

for origination fees. Earlier in the year, two considerable projects fell through at the last minute. Even though there is a healthy amount of projects still in the pipeline, the projection for origination fees will likely be off. The expense budget will be adjusted accordingly.

Motion: Sheri Nicholson, to approve and forward to the Board of Directors, the December 2017 EDA and EDC Financials as presented to the Executive Committee.

Second: Steve Loveless

Discussion: None

Motion carried

Executive Director's Report – Acting Director

Update: Corette Site – Talen Energy Letter

With regard to the Corette Site, Steve and Melanie have been trying to arrange a meeting with the regional head of Talen Energy, Dale Lebsack, to offer a hand in Master-Planning that piece of land.

The Committee reviewed the Acting Director's Scope of Work.

Program/Org. Director's Updates

Operations: Future Facilities Taskforce Update - Becky

Becky updated the Committee about the progress made with the Future Facility Taskforce. Focus groups have been held with all staff members and the next step is to analyze the response trends. Next week, external partners will be surveyed to gain their input on the next BSED facility.

Business Recruitment/Outreach: Update: One Big Sky Center Partnership Approach – Allison

Allison gave an update on the One Big Sky Center. So far, BSED is the only entity to contribute towards the \$675,000 goal for an initial assessment but there are others still weighing a contribution. There is some discussion about rebranding this development effort, but that initiative has taken a back seat to more pressing issues. Allison attended the City Council Meeting this past Monday and gave some insight to how this project differs from the last and what the relative support is for OBSC.

Community Development: Coulson Park Master Plan Agreement – Dianne

Dianne's report was next and included a draft MOU regarding the Coulson Park Master Plan. Community Development has worked with Billings Parks and Recreation to outline which responsibilities would fall to the respective organizations. Dianne has requested that the Committee approve the MOU.

Motion: Cory Moore, to approve and forward to the Board of Directors the MOU regarding the Coulson Park Master Plan as presented to the Executive Committee.

Second: Robin Rude

Discussion: None

Motion carried

Dianne explained the issue concerning the Coal Board giving funds to MSUB. In January, the Montana Coal Board awarded \$500,000 to MSUB for the Science Building. There is language in the Montana Code that is preventing the Coal Board from giving funds to MSUB because MSUB is a State agency and cannot receive funds that exceed a certain threshold. MSUB's project is eligible to receive the funds, but MSUB as an entity is not. It is being proposed that BSED submit the application as the grantee (on behalf of MSUB) and then reimburse for qualified expenses from the proceeds of the grant. BSED has done this in the past for other community organizations and felt this was a reasonable request. Counsel was given by the Committee to see what administrative fee has been charged in the past and to be consistent with that fee moving forward. This application requires approval from the Executive Committee.

Motion: David Trost, to approve and forward to the Board of Directors, the application as presented to the Executive Committee.

Second: Sheri Nicholson
Discussion: None
Motion carried

Board Planning Expectations and Revised Date (April 12th) – Becky & Dianne

Becky and Dianne updated the group on where we stand with respect to Board and Staff Planning. A Two Year Strategic Focus will come out of this year's planning. The Stakeholder Survey will be sent out to the community later this week. The results of that survey will direct topics to discuss at Board Planning.

Other Program Reports

On Lorene's behalf, Dena brought the final contract forward for WebBuy's Big Sky Trust Fund Application. Big Sky Economic Development will be signing a contract as the passthrough and will manage the grant. This is the final item related to this deal which was approved back in November. There was significant discussion swirling around this approval in November, so the Committee counseled BSED as grant managers to be especially vigilant in administering the funds.

Motion: Steve Loveless, to approve and forward to the Board of Directors, the final contract as presented to the Executive Committee.

Second: Mike Seppala
Discussion: None
Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 am

Motion: Mike Seppala, to adjourn the EDA/EDC Joint Executive Committee Meeting.

Second: Robin Rude
Discussion: None
Motion carried

Next Executive Committee Meeting – March 7, 2018

Big Sky Economic Development Board of Directors will make reasonable accommodations for known disabilities that may interfere with an individual's ability to participate. Persons requiring such accommodations should make their requests to Big Sky Economic Development as soon as possible before the meeting day. Please call Big Sky Economic Development at 256-6871.