

Manufacturer's Round Table

September 12, 2018

Location: Job Service North Dakota

Meeting Record

Present: Mary Urlacher, Job Service ND; Mary Massad, Southwest Water Authority; Shirley Meyer, Senator Heitkamp; Debora Dragseth, DSU; Sue Roller, Baker Boy; Sheri Buck, Senator Hoeven; Thomas Mitzel, DSU; Dave Huizenga, TrainND; Shon Hocker, Dickinson Public Schools; Ryan Jilek, Stark Development Corporation and Danita Tysver, Stark Development Corporation.

Business – Go – Round:

Sue Roller, Baker Boy – Gearing up for busiest season. Inventory is good. Refreshed the Donut Hole brand. The new donut line has been well received. Have named their new donut “The Magic Ring”. Recently amended a \$3 million PACE loan to a \$4 million PACE loan for automation and equipment. Have 210 employees. Recently filled the open truck driver position. Needing maintenance technicians. The City and County have proclaimed October 3rd Manufacturing Day. An event will be held at the BAC. (see attached handout)

Debora Dragseth, DSU – DSU’s School of Business and Entrepreneurship received a 2018 Lead award. DSU is third ranked university in North Dakota for overall education experience. Dworshak received the Sigma Beta Delta Fellowship program award. CommUniversity will be starting their fall schedule September 29th. (see attached handout)

Shirley Meyer, Senator Heitkamp – Provided a handout regarding a bill to Support Women’s Entrepreneurs. Working on the farm bill, SNAP program is a concern. (see attached handout)

Mary Massad, Southwest Water Authority – Lake levels have dropped. Busy with construction. Raw water line by Zap needs to be connected. Building raw water tanks east of Dickinson and Richardton, tanks nearing completion. This year will be the 19th annual Make a Splash event. All 5th graders within the region are invited to attend the event. Working on residuals handling facility. Have 49 employees. Opening bids for pump stations in Dodge and Richardton will be a \$6 million project. The State Water Commission has hired an outside third party to look into divesting Southwest Water Authority from the State. Mill levy sunsets in 2020, wanting to see it extended. Have over 560 people on waiting lists. There are four initiated measures. (see attached handout)

Mary Urlacher, Job Service ND – Have 684 job openings in Stark County, 872 in the Region and 14,446 in the State. Unemployment rate in Stark County is 2.2%, North Dakota is 2.4% and the US is 3.9%. Help many individuals with resumes. Have 6 employees. Provided handout for the North Dakota apprenticeship program. (see attached handout)

Ryan Jilek, Stark Development Corporation – Attended the DisruptWell Innovation Summit. Learned half of the US population is facially recognized by Facebook, smartglass will be a new form of marketing that will cater to the individual it recognizes as they walk by, a startup company has divided the globe in 10 foot by 10 foot squares each with a unique 3 word descriptor to help people find the exact location they are looking for. Discussion took place about the security issues that may arise with the new technologies. Many of the

manufacturers are expanding. Had over \$12 million in approved projects at the August board meeting. Recently met with the manufacturers and Dr. Mitzel regarding workforce needs. The Start-up events have been good, averaging 20-30 attendees. The 3 Day Startup weekend will be October 26-28th, registration is now open. Working on marketing materials, have completed a brochure summarizing incentive programs offered by SDC. Site A has been selected by the City Commission for the Downtown Square pending successful building acquisitions. The City of Dickinson will be having an open house on September 18th to give the community an opportunity to visit with the City Administrator candidates in the Community Room at the Dickinson Area Public Library. The City Administrator candidate interviews will be September 17th.

Shon Hocker, Dickinson Public Schools – Hired over 60 new teachers this year. Berg Elementary has opened. Still have some open positions. Attendance boundaries have changed this year, had 60 requests to remain in their current schools which were denied. Forth and fifth grades are well balanced. K through third is crowded. The high school will have challenges with the growth of lower grades. Putting a committee together to address the growing needs of the high school. Have a couple hundred new students since last spring. Growth will continually be challenging. Planning needs to be done to accommodate for growth. Will be having a community open house when Berg Elementary renovations are complete.

Dave Huizenga, TrainND – TrainND is one of four training regions in the State. Provide all types of training for current employees. If interested in any programs contact Dave. (see attached handout)

Thomas Mitzel, DSU – Continue to work on building updates. May Hall has reopened after their HVAC improvements. Still working on Student Center improvements. Food services are now available 24/7. Woods Hall budget for renovations was cut but the facility has been made completely ADA compliant. Will be having a grand opening in October. Still working on the lease termination for the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library. Will be raising funds for a new practice arena. The Theodore Roosevelt Symposium will be September 20-22, 2018. Featuring the women in his life. Waiting for fall enrollment numbers. Enrollment is down across the State. Speaking with local industries to help with the dual mission. Putting proposals together for the Legislature. Will be putting a committee together on how to move forward. CommUniversity is trying to expand year-round.

Sheri Buck, Senator Hoeven – Working on airport funding. Dickinson recently received \$10.8 million.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 2:30 PM, at Southwest Water Authority.