

# Economic Development Report to the Chamber of Commerce

## 4/21/16

### Project Updates:

**Maverick Giveaway:** Flaming Gorge is one of the Giveaways for May. We are giving away a 3 night Houseboat Rental, \$200 in Chamber certificates and \$100 in Certificates to the Flaming Gorge Market. Maverik will chip in a \$50 Gift Certificate. We are hoping to do another giveaway in January or February of 2017, so think what you might offer to help promote your business. You must be a part of the Mav Getaways promotion to participate.

**Mav Getaways** – We have signed a one year contract with Mav Getaways. A training and introduction was held today to explain this promotion. Contact Brian to learn how you can participate at 25% of the normal cost on Mavgetaways website: <http://mavgetaways.com/flaming-gorge-country-utah-wyoming/>. Deadline is May 31<sup>st</sup> to participate in this program.

**Ambassador Training:** We all need to be Ambassadors for the Flaming Gorge area. Join us to see the inside of many of our local businesses so you can effectively interact with our tourists and visitors during one of two days (June 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>). Groups will meet in Dutch John and Manila and join up for Lunch at Red Canyon. We hope to make this an annual event and maybe have additional side trips on different days.

**Dowd Mountain Trails Project** – June 4<sup>th</sup> is National Trails Day, so that will be our next date for a work project on trails. More info to come!

**Shooting Range Committee:** The County Commission has formed a new committee for those interested in promoting the shooting sports within Daggett County. Applications are now being accepted for membership on the Committee or for volunteers to help at activities at the Manila Gun Range. Dutch John residents are encouraged to participate especially if there are interested in creating a gun range near Dutch John. Visit [www.daggettcountry.org/shootingrange](http://www.daggettcountry.org/shootingrange) to download the forms to join the committee or be a volunteer.

**Chamber Docs Online:** We have been working on getting past Chamber Documents on the website for those who miss the meetings and would still like to access the information shared at the meetings. Go to [www.daggettcountry.org/ChamberDocs](http://www.daggettcountry.org/ChamberDocs) to access this information. It is still a work in progress.

**TRT Board recommends a tax increase for the TRT Tax.** The Commission held a meeting on December 15 and heard comments both for and against the proposal. After discussion they approved the increase to the maximum allowed of 4.25%, which will take effect on April 1<sup>st</sup>. We are the 21<sup>st</sup> County to raise the rate to the maximum and one county raised to 3.5%. These funds will be used for additional marketing projects and personnel.

**Rural Tourism or “Rourism”** –We are still looking for article links, scenic and action pictures and/or video to help promote our area on social media, the website and through email marketing. Send or deliver them to Mark Wilson ([markw@redcanyonlodge.com](mailto:markw@redcanyonlodge.com)) or Brian Raymond ([braymond@daggettcountry.org](mailto:braymond@daggettcountry.org)) .

### Upcoming Meetings/Trainings/Events:

- May 1-7, 2016 – National Small Business Week with a variety of webinars throughout the week
- May 8-14, 2016 – National Economic Development Week-Trainings & activities to be scheduled
- May 14-15, 2016 – Flaming Gorge Fishing Derby at Lucerne Marina
- May 17, 2016 – Next Shooting Range Committee meeting at Courthouse for those interested
- May 19, 2016 – Business Innovation Summit of Eastern Utah in Price
- June 1 or 2 – Ambassador Training: Please sign-up by 5 pm May 26<sup>th</sup> by contacting Brian
- June 16, 2016 – Next Chamber Meeting to be held at the Dutch John Resort at 1 pm
- June 16-18, 2016 – [Symposium of the Old West](#) – Vernal, Utah
- Mid July 2016 – Possible ATV Rally throughout the Uintah Basin area including Daggett County
- September 27-29, 2016 [Utah Tourism Conference](#) at Zermatt & Homestead in Midway

**Business Incentives** – Contact Brian Raymond at [braymond@daggettcountry.org](mailto:braymond@daggettcountry.org) or 435-784-3218 ext. 134 for more information on any of the programs listed on this section.

**Co-operative Marketing Grant and Event Grants** – Thanks to the support of the Economic Development Corporation of Utah (EDC Utah) we have received money to help with Events and business marketing. Check out the website at [www.daggettcountry.org/co-op](http://www.daggettcountry.org/co-op) or [www.daggettcountry.org/eventmarketing](http://www.daggettcountry.org/eventmarketing) for more details.

**Rural Fast Track** – State Grant for up to \$50,000 with at least a 50% match for Daggett County businesses that have been in business for 2 years and have at least two full-time employees/owners for expanding, renovating their facility, purchasing new equipment or hiring new full-time employees (\$1000 to \$1500 for each job). This is a year round program with no deadline, but limited funds. For more information about this program visit: <http://business.utah.gov/programs/incentives/rural-fast-track/>. Application must be submitted and approved prior to construction beginning.

**TODS Program Incentive –Tourist-Oriented Directional Signs** program permits eligible businesses providing tourism or motorist services to place their business name with optional business logo or symbol panel on blue UDOT signs along certain designated rural highways. Fees are involved but limited funding is available to help until Mid June. Contact Brian for more information or an application.

**Enterprise Zone** – The entire County is now in an Enterprise Zone which has Tax Credits specifically for rural manufacturing businesses, including woodworking companies, perhaps fly tying companies, to purchase equipment or buildings. It will not assist with purchase of supplies needed in manufacturing. See <http://business.utah.gov/programs/incentives/enterprise-zones/> for more information. The 50% tax credit will probably be going away in this year's legislative session.

**RCAC & RLF Loans** – Business loan programs are available through either the Uintah Basin Association of Government's Revolving Loan Fund (\$200,000 max) or the Rural Community Assistance Corporation's Small Business Loan Program.

**Chamber Facebook Pages:** Visit Flaming Gorge is a new page started this year as part of the Rourism effort: <https://www.facebook.com/visitflaminggorge>. The standard Flaming Gorge Chamber page can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Flaming-Gorge-Chamber-of-Commerce/325921463390>. While business information, training and meeting dates are added to this page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Flaming-Gorge-Chamber-Meetings-Trainings/393000970839411>. If you have a cool post on your page and you don't see it shared on the Chamber site, send me an email so I can go find it and share it to promote your business and the area!!

**Recycling Coalition** met last week and is trying to secure an enclosed trailer to haul and store Recycling materials. If you know of one that is reasonably priced or would like to donate to help us purchase one contact Brian at the number listed below.

**Upgrading your Facility** Or adding new services?? The State Tourism Office is looking for information like this and we will add these types of news stories to the County newsletter to help get the word out. Send me your stories along with a couple of pictures!!

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