



This is an update on the Moffat County LMD (Local Marketing District) that was approved at the last general election. As you all know this was an initiative brought forth by NACO Team One that went to Kentucky and approved by the BOCC. They reached out to the Town of Dinosaur and the Craig City Council asking for our support. With a lot of effort from many individuals and organizations it helped the LMD pass. The first step after the election was to come up with a temporary operating plan by December 5th submitted to the state in order to start receiving funds. This was done by resolution and approved by each of the three governing bodies: Town of Dinosaur, City of Craig and the Moffat County Board of Commissioners. It was also agreed that the county should be the fiscal agent for collecting those lodging monies. The fund has collected to date just over \$9,713; which is collected by the state on a monthly basis and received by the county a month and a half later depending on when each establishment's tax report is due.

We held our first meeting on January 4th, it was determined our focus would be, developing a set of bylaws by giving the appointed board a foundation from which to start. We used the Gunnison/Crested Butte LMD bylaws as a template at our last meeting on February 10th in Maybell. We have two sub-committees working on language that will assist our respective attorneys in developing draft language to be presented at our next meeting scheduled for March 29th. Councilman Bohrer and Councilman Duran volunteered their time to help with that language.

The idea is to adopt a set of bylaws which includes the appointment of a seven person board, three from Moffat County, three for the City of Craig and one from the Town of Dinosaur. Each governing body will set forth their own criteria and individual appointments. Once we have accomplished that task the board will be charged with election of officers: Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. The board will be responsible for overseeing the budget, the operating plan and the bylaws which is a working document. The board according to the C.R. S. (Colorado Revised Statutes) is authorized to provide the coordination of tourism promotion activities, coordination and support of events in support of business recruitment, management and development. The board will oversee the collection and

disbursement of a four (4%) marketing and promotion tax and accommodations in the City of Craig, Town of Dinosaur and Moffat County pursuant to C.R.S. 29-25-112. The LMD has a 10 year sunset clause as approved by the voters.

In closing I wanted to inform you of the primary goals and objectives the Craig City Council has adopted for 2016.

- Explore new revenue enhancement options. The City of Craig is still operating on yesterday's dollars trying to provide the same services which the community has come to expect.
- Broadband Planning Grant submitted to DOLA (Department of Local Affairs) which was a result of two ballot questions approved by the voters. The planning grant will map and identify where we have a lack of broadband infrastructure and access and then we can apply for an actual infrastructure grant through DOLA later on. Quality broadband access can provide new opportunities for people and businesses and increase our broadband capabilities which will help with local economic development efforts.
- The council also wants to improve our sidewalks in the downtown area and along Victory Way which will also include better handicap access.
- Our fourth goal is in working with YVEA to improve the lighting and appearance along Victory Way between Lincoln and Ranney streets. This will include removing the three wire open services and converting it to triplex, changing out the old mercury vapor lights to high pressure sodium lights which are consistent throughout most of the city. Replacing the 120 volt outlets we use to plug in our Christmas ornaments and bring them up to code.

In closing, many of you in this room are involved in the community in one capacity or another through the different boards and commissions you sit on and represent. As a community we are all better off for your commitment, time and service. On behalf of the Craig City Council I want to thank you for your service and commitment to our community and giving us the opportunity to serve you.

If you have any questions or comments please contact me at 824-4994

Ray Beck
Mayor

