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2015 Performance Report Dolores County, Colorado

The Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado Inc. (Region 9), is a nonprofit, 501 (c) 6 public private partnership that promotes and coordinates economic and community development efforts throughout southwest Colorado. Region 9 covers five counties, ten municipalities and the two Native American Tribes in Colorado (Ute Mountain Ute and Southern Ute).

Incorporated in 1989, Region 9 is led by a 26-member board of directors; 17 from local governmental jurisdictions and 9 from the private sector.

2015 Dolores County representatives:

Dan Fernandez – Chair

Ernie Williams/Dennis Goldbricht –
Dolores County

Bryce Capron– Dove Creek

Gary Reid – Rico

Bryce Capron – Loan Committee



Region 9 programs include business loans, producing the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs), Southwest Enterprise Zone administration, and working with the Four Corners Film Office.

In addition to these programs Region 9 also provides technical assistance, social and economic data, and research for local and regional projects.

Region 9 Staff

Ed Morlan – Executive Director

Laura Lewis Marchino – Deputy Director

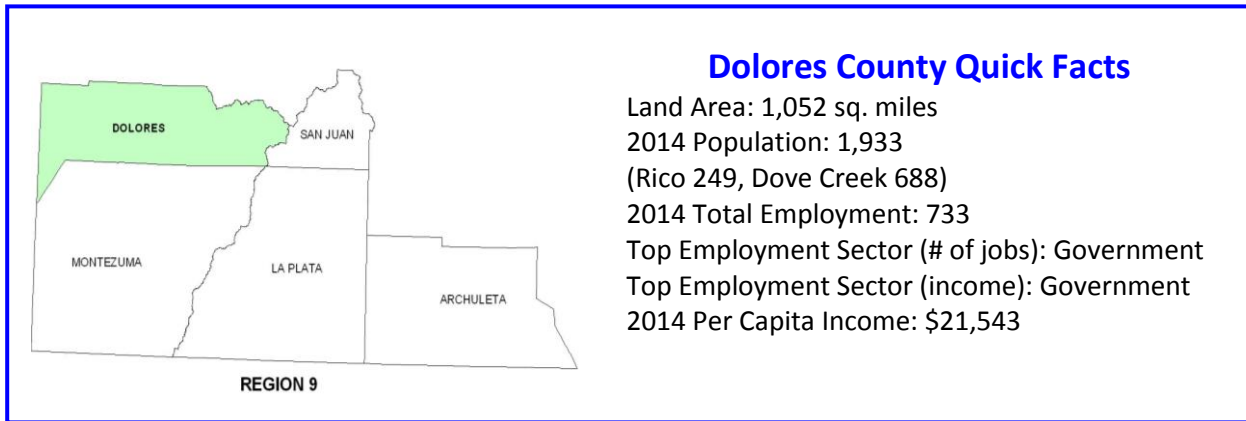
Stephani Burditt – Office Manager

Jenny Stollar – Business Loan Officer

Terry Blair-Burton – Program Administrator

Shirley Jones – Comptroller

Elizabeth Marsh – SCAPE Director



Technical Assistance – Region 9 continues to provide technical assistance by participating in community meetings, writing and administering grants, and advocating for Dolores County at regional, state and federal levels. Below are some specific examples:

- Attend Dove Creek Development Corporation (DCDC) meetings, provide financial support and technical assistance.
 - Joined DCDC Board of Directors.
 - Provided technical assistance provider to DCDC around the Weber Business Park zoning.
 - Updated the County’s Community Development Action Plan.
 - Worked with Air Products on State tax credits opportunities.
 - Provided support for regional Four Corners Film Office increasing film and television productions in region including: recommendations of area non-working mines (Rico area) and referrals for the hateful Eight Production in Telluride.
 - Coordinating Colorado Blueprint 2.0 efforts and updates in region.
 - Exploring Community Development Finance Institute (CDFI) small loan fund designation.
 - Assisted Dolores County Senior Services to receive priority points on USDA funding application because project listed in the CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) community plan.
 - Working with CSU Research Center on marketing outreach and increased awareness..

Regional Initiatives – Region 9 works across the region which includes several efforts that have the potential to positively impact your county.

- Committed match for SW Colorado Council of Governments DoLA grant for broadband.

The Southwest Colorado Accelerator Program for Entrepreneurs (SCAPE) offers in-depth mentoring, office space and an equity investment to help new ventures enter markets and raise capital. Since beginning in 2013, the program has graduated 10 companies, created 26 jobs and has raised almost \$3 Million in capital to grow their businesses. The majority of the funds raised are spent locally, with web design, marketing, technology or production needs, accounting and small business services.

Enterprise Zones – All of Dolores County is currently a designated Enhanced Rural Enterprise Zone (EREZ) through 2016. The EZ program provides financial incentives to businesses to promote and encourage new job creation. A business (which includes a farm or ranch) located

within these boundaries may be eligible for EZ tax credits, including capital investment tax credits, job tax credits, research and development tax credits, and other incentives. The credits are even higher for Enhanced Zones. From 1993 through 2014 Dolores County businesses claimed approximately **\$19,136,835** in eligible investments, resulting in **\$545,271** in certified tax credits, and creating **43** jobs. In 2015, the utilization of Enterprise Zone Tax credits was recorded by 25 businesses with \$74,870 in tax credits. There was a gain of 36 jobs in 2015 from businesses that utilized the program.

The Dove Creek Community Health Clinic was approved as an Enterprise Zone Contribution Project in 2001. This designation allows all donor contributions of \$100 or more for this project eligible for a 25% state tax credit on cash donations, and a 12.5% state tax credit on in-kind donations. In 2015, EZ projects have brought in cash and in-kind contributions valued at **\$3.91 million**. Dolores County also benefits from regional EZ projects such as Housing Solutions and Region 9/Four Corners Film Office, and Axis Health Systems.

Loans – In the past 27 years, Region 9 has provided business loans totaling **\$1,056,865** (through June 2014) which created or retained 41 jobs in Dolores County. Dolores had 4 business inquires come to Region 9 - 2 from Dove Creek and two from Rico. One loan paid off

Current loans include:

- Carhart Customs **\$63,000**
- Rico Masonic Temple **\$45,278**
- JT's Country Store **\$ 50,000**

Reports – A number of research reports have been prepared by Region 9 that include data specific to Dolores County:

- 2015 – *Region 9 Report –includes Dolores Data snapshot*
- 2015 – *Southwest Colorado Indicator Report – Housing, Livable Wage & Economic Diversity*

These reports, as well as other publications of interest, can be found at www.scan.org.