

MAIN STREET MONTANA PROJECT

A BUSINESS PLAN *For Montana by Montanans*

**Main Street Montana Project
Transportation Minutes
July 15, 2016
Montana Rail Link IT Conference Room**

Co-Chairs:

Jason Matheny- Davis Transport Inc.
Tom Walsh – Montana Rail Link

Members:

Carla Allen – Central Montana Railroad
Gary De France- Harrison Grain Elevator Company
Kathy Fasso- Port of Montana
Dave Gardner – Mergenthaler Transfer and Storage, MTS Freight
Ronald Hooper – Neptune Aviation
Jeremiah Lemons-Montana Companies / Oldcastle Materials
Jim Lewis - Montana Rail Link
Bill Lloyd-Great West Engineering
John Pavsek- Morrison-Maierle
John Shoff-DOWL H K M
Sten Solberg – Jones Brother Trucking
Scott Weiss – DTS Logistics

Attendee:

Larry Simkins- Washington Corporations
Matt Jones- Burlington Northern Santa Fe

Staff:

Amanda Casey-Governor's Office
Mary Craigle-Department of Commerce, Governor's Office
Lynn Zanto-Montana Department of Transportation

9:30

Mary Craige welcomes members and introduces co-chairs, Tom Walsh and Jason Matheny. Co-Chairs Walsh and Matheny welcome members and provide introductory remarks.

Larry Simkins, CEO, Washington Corporations, gives brief history of the Main Street Montana Project and his role within the project stating that this project was written by business people and can only work if you want it to work. Mr. Simkins thanked the KIN members for being part of the project and thanked Mary Craige, Lynn Zanto and Amanda Casey for their work on the project.

9:45

KIN member give self-introductions

9:55

Mary Craigle gives insight to the Main Street Montana Project (MSMP) beginning with an overview of the Pillars.

1. Train and educate tomorrow's workforce
2. Create a climate that attracts, retains, and grows business
3. Build upon Montana's economic foundation
4. Market Montana
5. Nurture emerging industries and encourage innovation

MSMP Business at table with government—not at the back of the room like before.

10:05

If you were granted one wish that would help the Transportation Sector in Montana flourish, what would that be?

- Product to haul and economic development
 - Business development; attracting business-home grown
- Safety training-keep employee's safe
- Infrastructure growth
 - Statewide compensation plan
- Consistent funding; largely billing federal government
- Easier access to Capital-favorable rates
 - Local funding beyond Board of Investments
- Continued funding for wood products
- More effective ways to coordinate transportation
- Access to more air service; more affordable
- Market analysis to show viable air service
- Demand for air service-need market analysis (what is the demand)
- Container freight options
- Rail service competition for wheat and barley
- Statewide infrastructure plan (survey)
- Access to urban areas
- Exchange rates (import/export)
- Renewing of CDL licenses
 - Making appointments for renewing-make it more accessible
 - Haz-Mat is only available in Billings
- Department of Justice handles motor vehicles
 - Bring in more licensing bureaus
- Creating business in Montana
 - Need business to flourish rail and transit
- Judicial process
 - Going to trial; court system

- Need more district court judges?
- Workers from other states come to Montana to sue company

11:05

Mary Craigle delivers an overview of Montana's economy

*asking KIN members to think of what would help grow Montana's economy

11:50

Lunch – provide by MRL with flair (Thank you so much!)

1:15

Lieutenant Governor Mike Cooney delivers remarks and thanks KIN members for being part of the Main Street Montana Project. Lieutenant Governor Cooney gives a brief history of his role within the MSMP and what Governor Bullock and he would like to see come out of the Transportation KIN.

1:30

Assessing our current state-SWOT Analysis (the details are provided in a separate plan document)

- Strengths
- Weaknesses
- Opportunities
- Threats

Discussion of J.J. Adams' presentation from the Financial Services KIN-what the SWOT analysis means to the Transportation industry.

2:10

Mary Craigle turns SWOT analysis and wish section into work plan to create subgroups. (Note: the details are provided in a separate plan document)

2:30

Prioritized issue areas and actions for KIN across Main Street Montana five Pillars.

2:45 Where do we go from here?

Divided topics into several subgroups. KIN members were asked to sign up for subgroups to work on. Mary Craigle will put together a work plan based which details the One Big Wish, SWOT and these subgroup topics.

2:55

Mary Craigle wraps up meeting by giving a brief summary of the meeting and thanking members for being part of the Main Street Montana Project. Discussion of when the next meeting will be taking place and when subgroups will be meeting by either phone or in-person.

3:00

Adjourn