Economic Development Issues - Where are we and where are we headed?

Draft Schedule for Economic Affairs Committee meeting, October 24, 2003
Room 137
State Capitol

8:15 a.m. Introduction -- Outline of Topics -- Rep. Joe McKenney

8:30 a.m.
1) Under what conditions is Montana operating? Current Status
   A. General Economy Overview by Paul Polzin (UM, head of the Bureau of Business and Economic Research)
   B. Montana Labor/Employment Trend Overview by Phil Brooks, Montana Dept. of Labor and Industry

10:15 a.m. 2) What local groups are doing now and where there are gaps
   Differences in economic development/community development by area (Presented by regional economic development representatives)
   Dick King, Missoula Economic Development Corp.
   John Kramer, Great Falls Development Authority
   Joe McClure, Big Sky Economic Development Authority, Billings
   Paul Tuss, Bear Paw Development Corp., Havre

11:30 3) Where do we want to be? Options
   Dave Gibson

Noon Lunch

1:00 p.m. 4) What are the tools?
   A. Cluster/Collaboration Concept -- Dave Gibson
   B. Travel Montana Model for building an industry -- Mark Simonich
   C. Existing Technical and Financial programs -- Mark Simonich and Andy Poole
   Venture capital
   Microbusiness
   Small Business assistance programs
   Manufacturing extension service

3:00 E. University System Role and best practices developed/implemented/proposed by universities -- John Mercer and Mark Semmens

4:00 Public Comment

4:15 Adjourn