

Manufacturer's Round Table

January 11, 2017

Meeting Held at: CHI St. Alexis Health

Meeting Record

Present: Shirley Dukart, Home and Land Company; Mary Urlacher, Job Service North Dakota; Jon R Cameron, US Senator John Hoeven; Shirley Meyer, US Senator Heidi Heitkamp; Mary Massad, Southwest Water Authority; Debora Dragseth, Dickinson State University; Shawn Kessel, City of Dickinson; Shanna Shervheim, Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation; Patrick Hedger, KMM; Don Hedger, KMM; Don Hedger, KMM; Tom Mitzel, Dickinson State University; Guy Moos, Baker Boy; Tom Krank, TMI; Dave Lehman, NDSU-Manufacturing Engineering Extension; Cheryl Viola, Dickinson Area Chamber of Commerce; Reed Reyman, CHI St. Alexis Health – Dickinson; Ryan Jilek, Stark Development Corporation; and Danita Tysver, Stark Development Corporation

Business – Go – Round:

Reed Reyman provided a welcome.

Reed Reyman shared a video on millennials in the workplace by Simon Sinek.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hER0Qp6QJNU>

Shirley Dukart, Home and Land Company – Winter has put a stop to building. Spec homes are not being built like in the past. Working on marketing strategies to different age groups. Prices have stabilized. Apartments have a 30% vacancy rate. See attached handout.

Mary Urlacher, Job Service North Dakota – Region 8 has 761 job openings in variety of positions. Job openings are listed for about 30 days. The Williston office is seeing increase in oil field openings. Stark County has a 3.1 % unemployment rate, the Region is at 2.9%, and North Dakota is at 2.5%. Have training programs going on. See attached handout.

Jon R Cameron, US Senator John Hoeven – Started the 115th session last week. Will have a new President on January 21st. Expect to be very busy. See attached handouts.

Shirley Meyer, Senator Heidi Heitkamp – Had a good hearing regarding the Backpage website. Had a Backpage sting in Dickinson and 25 people responded. See attached handouts.

Mary Massad, Southwest Water Authority – The DAPL pipeline crosses their lines 26 times. DAPL will pay for moving lines. Hearings have started regarding funding. Southwest Water Authority meets the first Monday of the month, all are invited. Have ordered a new micro tunnel machine for the second intake. The second intake may be completed next year. Water treatment plant under construction in Dickinson. Need to update pump stations in Dodge, Dickinson, and Richardton. Need 2 new water reservoirs. New tanks are needed throughout the region. Amidon needs water. Have 550 customers waiting for water. Need support for the next biennium funding. Originally asked for \$84 million, are in for \$17 million. Have repaid more than \$52 million to North Dakota.

Debora Dragseth, Dickinson State University – The first article of the manufacturing series in City Magazine was in January 2017 featuring Gaylon Baker. Baker Boy will be featured in February and Funshine will be in March.

Shawn Kessel, City of Dickinson – Have 4 openings. Struggling to hire police officers, other towns also struggling. In the process of hiring a City Attorney. Over budget on snow removal. Budgeted \$50,000 and have spent \$300,000 so far. Will continue to spend what is necessary throughout the year. The City has just started their 2017 budget year. Have recently let two people go in the planning department due to budget cuts. Working with a contract to sell reuse water for fracking. RFP's have been sent out for recycling. May have curbside recycling by this summer. Have received a quality of life award for the Crooked Crane Trail. Also received awards for the States Avenue overpass and the Public Works building. Participated in a League of Cities conference call. Gearing up for the Legislature. Estimate the population of Dickinson to be 23,000. NDSU updated their population projections for Dickinson, expect the population to be 30,000 by 2027. Plan to have a grand opening for the Crooked Crane Trail in spring.

Don Hedger, KMM – Finishing up Dickinson's facility expansion. Using all local contractors. Creating 80 new jobs. Expect programs with Boeing to grow slower in years to come. The defense market is growing. Have 350 employees between 4 locations. Have had good luck hiring.

Thomas Mitzel, DSU – Enrollment is up 5% over all this year. Have 1,386 students enrolled. The goal in the next 5-6 years is to have 2,000 students enrolled. Anything over 2,000 students, capacity will need to be built. The DSU Heritage Foundation has met the state challenge grant match goals. Have had great community support. A new SBDC director has been hired for the Dickinson area. Continually working to integrate DSU into the community by having community events on campus. Bull Days will be at the DSU indoor soon. Preparing for the upcoming biennium. Student credit hours have affected their funding. Been meeting with legislatures. Have a few different scenarios planned out that could change the core of DSU. Hoping for the best planning for the worst. Having an open forum on campus beginning at 2 p.m. MT (3 p.m. CT) in Beck Auditorium on Friday, all are invited.

Guy Moos, Baker Boy – Sales are good. Have good inventory. Had a holiday shut down for the factory workers. Ordering mixers from Italy. Received a new packaging machine. Just completed a \$25,000 flooring project. Have 7 openings. Applications have been good. Currently have 210 employees. Plan to keep adding automation. Tax incentives for manufacturing may see cuts by the Legislature.

Dave Lehman, NDSU-Manufacturing Engineering Extension – North Dakota manufacturing is growing. Ag and energy is still down. The automation tax credit may be cut and operation intern may not get funded.

Tom Krank, TMI – Ordering new equipment, sending someone to Germany for training. Have 7 openings in the factory and 1 driver opening. Staffing is good. Have seen good applicants. Currently have 242 employees. At their peak they had 405 employees. Have added a 5 man night shift. Seeing a nice manageable growth.

Cheryl Viola, Dickinson Area Chamber of Commerce – Bull Days is coming up, added an educational component this year. Looking for success stories for Southwest Night with the Legislators. State of the City will be February 9, 2017. The professional development committee will be having Teddy Talks. See attached handouts.

Reed Reyman, CHI St. Alexis Health Dickinson – The affordable care act may see some significant changes. CHI is looking to merge with Dignity Health. Would be the 2nd largest healthcare system in the country. Have 8 openings. Ahead of budget this year. St. Alexis in Bismarck has had 75 layoffs. They had about 60 traveling nurses. Minot is building a new hospital. Births are about 56 a month. Scheduled to have about 700 births this year. ER visits are down to about 400 a month. Hired a new OBGYN. Working with Legislators and others to develop a mental health facility. Having billing complications. Contact the hospital locally if you have billing issues.

Ryan Jilek, Stark Development Corporation – Ryan Jilek is now the Executive Vice President. Stark Development Corporation's annual membership meeting will be February 21, 2017 at the Ramada.

Thomas Mitzel, DSU – See attached handouts about DSU Internship 101.

Thomas Mitzel, DSU – See attached handouts the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 2:30 PM, at Dickinson State University.