e. Annual Meeting Recap	

**Important Dates:**

Golf Tournament September 11

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Business Expo – Late September TBA



**BIG \* SKY**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
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*Meeting Minutes*

**55 Lone Mountain Trail**

**Big Sky, Montana 59716**

**406-995-3000**

**June 9, 2015**

[www.bigskychamber.com](http://www.bigskychamber.com)

**Call to Order:** 8:38 a.m.

**Present:** David O'Connor Kevin Germain, John Richardson, Brandon Bang, Sarah Griffiths, Bill Simpkins

**Public:** Ryan Hamilton, Big Sky Town Center and Michelle Letendre, Bozeman Job Services

**Public Comment**

- Michelle Letendre, from Bozeman Job Services is trying to establish a report with the Big Sky Chamber. She really enjoys our newsletters and the scope of work we have been outputting.

**ACTION ITEMS**

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**Approval of Financials**

Kitty Clemens, Executive Director

- We have invoiced \$8500 since May. June invoices haven't gone out, but when it does, the financials will be right on point. We should finish originally right where we thought.
- If we are looking at the P&L for the month, we did have a net loss, we are not concerned with how the budget will end in the fiscal year.
- David mentioned that we do have a \$6,000 line of credit. He wanted to ask the board to renew it. They agree it's a good idea to have as a reserve even if we don't expect to need to use it.
- Motion to approve keeping the \$6,000 line of credit was made by Kevin Germain and seconded by Bill Simpkins.

**Approval of Minutes**

- A motion to approve the minutes was made by Sarah Griffiths and seconded by John Richardson.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

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**TEDD Planning Process and Update**

Kitty Clemens, Executive Director and Kevin Germain, Board of

- We are going to have a big TEDD update in the July Chamber meeting. Kevin is hoping to have a lot of public attendance for this next meeting. Kevin asks the board which other Chamber businesses should attend the July meeting.
- Kevin will invite Rob Gilmore from Rocky Mountain Economic Development District and Thinktank for the meeting. Kevin noted that there are three consultants all working in parallel with the most recent consultant being Ralph Walton.

- Thinktank is creating the plan that will be submitted to the counties. This plan will look at all the possibilities for infrastructure deficiencies and suggest ways the TEDD funds can improve those deficiencies.
- Rob Gilmore with RMEDD will be specific to the impact TEDD could have in Big Sky. Ralph will also look at what will happen outside of Big Sky if a TEDD is implemented.
- The consultants have already identified possible categories of value added industry including high tech and ski apparel manufacturing such as Sitka and Simms.
- The TEDD committee and the consultants are in the process of setting up interviews with those potential value added Montanan businesses to ask why they are not currently in Big Sky and what would motivate them to move their industry to Big Sky. Kevin and Ryan are working a strategic plan on how they are going to get this information out into the community.
- The board discussed the Town Hall meeting details as to what issues are going to be discussed. The Chamber Town Hall Meeting will be July 23<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. The Chamber Board of Directors will run it as its July board meeting. They are hoping to have this meeting at the Big Sky Chapel.

### **Resort Tax Q & A, Lighting**

Kitty Clemens, Executive Director

- Kitty received input from the community on the lighting. The Chamber sent a stand-alone email on the Chamber lighting program detailing the program and the plans for additional lighting and asked for community feedback on adding more light poles on Highway 191.
- Some of the feedback we received was: Spanish Peaks, Tim Cyr from Sotheby's International Realty, Carrie Mechura from L&K Real Estate, Anne Marie Mistretta, and the Yellowstone Club wrote letters in favor of the lighting. There were some opposed and Kitty discussed their reasons with the board. Board members discussed the support and opposition they received.
- Ryan asked what the long term plan for the lights is. Where is the goal to get to? Where is the end game? Dave mentioned we won't need to pull the application or discuss the end game.
- Kevin suggests we can use the July meeting as a sounding board for this lighting discussion. At the July meeting we will be discussing housing, lighting and TEDD.

### **Annual Meeting in June**

Kitty Clemens, Executive Director

- **Chet's Artifacts:** Kitty has been having extremely long conversations with Kevin Mueller. Kevin has Chet's roll top desk, lamp, and manual type writer as well as materials to create Big Sky Resort, corporate resolutions and love letters between Tippy, Chet's wife, and Chet.
- He is bringing all of these items and donating them to the Gateway Foundation. Kitty is rounding up information from the Museum of the Rockies in order to make sure that we chronicle and preserve all of these artifacts correctly. Photos of the artifacts will be displayed at the annual dinner. These photos and the delivery of the desk tie into the annual dinner very well.
- We did offer to cover Kevin Mueller's expenses. If he is able to make it to the annual dinner, we are hoping to have him stay at Lone Mountain Ranch since many of the business had been done at Lone Mountain Ranch during.
- **Sponsorships and Elected Officials:** Kevin has been making direct calls for officials to attend the dinner. Unfortunately, the Chamber did not budget to cover elected officials dinner. Kitty asked that if you are planning on sponsoring, please consider adding elected officials to your tables. Kevin has invited key elected officials in our counties to the dinner.
- Kevin believes it benefits the Chamber to invite elected officials to the annual dinner. David agrees that the Chamber is in a more neutral spot to invite elected officials. Kevin can circulate the list of elected officials to the annual dinner he has a list of around 12 people.
- John agrees that it is value added to the Chamber to include these elected officials in the Chamber budget for the annual dinner. The board agrees that these individuals should be guests of the Chamber.
- A Motion was made by the Chamber to pay for the cost of the elected officials to attend the annual dinner. The motion was made by John Richardson and seconded by Brandon Bang. With all in favor the motion passed.
- Kitty noted that the Chamber is still in search for a few more centerpieces for the annual dinner. She encouraged the board members to take the opportunity to donate centerpieces for the annual dinner.

- The board discussed talking points for speaking with elected officials. Kevin will start an electronic document on those talking points and circulate it throughout the board.
- Kitty asked the board to make sure to nominate individuals for the Annual Awards if they have not done so already.

### **Visitor Center Report**

Marci Lewandowski, Visitor Services Manager

- The month of June saw record numbers at the visitor center. We received over 3,302 visitors in the month of June. We did see some additional traffic from the End of Season Shred Party. However, we still saw record numbers and a noticeable increase in traffic during the month of June.
- We believe the increase in visitor traffic is partially due to early warm season temperatures, which increased drive traffic throughout the state.

**At 9:40 a.m., a motion was made by Kevin Germain and seconded by Bill Simpkins to go into Executive Session. With all in favor, the board went into Executive session.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marci Lewandowski  
Visitor Services Manager

# Visitor Services Report July 2015

People Counter			
Month	Year	Per Month	Daily Avg.
June	2014	1265	42
July	2014	3193	103
August*	2014	2421	78
September	2014	1638	54.6
October	2014	1881	60.6
November	2014	872	29
December	2014	761	25
January	2015	712	28
February	2015	772	27
March	2015	835	27
April	2015	920	31
May	2015	3302	106
June	2015	3250	108

