

Governor's Office of Economic Development

Agency Overview

September 2015

For the Economic Affairs Committee

Chief Business Development Officer/Office head: John Rogers (appointed by governor with Senate approval)

Statutory Authority: 2-15-218, MCA, for Office of Economic Development, established within the Office of the Governor, with policy and purpose stated in 90-1-112, MCA. Rulemaking authority is provided in 90-1-114, MCA. The chief business development officer's duties are listed in 2-15-219, MCA.

Office Description and Responsibilities:

- Encompasses programs on business retention and recruitment, workforce development, technology development, infrastructure improvement, and permitting/regulatory processes.
- May contract with or employ policy specialists to carry out program goals or assist business development officer.
- May accept loans, grants, or gifts for stated purposes.
- Strengthens foundations of state's business environment and diversity and works to expand existing economic endeavors.
- Offers technical and financial assistance regarding economic development, particularly of natural resources and agricultural operations.
- Serves (or appoints someone in office to serve) on the State-Tribal Economic Development Commission.

Business Development Officer Duties:

- Helps provide, along with the office, a vision and direction through the development of strategies and initiatives to ensure orderly, effective development of the state's economy.
- Advises the governor on policy issues related to economic development.
- Leads the state's business recruitment, retention, and expansion efforts.
- Coordinates the development and distribution of a statewide strategic development plan.
- Coordinates office functions/programs.
- Serves as the state's primary liaison with federal, state, local agencies, Montana tribal governments, private, nonprofit economic development organizations, and the private sector.
- Serves on the Rail Services Competition Council and the Economic Development Advisory Council.

Administratively Attached Entities:

None

Legislative Audits:

- Performance Audit, Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity, December 2004.

Agency Bills Passed During 2015 Session:

None

Budget

Governor's Office of Economic Development			
(a special program in the Governor's Office, and as such no separate line items in budget.)			
	FTE	General Fund	2017 Biennium Total
FY 2013 Biennium (FY 2012-2013)	5.63	\$1,790,921*	\$1,790,921*
FY 2017 Biennium (FY 2016-2017)	5.00	\$1,500,589	\$1,500,589

*Number changed from previous report, which showed \$1,876,046.

Economic Affairs Committee Areas of Interest:

- Overlap in duties, responsibilities between the Department of Commerce and the GOED.