

# Custer County Community Economic Development Meeting Minutes January 29, 2007

Committee members in attendance were Angie Arterburn, Robert Weisenbach, Enos Mullett, Charles Bogle, Peggy Quint, Jack Canterbury, Glen Livengood, Bob Senderhauf, Lance Villers, and Karen Crumbaker. Guests included: Frank Trujillo, Robin Young, Pete Sobel, Robert Reacer, Margaret Weisenbach, Kathy Reis, Ken Felty, Bob Lynch, Bob Dreher, Jean Canterbury, Nora Drenner, Lockett Pitman, Dick Downey, Kit Shy, Bob Tobin, Renee Tobin, Michael West, and Kim Stein.

Clarke Becker, Executive Director of Colorado Rural Development Council, gave a brief introduction of what the Community Assessment program involves; that building community and infrastructure of existing businesses is the key to succeed in the program. Clarke has served on teams around the State of Colorado assisting communities with the assessment. Clarke let the Committee know he presents an ED101 course, if the Committee was interested. The Committee agreed this would be a valuable input and invited Clarke to present ED101 at the next meeting.

Next, Stephanie Steffens, South Central Business Development Representative for Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade, gave an overview of what was involved in applying for and the steps necessary to achieve a successful community assessment. The goal of the assessment program is to provide the community with resources and contact information so that it may plan, execute and complete an economic development strategic plan. Stephanie explained the timeline and responsibilities needed to complete the final assessment. A TEAM of four industry professionals work hand-in-hand with community leaders and are available to move the committee in a forward motion to achieve its goals.

After Stephanie's presentation, the Economic Development Committee agreed to go forward with the Community Assessment. The next step is for the Steering Committee to complete the Community Economic Development Assessment Application and acquire letters of support from the Towns of Westcliffe and Silver Cliff, and the County Commissioners.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2007, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Cliff Lanes. Clarke Becker, Executive Director of Colorado Rural Development Council will be our guest at this meeting.

Submitted by Karen Crumbaker