## **RESOLUTION 2023 - 96**

## RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MONTANA BUSINESS ASSISTANCE CONNECTION, INC. BECOMING A CERTIFIED REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**WHEREAS**, Lewis and Clark County supports Montana Business Assistance Connection, Inc. ("MBAC") becoming one of possible 12 Certified Regional Development Corporations (CRDC) within the state of Montana, serving the counties of Lewis and Clark, Broadwater, and Meagher; and

WHEREAS, as a CRDC, MBAC will focus on its renewed 5-year regional comprehensive economic development strategy and business retention and expansion program which was kicked off in the early 2023. MBAC will also continue to offer concept development, business plan and application assistance, market analysis, expansion and relocation services, and basic financial concepts services to our region; and

WHEREAS, MBAC offers to its region, loan funds from local, state, and federal government revolving loan funds; and

**WHEREAS**, MBAC's economic development strategy will continue to focus on preserving and creating jobs through:

- Retention and expansion by assisting regional businesses with problems, issues, and
  opportunities by providing high quality business planning, counseling, education, and information
  with a focus on improving and implementing analytical skills, improving competitiveness, and
  increasing profitability; and offer or link regional business owners with appropriate resources and
  new markets,
- Access to capital by working with regional banks to provide capital to qualifying micro, small, and
  other promising businesses in the region by increasing our lending capacity by at least 10% of
  existing portfolio per year, enhancing payback by implementing risk-reducing programs such as
  pre and during loan training and quarterly site visits and evaluation,
- Attracting and promoting regional businesses, markets, and the quality of life inside and outside
  the state by providing high quality, tailored and timely responses and follow-up to requests for
  economic and market information, completing a Target Industry/Cluster analysis to focus on
  attraction efforts, increasing national and global awareness of regional economic opportunities
  and assets via the Internet and Industry Trade Shows,
- Advocating for business climate changes using research-based information at the state and local level.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Lewis and Clark County hereby supports Montana Business Assistance Connection, as the lead economic development organization for Lewis and Clark County, by becoming one of possible 12 Certified Regional Development Corporations (CRDC) within the state of Montana.

Dated this 19Th day of Octo BER, 2023.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Tom Rolfe, Chair

ATTEST:

Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board

