

DRAFT GFDA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 21, 2020

4:18 PM

GFDA, Email Vote

GFDA Executive Committee

cc: Executive Committee Distribution List

cc: GFDA Staff

On July 21, 2020 at 4:18:00 PM MDT, Brett Doney, CEO/President of the Great Falls Development Authority emailed a request for authorization to all members of the Executive Committee:

- 1) I would like your support by email vote reply to apply for two new grant opportunities, neither of which require match. The Bozeman area economic development organization, Prospera, operates a statewide SBA-partially funded Women's Business Development Center. They have supplemental COVID funds and have issued an RFP for \$15,000 sub-center grants to be used to assist existing and startup women-owned businesses (see link to brief RFP below). We can easily provide these supplemental services with existing staff. **Please vote by email reply yes/no to approve the Women's Business Development Center, with grant scope not adding any additional staff positions. ACTION TAKEN: MOTION 1: Yes: Mark Macek, Tim Peterson, Forrest Ehlinger, Ted Lewis, Mark Cappis, Rebecca Engum, Nate Weisenburger, Joe Briggs, Errol Rice, Dianne Meinhardt. No opposed. Motion carries.**

- 2) The second grant opportunity comes from Wells Fargo who has sent us an email invitation to apply for their new Open for Business: Community Development Financial Institutions Program (see link to two-page pdf below). They are offering \$250 million in grants to CDFI's ranging from \$250,000 - \$5 million. I have not figured out exactly how much we would apply for or how we would propose to use the funds, but it is an application that will take quite a bit of work between now and the August 9th due date. I will run a draft scope and budget by you as soon as its ready so you will have another look at this opportunity before we submit. I am still very hesitant to add staff position(s) funded by one-time grant(s), especially since we have grown out staff team so much over the last three years. The only thing that would make me change my mind would be if the City approached us with long-term CDBG support for small/micro business coaching and training support within the City. That seems to have drifted away. So, for these grants we plan on utilizing existing staff and possibly supplementing with consultant and/or short-term contract employment. I will run a draft scope and budget by you as soon as its ready so you will have another look at this opportunity before we submit. **Please vote by email reply yes/no to authorize CEO/President to pursue Wells Fargo grant with draft scope and budget to come back for review by Executive Committee before grant submission, and that grant scope will not add any additional staff positions. ACTION TAKEN: MOTION 1: Yes: Mark Macek, Tim Peterson, Forrest Ehlinger, Ted Lewis, Mark Cappis, Rebecca Engum, Nate Weisenburger, Joe Briggs, Errol Rice, Dianne Meinhardt. No opposed. Motion carries.**

[Prospera RFP](#)

[Wells Fargo Grant Description](#)