

## **2017 Logan County Economic Development Corporation Leadership Team**

### **LCEDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **PRESIDENT**

##### **Heather Brungardt – Northeastern Junior College Bookstore**

Heather has been an active board member since 2010 representing Northeastern Junior College and the City of Sterling. She is Manager of Northeastern Junior College Bookstore. She is a member of the Executive Committee, Membership and Woolworth Building committees. A former Mayor of Sterling, Heather brings business and government experience to LCEDC.

#### **VICE PRESIDENT**

##### **Kathy Guerin – Bank of the West**

Kathy Guerin is a member of the LCEDC Membership Committee and the Woolworth Building Committee. She is Branch Manager at Bank of the West with 18 years of banking industry experience. She is an active board member in several community non-profits and contributes that experience to LCEDC.

#### **SECRETARY**

##### **Darren Gebhart – McAtee Construction and Simon's Contractors**

Darren is Past President and Vice President. He is Project Manager for McAtee Construction which is the Sterling location for Simon Contractors. Simon's scope of work includes asphalt, paving, concrete and other services for infrastructure projects. Darren's construction industry experience brings a practical perspective to LCEDC's development projects

#### **TREASURER**

##### **Rich Robirds – Equitable Savings and Loan**

Rich has served on the board since 2014. He is Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Controller, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary with Equitable Savings and Loan Association headquartered in Sterling, Colorado. Rich is a Certified Public Accountant and a Chartered Global Management Accountant. He advises the board on financial matters to ensure strong financial oversight and resources to carry out LCEDC's activities.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

##### **Shanan Doherty – Pilkington Financial**

Serving on LCEDC's Agriculture Committee, Shanan is a Financial Advisor with Pilkington Financial Services and elected to LCEDC board of directors in February 2012. A Financial Advisor for 16 years, she provides the board with investment and agriculture industry knowledge.

##### **Ryan Etl – Sterling Urban Renewal Authority Representative**

Ryan represents the Sterling Urban Renewal Authority on the LCEDC board of directors. He is a Vice President of Bank of Colorado responsible for commercial lending. Ryan provides financial and banking experience to projects and board activities.

##### **Andrew Fritzler – New Method Cleaners**

Andrew is the Chairman of the LCEDC Membership Committee and has contributed insight on new member recruiting and creating value for our membership. He is Operations Manager at Nelson Financial and South Platte Agency in Sterling. Andrew and his wife own and operate New Method Cleaners.

**Tom Kiel – Better Electric**

As owner of Better Electric, Tom brings a unique perspective of being a business owner and knowledge of building new business structures and construction processes. Elected in 2017, Tom's level of expertise that will be very valuable while working with prospective projects.

**Patrick Lawson – Sterling City Council Representative**

As Sterling Mayor Pro Tem and City Council since 2009, Patrick represents the City on the board. He is a member of LCEDC's housing committee. Patrick is a small businessman through the family business Sterling Vacuum Co. He brings a pragmatic approach to board decision-making.

**Jay Lee – Northeastern Junior College**

Dr. Jay Lee is former LCEDC President and serves on the Housing and Woolworth Committees. Jay is the President of Northeastern Junior College in Sterling, Colorado. Jay's expertise with innovation implementation and education was a key component to help LCEDC's initiative to become approved by the State of Colorado to offer the Jump Start incentive program to recruit industry to Logan County.

**Bob McCarty – Sterling City Council Representative**

Bob is a member of the Sterling City Council and represents the City on the LCEDC board. He is a Real Estate Broker for Town Square Realty. His Real Estate and Banking industry experience along with his community engagements bring insights to the marketplace and community related LCEDC projects

**Joe McBride – Logan County Commissioner Representative**

Elected to the Logan County Board of Commissioners in 2016, Joe represents the County on the LCEDC board. Most recently he was Deputy Sheriff for Logan County. He believes that Logan County will experience economic growth through a government partnership with LCEDC.

**Chip Powell – Kentec Communications**

Chip Powell joined the LCEDC board in May 2017. Chip was an owner/operator of a trucking company until 2010 when he purchased Kentec Communications Inc. He served as Vice President of Operations until becoming the President and CEO of Kentec in 2015. As a business owner and employer in Logan County, Chip is supportive of continued growth within Logan County.

**Samm Vandenbark – Vandenbark Realty**

Samm is a member of the Membership Committee and joined the board in 2016. She and her husband own and operate a transportation company as well as a farm in the Fleming area. Samm is Owner/Broker of Vandenbark Realty, LLC in Sterling CO. She provides local real estate market insight along with the perspective of a small business owner to the board.

**Glenna Phelps – Aurich (Ex-Officio)**

Glenna joined the Logan County Chamber of Commerce in March 2017 with extensive experience from Nebraska Chambers. She owned and operated several successful small businesses in Nebraska, Colorado and Missouri and brings a unique perspective Logan County's business community.

**Don Saling (Ex-Officio)**

As the Sterling City Manager, Don brings a wealth of knowledge of government operations to the City after working in various roles in Pueblo. Don leads the City's team in partnership with LCEDC to welcome new industry and strengthen existing businesses.

## **STAFF**

### **Trae Miller, Executive Director**

Trae joined LCEDC in 2015. As a native of Logan County with strong business experience, he brings a local perspective combined with a business approach and strategic thinking to his leadership role. His previous experience included Business Development Analyst, Feed Formulator, and Buyer at J.D. Heiskell & Co. Prior to his tenure at J.D. Heiskell, Trae worked as a Lead Buyer and Account Manager for Cargill Food Distribution in Denver and Salt Lake City. His experience and successes have exposed him to big picture business projects including long-term business planning for multi-million dollar projects, as well as profit projections for existing business activities. Trae is a graduate of Colorado State University with a degree in Business Administration with a Marketing Concentration and Financial Analysis Certificate. A strong believer in community engagement and collaboration, he serves on these boards: NECALG, Progressive 15, AMPT, NECO Manufacturers Alliance, NECO Economic Developers, and Logan County Chamber of Commerce.

### **Laurie Jones, Assistant Director**

Laurie joined LCEDC in 2012. She is a Business Consultant with East Colorado SBDC and NJC adjunct business faculty member. She has global corporate, entrepreneurial, and consulting experience with a focus in finance, marketing and business research. Prior to LCEDC, she was a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones in Breckenridge. Laurie serves as ex-officio on the Logan County Chamber of Commerce Board, Member of Girl Scouts of Colorado Board of Governance, co-founding board member Colorado Venture Capital Authority, and former Vice Chair of the Colorado Economic Development Commission. She holds a B.A. in Economics from the University of California – Davis, and an MBA from Pepperdine University.