

DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

January 8, 2018

Mr. Aaron Allred, Legislative Auditor Joint Committee on Government & Finance Building 1, Room 132 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Allred:

As required by West Virginia Code 11-13A-20a, here is our report on the use of Coalbed Methane Tax Severance (CMTS) Funds for fiscal year 7-1-2016 to 6-30-2017.

\$9,143.63 was provided to Philippi Professional Bldg. Unit Owners to cover the Barbour County Commission's share of infrastructure improvements to the building housing the Philippi post office, the County Board of Education, and the WV DEP.

\$35,000 was provided to the Promise Foundation of Barbour County for infrastructure improvements at BC Bank Park.

\$5,000 was provided to the Barbour County Fair Board for infrastructure improvements (paving) at the fairgrounds.

\$16,000 was provided to the City of Belington to improve the lighting at the City Park (infrastructure improvements). The Park is used as a destination of the Polar Express Train operated by the Durbin Greenbrier Railroad.

\$20,000 was provided to the Barbour Democrat LLC as a forgivable loan to purchase a building in downtown Philippi and expand the newspapers printing services. The expansion has resulted in the creation of 2 new jobs.

\$94,924.23 was used to toward the purchase of three downtown Philippi commercial buildings. The purchase gave the Barbour County Development Authority commercial space to show businesses interested in locating in Philippi. It also allowed the continuation of the retail business incubator, Anglin's Ford Trading Post. The Trading Post provides an opportunity for local entrepreneurs (over 30) to test the viability of their products and provides additional income.

Since the purchase, one new business has located in one of the buildings and a local entrepreneur has taken over the operations of the Anglin's Ford Trading Post, resulting in one new job and 3 part time jobs in the downtown.

Attached is a spreadsheet reflecting a summary of expenditures from the fund. Please advise if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Cheryl L. Wolfe Executive Director

Attachment