

# SUMMER EDITION



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## 2016/17 Board of Directors

Ryta Sondergard—President  
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Leo Chapman  
Scott Hannum  
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Bob Patton  
Larry Jebens  
Tammy Mortensen

Cindy Wallace— Exec. Dir.

Ex-officio members:  
Sid Fox  
Pat Robbins  
Leigh Nation  
Stacy Crimmins



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## LEADERSHIP CARBON COUNTY UPDATE

Leadership Carbon County held their last full day session on June 22nd with the topic of Agriculture and Tourism. Most of the day was spent in the Platte Valley area touring local ranches and tourist spots. The final session will be held on July 12th with a completion dinner at the Saratoga Hot Springs Resort! The class members have attended sessions the past few months on healthcare, education, workforce, industry, local government and non-profits.

Class members and their sponsors are the following: Danielle Gross and Annette Waller – City of Rawlins; Sabrina Hamby, Rawlins National Bank; Cory Hudson, CCHEC; Leslie Jefferson, Carbon County Visitors' Council; Jacob Michelsen, Carbon Co. Library System; Georgia Miller, Rawlins National Bank, Saratoga branch, James Sewell, TA Ranch and Robyn Taylor, Sage Creek Realty.

Thank you to the following committee members who have partnered with CCEDC make this leadership class possible: David Throgmorton, CCHEC; Pam Thayer, Downtown Rawlins DDA Main Street; Stacy Crimmins, Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce; Rawlins-Carbon County Chamber of Commerce and Pat Robbins, South Central Regional Director Wyoming Business Council.

## WALLACE APPOINTED CHAIR OF CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES ADVISORY BOARD



Cindy Wallace, Executive Director of Carbon County Economic Development Corporation was recently re-appointed by Governor Matt Mead to serve on the Correctional Industry Advisory Board that oversees the Wyoming Brand Industries program of the state's correctional institutions. At their June quarterly meeting Wallace was appointed as chair for the 2017/18 year.

“The board basically monitors the correctional industries programs that help train inmates to learn a trade before being released. Programs across the state include the print shop, wood shop, and garment shop at WSP, a sign shop, Braille program, license plate specialty products, aqua aeration program, embroidery shop, and janitorial programs are operated at the other correctional facilities,” said Wallace. Go to [wyobrand.com](http://wyobrand.com) to learn more.

## **FREE SEMINAR TO LEARN HOW TO BE A WIND ENERGY TECHNICIAN**

Goldwind Works and Viridis Eolia will be hosting a free seminar to learn how to qualify for a training program and start a career to become a Wind Energy Technician. A Wind Energy Technician is the fastest growing profession in the country.

They will be holding three sessions with the first being held in Rawlins. Here are the details and information:

**Tuesday, July 11: 9 am—12 PM**  
**Jeffrey Center**  
**315 Pine Street, Rawlins, WY**

Wednesday, July 12: 9 AM—12 PM  
Parkway Resort & Convention Center  
1 Parkway Plaza Drive, Casper, WY

Thursday, July 13: 9 AM—12 PM.  
Gillette Community College, RM TEC 213  
Gillette, WY



RSVP to: [works@goldwindamericas.com](mailto:works@goldwindamericas.com) or call 1-224-990-9201. Lunch will be provided. For more information contact Goldwind Works at the above number or go to [www.goldwindworks.com](http://www.goldwindworks.com).

Goldwind announced that they will be the turbine supplier for the Little Medicine Bow Wind Energy project that will be north of Medicine Bow off highway 487. CCEDC is assisting on a WBC Business Committed grant for a rail facility in Medicine Bow for an off loading site for their turbines and other equipment.

### **CCEDC working on ENDOW Regional Assessment**

The Governor and legislature approved the Economically Needed Diversity Options for Wyoming (ENDOW) plan this last session and a state-wide executive committee has already started working on details. The first item is having each county or region do a regional assessment to create asset maps of the state and to help form a long-term strategy for economic diversification in Wyoming. Each county and town was given a survey form to fill out that is due on June 30th. CCEDC is working on this survey so that we can turn in one survey for the whole county. Each community is asked to fill in their parts and then the CCEDC office can then combine all the information into one document with each town being listed on the spreadsheet. Cindy Wallace, CCEDC Executive Director attended the Carbon County Council of Governments (CCCOG) meeting in Saratoga on June 21st to go over this assessment.

Items asked include what target industries fit in our county, amenities for each community including number of local restaurants, shopping establishments, hotel rooms, camp sites, biking trails (both paved and graveled), cross country ski trails, ski areas, number of hunting areas, number of festivals and events, a list of professional services, lists of industrial services, transportation, pipelines and much more. Business development and innovation zones will then be defined and recommended to close amenity and infrastructure gaps. Be watching for more details!

*Carbon County Economic Development Board of Directors meets the first Monday of every month at 5:00 PM at various locations around the county. The public is welcome to attend. To find out location go to the home page of our website at [ccwyed.net](http://ccwyed.net) or call the office at 324-3836.*

## WORKFORCE ADVISORY GROUPS BEING FORMED

The Wyoming Workforce Development Council, a 30-member board charged with assisting the Governor in directing Wyoming's workforce development system has formed Workforce Advisory Groups (WAGS) for each region of the state. Carbon County is included in the southwest region along with Sweetwater, Uinta, Lincoln and Sublette counties.

