

# Economic Development Advisory Council

*Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-1820, MCA.*

The Economic Development Advisory Council provides direction and oversight to the Governor and the Montana Department of Commerce (DOC). Specifically, the Council:

- advises the DOC concerning the distribution of funds to certified regional development corporations for business development purposes;
- advises the DOC regarding the creation, operation, and maintenance of the Microbusiness Finance Program and the policies and operations affecting the certified microbusiness development corporations;
- advises the Governor and the DOC on significant matters concerning economic development in Montana;
- prescribes allowable administrative expenses for which economic development funds may be used by certified regional development corporations; and
- encourages certified regional development corporations to promote economic development on Indian reservations in their regions.

## Membership

The Council is composed of up to 19 members. Fifteen of the members are appointed by the Governor and include the Director of the DOC, the Governor's Chief Business Development Officer who serves as Presiding Officer of the Council, one member from a Montana tribal government who represents a tribal economic development organization, and up to 12 public members representing each geographic region covered by each of the regional development corporations certified by the DOC. In addition, two representatives, including one from each party, are appointed by the Speaker of the House and two senators, including one from each party, are appointed by the Committee on Committees.

## MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

### ***House Members***

#### **Rep. Joe McKenney (R)**

500 Deer Dr.  
Great Falls, MT 59404-3829  
Ph: 452-0326  
joem@montana.com

#### **Rep. Dan Villa (D)**

1619 W Park Ave.  
Anaconda, MT 59711-1831  
Ph: 563-5855  
danvillaformontana@hotmail.com

### ***Senate Members***

**Sen. Jerry Black (R)**

445 O'Haire Blvd.  
Shelby, MT 59474-1950  
Ph: 434-5363  
blacks@3rivers.net

**Sen. Jeff Mangan (D)**

1223 7th Ave. North  
Great Falls, MT 59401-1613  
Hm: 452-6966, Wk: 453-6784  
jmangan@mountainpeaksinc.com

### ***Public and State Agency Members***

**Mr. Jim Atchison**

Southeastern Montana Development  
Corp.  
P.O. Box 1935  
Colstrip, MT 59323  
Ph: 748-2990  
semdc@bhwi.net

**Ms. Elizabeth Harris**

JOBS Now/FCEDA  
490 W Reserve Dr.  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
Ph: 257-7711  
lharris@flatheadport.org

**Ms. Kathie Bailey**

Snowy Mountain Development Corp.  
613 NE Main  
Lewistown, MT 59457  
Ph: 535-2591  
smdcdist6@hotmail.com

**Ms. Sheila Hogan**

Career Training Institute  
347 N Last Chance Gulch  
Helena, MT 59601  
Ph: 443-0800  
sheilah@ctibrc.org

**Mr. Evan Barrett, Presiding Officer**

Montana Governor's Office  
Office of Economic Development  
P.O. Box 200801  
Helena, MT 59620-0801  
Ph: 444-5470  
ebarrett@mt.gov

**Mr. Steve Holland**

Montana State University  
Montana Manufacturing Extension Center  
P.O. Box 174255  
Bozeman, MT 59717-4255  
Ph: 994-3812  
sholland@coe.montana.edu

**Ms. Betty Curry**

Beartooth RC & D  
P.O. Box 180  
Joliet, MT 59041-0180  
Ph: 962-3914  
bjcurry@beartooth.org

**Ms. Erin Lutts**

Mid-Rivers Communications  
211 N Merrill Ave.  
Glendive, MT 59330  
Ph: 337-7438  
elutts@midrivers.com

**Mr. Tony Preite, Vice Presiding Officer**

Montana Department of Commerce  
301 S Park  
P.O. Box 200501  
Helena, MT 59620-0501  
Ph: 841-2708  
tpriete@mt.gov

**Mr. Tony Rudbach**

University of Montana-Missoula  
University Hall, Room 116  
Missoula, MT 59812  
Ph: 243-2148  
triltd@aol.com

**Mr. Mark Sansaver**

Assiniboine & Sioux Tribal Enterprise  
Community  
HC 31, Box 3051  
Wolf Point, MT 59201  
Ph: 768-3155  
msansaver@fpcc.edu

**Mr. Jim Smitham**

Butte Local Development Corp.  
P.O. Box 507  
Butte, MT 59701  
Ph: 723-4349  
jsmitham@bldc.net

Staff

**Quinn Ness, Program Manager**

Montana Department of Commerce  
Certified Regional Development Corporation  
301 S Park  
Helena, MT 59620  
Ph: 841-2758  
quness@mt.gov

FAX: 841-2731

**Mr. Paul Tuss**

Bear Paw Development Corp.  
P.O. Box 170  
Havre, MT 59501  
Ph: 265-9226  
ptuss@bearpaw.org

**Ms. Linda Twitchell**

Great Northern Development Corp.  
233 Cascade St.  
Wolf Point, MT 59201  
Ph: 653-2590  
linda@gndc.org

**Ms. Elaina Zempel**

Pondera Regional Port Authority  
702 S Main, Suite 1  
Conrad, MT 59425  
Ph: 271-7237  
zemple@3rivers.net