

## **Manufacturer's Round Table**

January 9, 2019

TMI Systems Corporation

Meeting Record

**Present:** Thomas Mitzel, DSU; Irene Schafer, Pennysaver; Debora Dragseth, DSU; Sarah Trustem, Dickinson Area Chamber of Commerce; Pat Bertagnollie, MBI; Mary Urlacher, Job Service North Dakota; Sue Roller, Baker Boy; Shirley Dukart, Home and Land Company; Tom Krank, TMI; Amanda Woidyla, BND; Cindy Sanford, BND; Kevin Hoherz, Dickinson High School; Jay Hepperle, Dickinson High School; Brian Stark, JeDunn; Chris Johnson, TMI; Craig Kubas, City of Dickinson; Joe Gaa, City of Dickinson; Mark Resner, RCRC; Suzi Sobolik, Leadership Dickinson; Ryan Jilek, Stark Development Corporation and Danita Tysver, Stark Development Corporation.

### **Business – Go – Round:**

Suzi Sobolik, Leadership Dickinson – Leadership Dickinson gives Dickinson area high school seniors the opportunity to experience their community while developing their leadership skills. Students apply for the course. Twelve students are accepted per year. They meet once a month. The group has to complete a service project during the course. The manufacturer's sponsored the course this year but they will be looking for sponsors in the future.

Shirley Dukart, Home and Land Company – Sold over \$376 million in properties last year. Have 8 months of inventory. (see attached handout)

Tom Krank, TMI – Have 240 employees. Truck Driver positions are full. Sales are steady. Don't expect a lot of growth this year. Seeing growth in specialty products. Healthcare market is seeing growth. Equipment installation has been delayed. Hope to have it running by the end of January. Will be purchasing more equipment in May. The new ERP technology will be completed by the end of January.

Sue Roller, Baker Boy – Sales are flat, going through their slow time of year. The donut line expansion is on schedule. Should be completed by late spring or early summer. Have 210 employees. Hiring for an HR position, Sue Roller will be retiring. Looking to sponsor a Maintenance Technician student.

Mary Urlacher, Job Service ND – Have 838 job openings in the Region. Job Fair will be March 19, 2019. Have 40 tables available. Working with the State Veterans Program. (see attached handouts)

Discussion took place regarding population and census information.

Pat Bertagnollie, MBI – Based out of Watford City. Watford City made him feel welcome. Is very important to feel welcome in the community you live and work in. Developing community business partners to help in the recruitment efforts for families. Work a lot with the high school in Watford City. Working on "Project Lead the Way"

Sarah Trustem, Dickinson Area Chamber of Commerce – SW Night at the Legislature will be on January 28th. Eggs and Issues will be on January 16th. February 12th will be Business After Hours at CHI. February 25th will be the Agriculture Livestock Forum. (see attached handout)

Debora Dragseth, DSU – Is the president of the North Dakota Council of College Faculties. Submitted their three legislative priorities; four percent raise, better healthcare and a hold even budget. Changed curriculum for internships, they are now able to get a full semester credit.

Irene Schafer, Pennysaver – Currently in a slow period. New things are coming. Have an opening for a delivery route position.

Thomas Mitzel, Dickinson State University – The new semester has started, recently gave his State of the University. Several projects are happening on campus. Odyssey Theaters has completed their theaters. The University Store will be moving to the front of the Student Center on the main floor. Preparing for the legislative session. Enrollment in North Dakota is ahead of the last few years. Have developed a “Scholarship Corner” in the library where students can search for scholarships.

Cindy Sanford, BND – Funds are available to pay for two GED tests, application fees for college applications during October and dual credit assistance for classes during high school.

Mark Resner, RCRC – Finished the year in the black. Reduced delinquent debt by 50%. Have money available to loan.

Joe Gaa, City of Dickinson – Introduced himself as the new City Administrator. He is from Iowa and was interested in Dickinson because of the growth opportunities.

Craig Kubas, City of Dickinson – Working on the addition to the sidewalk and trail systems. DOT is working on putting a walking bridge over exit 59. Working on codes within the city to help to make the process for developers and builders more streamline. Preparing for the legislative session. Working on capital projects, debt reduction and balancing the budget.

Ryan Jilek, Stark Development Corporation – The economy at a glance has been revamped and additional information has been added. Working with VUK Multimedia to develop a community video series to help tell the area’s story. The first video will showcase Baker Boy and highlight manufacturing, employees and the quality of life. Also working on updating SDC’s website.

Dickinson High School presented on the new career academy model. (see attached powerpoint and handout)

**Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 2:30 PM, at Dickinson State University.**