Each county is to form a workforce advisory group and meet monthly to compile feedback from employers regarding their workforce needs, training needs, workforce gaps for new and existing industries, predicted new and replacement positions in the local labor market and report the economic health of our area. Two members from each county group then meets quarterly with the regional group to report our findings.

The WAG's need to be more employer driven and companies are being asked to be a part of the county group. This is a way to become involved and have a voice on your companies labor needs. CCEDC is chairing the county-wide group and working on setting a consistent day and time of the month to meet. So far we have asked for representatives from the following companies to be a part of this group: Sinclair WY Refining Company, Williams, Wyoming State Pen, the school districts of Carbon County, BLM, WLC, Rocky Mtn Power, a representative from the food industry, Saratoga Forest Management, Candy Mountain, Memorial Hospital of Carbon County, City of Rawlins, and Linn Energy.

If **you or your business** wants to be on the committee we welcome you and your input. Call the CCEDC office for more information. We need your help and don't want to leave anyone out who is interested in serving on this workforce committee.!

## THE ROLE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development plays many roles in a community, county, or state but the main roles are the following:

- Economic Development works to persuade new business to locate in a community. (Business Recruitment).
- Economic Development helps businesses already in your community to continue growing there. ( Business Retention & Expansion).
- Economic Development looks for ways to turn distressed areas into vibrant hubs of economic activities.

Besides working on the activities above, our economic development office also works on:

Marketing and Attraction  
Community Development  
Workforce Development  
Infrastructure  
Business Finance  
Entrepreneurship  
Tourism Development  
International Trade  
Industrial Rehabilitation  
Grant writing  
And combinations of all the above!

On our Carbon County Economic Development Facebook page there are a couple of U-Tube videos to view that the International Economic Development Council put together to learn more about the role of Economic Development. While on our page be sure to "Like" our Facebook page!



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## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FUND CHANGES

Starting July 1, 2017, the Workforce Development Training Fund (WDTF) moves into a new funding cycle. Demand for WDTF Business Training Grant dollars remains high while budget reductions have significantly impacted the availability of funds. Due to the limited funding, the WDTF will be implementing monthly and annual business caps. **Effective August 1, 2017**, a business entity will not be able to receive more than \$10,000 per month and \$50,000 per fiscal year in WDTF grant monies. This new policy was approved by the Wyoming Workforce Development Council to allow more equitable access to WDTF funding.

On July 1, 2017, the WDTF will continue to have \$110,000 in total grant money to distribute each month, and will open its online application portal at 9 a.m. the first business day of each month. Once the \$110,000 has been exhausted, the Business Training Grant application portal will close until the first business day of the following month.

If you have questions concerning these training funds or need help on filling out an application to receive funds for training, call the CCEDC office.

## **MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER** **2016/17 HONOR ROLL OF INVESTORS**

**Diamond Level:** Carbon County, City of Rawlins, Bank of Commerce, Sinclair Wyoming Refining Company, Power Company of Wyoming

**Platinum Level:** Town of Saratoga, Dallin Motors, Rawlins National Bank

**Gold Level:** Rocky Mountain Power, Shively Hardware Co., Engineering Associates, Farm Bureau Financial Services - Tammy Mortensen; SEKO Forklift Scales.

**Silver Level:** Black Hills Energy, WLC Engineering, Century Link, Subway on Cedar Street, Wind Swept Accounting, Town of Elk Mountain, Town of Baggs

**Benefactors Level:** Ben Whitfield-State Farm Insurance, ERA Frontier Realty, Best Western Cotton Tree Inn, Rawlins KOA, Town of Sinclair, Town of Encampment, Town of Riverside, Town of Hanna, Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Your support makes it possible for our economic development efforts to move forward. We truly appreciate your investment in CCEDC and starting in July a team of board members will be calling on new businesses to join the businesses above to invest in our Economic Development efforts!

To become an investor or learn more, please contact the office at 307-324-3836 or go to our website for a pledge form at [www.ccwyed.net](http://www.ccwyed.net).

### **SPOTLIGHT INVESTOR -**



Rocky Mountain Power has been an investor for over five years in our Moving Forward Together program. Based in Salt Lake City, Utah, they provide electric service to 1.1 million customers in Idaho, Utah and Wyoming. As part of PacifiCorp covering California, Oregon and Washington also, they are one of the lowest cost electricity providers in the United States, with 1.8 million customers in six western states.

Rocky Mountain Power is planning major investments in Wyoming between now and 2020 to add new wind generation, upgrade existing wind farms and build new transmission. The \$3.5 billion investment includes: Up to 1,100 megawatts of new wind by 2020, primarily in Wyoming; repowering the existing company-owned Wyoming wind fleet with longer blades and newer technology to increase energy production and extend the life of the projects and construction of a new 140-mile Gateway West transmission segment by 2020.

The Energy 2020 Vision plan will create between 1,100 and 1,600 construction jobs in Wyoming, add \$120 million in tax revenues through construction, and an additional \$15 million annually in wind and property tax revenue starting in 2021.

**Mission: Carbon County Economic Development Corporation is dedicated to improving the economic future of Carbon County, Wyoming.**