

Director's Report

August 21st, 2017

Respectfully submitted to the Phillips County Economic Development Board of Directors, this report highlights the key activity of the organization since the previous board meeting and the Director's Report dated July 25th, 2017

Business Recruitment, Retention and Expansion

Recruitment:

Sonic construction complete this week. Restaurant to open the evening of August 30th. Final hourly positions being hired.

Project planning for the Masonic Lodge apartments with outside investor.

Working on a potential manufacturing business project for the "Kester" building.

Evaluation of possible of multi-unit retail development in Phillipsburg. Investment available contingent on anchor location.

Expansion:

Local business still in consultancy though a partnership between MAMTC (Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center), KSBDC, SCORE and the Economic Gardening Program.

We have 18 jobs listed on the Phillips County Jobs web pages.

Retention:

Working with owner of a Phillips County residential development to locate new ownership.

Local private sector resources still meeting with NetWork Kansas and other ED partners/resources to establish a regional tool to offer assistance to potential business owners and to our local businesses that will close due to retirement/health or harvesting.

Default (over 60 days past due):

PCED: None

E-Community/StartUp Kansas: Two borrowers. Collection proceedings to be executed on both accounts.

Development Projects

Phillips County E-Community

Final two delinquent accounts being handled.

Housing Project

Working with outside investor on feasibility of additional housing development project in Phillipsburg.

Community Projects

Community Daycare:

Awaiting response from Department of Commerce on CSP tax credit application. Finalizing financial plan and applications for project revenue to complete the development. Application for KDHE abatement grant for the property.

Kansas Pride Community

Total funding for the Long Island Municipal park/play area has now been obtained. Order placed.

Local Updates**Central Growers Cooperative**

Group working with High Plains Food Coop on partnership projects/ container farms.

Development

Dirt work started for project east of Phillipsburg.

Misc.**Internships**

Nex-Gen/PCED internship program: Internships completed. Awaiting evaluations from Nex-Gen admin.

Phillips County Revolving Loan fund

Prospective sale of remaining business will allow for the CDBG revolving loan fund to be closed.

Youth Engagement Committee

Survey complete – ready for publication.

Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge

Local Rural Business Challenge for 2018 to be based on Recyclables. Visited with PHS and they will participate again this year. Also potential for local 4H to become involved this year.

September Events – At a Glance

September 6-7: wKREDA Fall Conference

September 12-14: Kansas Leadership Center.

September 25: PCED Board Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Nick Poels – Executive Director, Phillips County Economic Development.