

Cut Bank Development Corporation - Executive's Director Report
Board Meeting - March 11, 2010

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Community Block Grant has been completed and submitted. We have been contacted by Department of Environmental Quality for the County's DUNS number, but other than that, no word on allocation of funds.

The City of Cut Bank's Beautification Committee is meeting every two weeks to work on the following projects: Cement Park, the Welcome to Cut Bank signs, garbage cans, planters, farmers market, painting the light poles and general overall clean up of Cut Bank. Two major summers events, the All-Class Reunion, and Lewis Clark Days are the driving force of our timetable to get these projects completed, so we have divided up into focus groups so that we can get as much done before those two events hit town.

The Board of Directors from both Glacier Community Health Center and Northern Rockies Medical Center held a joint meeting to discuss better communication between the CEO's and organizations. The CEO's have different management styles and personalities, the challenge is how can these two groups work more closely given the circumstances? In addition, the Hospital Mill Levy is coming up for vote in June, the Hospital Board members wanted to know if the GCHC supported this effort? The overall consensus from GCHC is of support. It was suggested that the two boards schedule a joint strategic planning session to help build a closer working relationship, clarify the goals of both organizations, and strategize on how Cut Bank could become a medical center for the area.

CBDC, along with Mayor Doug Embody, President Chamber Jeff Billman have started meeting to exchange ideas and information on how to draw new businesses into Cut Bank and how to retain the ones currently in existence. Since the initial meeting, several other community members are now participating. The goal is to develop a strategy for business retention and determine a method to attract new businesses. One new business has been identified along with an existing building; more information will be forth coming as soon as agreements are firmed up.

CBDC continues to help Sweetgrass Development by keeping their doors open, answering phones and providing general administrative help. Sweetgrass Development's Executive Director has been gone since the end of October 2009, and we are helping to keep their operation going until another Executive Director can be hired.