



ACCREDITATION EVIDENCE

Title: Southwest Wyoming Manufacturing Partnership (SWMP)

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SWMP ELT Notes

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Discussion on Current Events/Updates/Action Items from May Meeting

- Organizations
 - Ron sent out the list of related Sweetwater County Organization, the ones he knows and the list that Tosha sent him from Carbon County so we can tap into them as we need them for various events, etc.
- WIP- (Wyoming Innovation Partnership)
 - Launched in January 2021
 - Higher Education in the state of Wyoming to help with economic diversification.
 - January- December, the team came up with a vision for Phases 1,2, and 3. Phase 1 was implemented and funded, which built the powerline technology program, fiber optics program, and other programs Western Wyoming Community College is working on.
 - The team is currently moving into Phase II and taking a retreat day and see what they want to do for Phase II as they received \$23M from the legislature for that phase.
 - Western asked for expansion of electrical and instrumentation, plant operations, and cyber security program development.
 - The WIP also got funding to expand Impact 307
- RIDE
 - The listening sessions were viewed as a big success (Southwest Wyo. was well attended, THANKS)
 - The next session is set for Monday, July 25, in Cheyenne
 - CTE, pathways, teachers, student support, parent and community engagement, and standards and assessments are the five areas coming out of the listening sessions so far.
 - Parent and community engagement
 - Parent and community engagement could be enhanced by tying in community and business engagement. The funding and support of the non-profits in the communities are important
 - (Carl and Jessica) Spotlights on Educators in the SWMP Newsletter
 - Melissa Atkinson was identified as putting the posters and flyers together for SWSD#2 High School.
 - A single blurb with a photo doesn't have to be a big write up each timer, just start to help strengthen the community's appreciation for educators!
 - Next Steps
 - The RIDE team has to write up their recommendations and present to the governor. They have already started having discussions with the legislative bodies and education sub- committees. Then, they will work

with others to write legislation and offer recommendations during the session if legislation needs to be written. One area could be HS and College credit/funding vs. penalty for sending students to the community colleges for classes?

- RIDE could help with the dual concurrent equity issue; we need access for everybody.

- **Formulation of Goal and Specific Actions for each workstream**

Talent

- Make sure each initiative has a champion and the access and support they need
 - Make contact in the workshops, follow up to help them get started and ongoing support.
- Support Plant Operator Initiative- There is interest in expanding this program.
 - Recommend Business Champions to meet with the class and discuss opportunities (FvA will commit to continue doing this)
 - Host a site visit for the class (GA currently does, others?)
 - Recruit Students (value is being experienced from the skills they have developed)
- Western Wyoming Community college is going out to Sinclair to help retrain people due to the layoffs. Potential employees could fill some of the industry's open position needs.
- Launch Lineman Program
 - WWCC has an instructor starting in the middle of August, and he is currently working on developing the curriculum
 - Carl said we should make him a spotlight in the newsletter and on the website to welcome him and introduce him in a chamber luncheon.
 - WWCC has been securing vehicles.
 - Multiple organizations have donated teaching aids.
 - Western Wyoming Community College has presented to the state building commission, the governor, and his cabinet, requesting funding for the powerline technology building, and they were approved. The next step is going to joint appropriations.
 - Start looking at ways to piggyback on the program after it gets off the ground for some virtual simulation on high voltage training.
- Next, Focus Areas for consideration (where there is a demand for talent)
 - Process Control Technicians (potential expansion of the WWCC E/I...)
 - Electrical Power Distribution
 - Leadership Development
 - Genesis is currently working with a company doing this training through modules. If other companies are interested in the company they are working with can modify it to fit the customer. Goal is work with WWCC for instructors... as GA gets more comfortable with the curriculum and value). This could facilitate

broader use of the program if there is interest, more to come on this.

- **Communications**

- Secure full-year funding for Newsletter and Website
 - We have current sponsorship for a year to stay ahead of the game.
 - Genesis is next up in November
 - Carl will reach out to the chamber to see how much money we have left, overall we are in good shape.
- Add org chart and bios of our Ex-Leadership Team
 - **Please work on a brief bio's and send in a photo so Lacey to update/finalize for our news letter and web page.**
 - The team talked about membership and people to possibly recruit, combining efforts with SEDC. Add this as a focus area in our next meeting. **We need to consider a nomination process so we can control membership of the Executive Leadership Team/Size**
- Add a section on Spotlight on Educators as noted above
- Continue to broaden circulation to all SW Wyoming school districts, businesses, chambers, and appropriate government organizations
- Create a Calendar of events- add a link in the newsletter
 - Add a way for people to submit for inclusion- Ron suggested having a button or link on the website to fill out a form to submit.

B to B (Jed/Marty)

- Hold our first B to B workshop
 - **Setting a date for the 2nd or 3rd week of September** to be held at Western Wyoming Community College from 1:00 PM- 3:30 PM
 - There will be five questions they are looking for answers to, then a 45 min walk around on what programs the college offers then a quick follow-up on what is successful and what isn't.
- Target expanding participation/membership of small businesses.

Early Career Engagement

- Find a champion for Career Engagement
- Start scheduling in-school events.
 - Pizza nights discussing specific career opportunities with students, teachers, parents
 - In-Class Presentations (SWSD#2)
 - Melissa Atkinson has identified many small and large businesses to come and do classroom presentations for her.
 - Career Fairs
 - Get a poll from the schools on who they want to attend and how they want to do it. When can we go? Have The schools give us

ideas ahead of time. FvA and Ron need to work out a process for this and make contact with the Superintendents. Important to have a mover and shaker who wants to make this happen in each region e.g. Ron noted **Melissa Atkinson for example.**

Scope and timing of our next workshop, e.g.,

- Send out a doodle poll for some dates in October following the B-to-B workshop **(first step is to lock down the B-to-B date)**
- Focus first on current initiatives and perhaps next steps if appropriate.
- Do we want to hold it at a school and engage with students and Faculty?

Round Table

- PULSE meetings- With as much going on in Southwest Wyoming e.g. **community social and fixed infrastructure?** How will we prepare ourselves for what we already have and what is coming? Talk about having one workshop **“A DISCUSSION”** just dedicated to it.
- Do we want to schedule a workshop to work on updating our Purpose and Membership?
- Grant Availability/Activity
 - Find out about State money that is available
 - Deficit Reduction Bill is interesting (this came up after our meeting)
- Business Alliance Fall Forum
 - Ron would like to bring in a few people from SWMP for a panel board discussion. Lauren will moderate the panel.
- Specific Purpose Tax
 - It will go on the ballot in November. The chamber is submitting PAC paperwork and looking for funding from businesses to help support the education initiative throughout the community. Basic infrastructure, water, sewer, road, and repairs in Rocksprings to existing facilities. Lauren will email the team information on funding.