

# BELLE FOURCHE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



## BFDC Board of Directors Meeting

January 13, 2021

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Location: BFDC Conference Room -  
5th & Grant Plaza, 608 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.

## Build Dakota Scholarship

Applications Open:  
January 1 - March 31, 202

Full-ride scholarship for technical students, recipients commit to work in their chosen field in SD for 3 years following graduation. FMI:  
[BuildDakotaScholarships.com](http://BuildDakotaScholarships.com)

## Leadership Belle Fourche Class

January 21, 2021

Time: 9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Course Topic: Economics & Community Development

March

3

*Save the **NEW** Date*

Belle Fourche Development Corporation  
Annual Meeting | Grap's Banquet Room  
Please RSVP by February 26<sup>th</sup>

## Thank You to our Belle Fourche Development Corporation 2020 Investors

### **Platinum Level Investors**

#### **\$1000 or above**

AMCOL/Minerals Technologies Inc.  
Butte County  
City of Belle Fourche  
David Pummel & Associates  
First Interstate Bank  
Gillette Fencing Mfg.  
Grossenburg Implement  
Montana-Dakota Utilities  
Pioneer Bank & Trust  
Scott Peterson Motors  
Scul Construction  
State Home Care Services

### **Gold Level Investors**

#### **\$500-\$999**

Belle Fourche School District 9-1  
Bunney's Body & Collision Repair Center  
HomeSlice Media  
Jackson Dental Prof. LLC  
Johner & Sons Inc  
Pain & Movement Solutions  
Subway & Dairy Queen of Belle Fourche

### **Silver Level Investors**

#### **\$250-\$499**

Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce  
Belle Fourche Regional Healthcare  
Cory's Point S Tire & Auto Service  
Dakota Home & Ranch Real Estate  
Dakota Lumber  
Hills Products Group  
McGas Propane  
Morris Law Firm, Prof. LLC  
New Generation Feeds  
Wells Fargo Bank

### **Bronze Level Investors**

#### **\$100-\$249**

Clutter Buster Storage  
Ensz Appraisal LLC  
Johnson Electric  
Leverington Funeral Home of the NH  
Black Hills Pioneer  
Brandon & Julie Hatling  
K & M Buchholz  
Civil Design  
Barb & Ferman Clackson  
Clay & Mindi Birkeland  
Dr. Krum – Jackson Dental  
Christopher Jackson  
John Jackson  
James Doolittle  
Jeb & Maureen Clarkson  
Journey Construction/ Ainsworth Benning  
Construction Inc  
Karen Wagner  
Keller Williams – Kinsfater & Massie  
Realty Group  
Krysti Weed  
L4 Properties  
Lensegrav & Sons  
Moxie Marketing of the Midwest LLC  
Northern Hills Federal Credit Union  
Traci & Adam Nowowiejski  
Office Emporium  
Redwater Eye Care  
Annie Reich  
Super 8  
The Olive Branch – Deb McCart  
Tim Speidel Business & Tax Service LLC  
Turbiville Electric  
Western Dakota Tech

### **Associate or Individual Level Investors**

#### **\$50-\$99**

Reich Precision  
Al Schreier  
Rena Schaeffer  
Stan Harms  
Wendy Bowers  
Z Productions

*Thank  
You*



# COVID19 RELIEF GRANTS

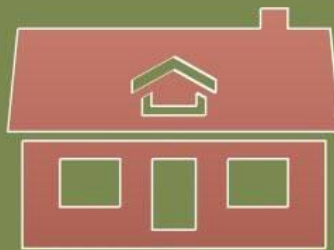
IF YOUR INCOME HAS BEEN AFFECTED, BHCLF HAS SMALL GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR UP TO \$500 PER HOUSEHOLD FOR UTILITIES OR RENT ASSISTANCE

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FMI: [BlackHillsCommunityLoanFund.com/](http://BlackHillsCommunityLoanFund.com/) | Application Form: <https://bit.ly/3bbHUHx>



## ST. ONGE LIVESTOCK, TUPPERS ARE BLACK HILLS STOCK SHOW & RODEO 2021 AGRI-BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

In 2021 The Black Hills Stock Show Stockman's Banquet and Ball will honor St. Onge Livestock--Justin & Brooke Tupper as Agri-Business of the Year. The award comes as a thank you and recognition for all their support to the ag community and Black Hills Stock Show over the years. The banquet is Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>.



## City Sales Tax Revenue Above Last Year Despite Virus

BELLE FOURCHE - The city of Belle Fourche is poised to see one of its biggest years ever in terms of sales tax revenue, despite a year that saw the emergence of the coronavirus on the national scene.

Through November the total collected already exceeded \$3 million for the first 11 months of the year. That total does not yet add the usually strong December Christmas shopping season. The 2020 total number will be available in January.

It is clear that Belle Fourche is bucking the national trend. Nationwide local and state sales tax revenue is on pace to decline by an average of 5% according to statistics from the Brookings Institution. Conversely, in Belle Fourche, it is expected to rise by at least 7% over last year. In fact, many municipalities in the Northern Black Hills region are seeing similar increases.

"I think we're pretty positive about it," said Jason LaFayette, Assistant City Finance Director. "We're running higher than we were last year at this time and it's a very good sign."

The city made the decision not to go to into mandatory lockdown last March, leaving that decision to the discretion of the local business owners. At that time there were no cases of coronavirus in Butte County. Keeping the doors to local business consistently open during the year was a contributing factor but LaFayette also says there was probably another contributing factor.

"Some of that probably came from a lot of online sales," LaFayette said. "During the pandemic people were staying home and not travelling as much to Rapid and other cities. They were shopping local and shopping online."

This year was the first full year that local municipalities were allowed to collect sales tax for online purchases made from vendors who were out of state. That law was made possible by the South Dakota v. Wayfair decision handed down by a 5-4 vote of the United State Supreme Court in June of 2018. That decision allowed states to write laws that would allow charging local sales tax on purchases made through vendors with no brick-and-mortar presence with a state, such as Amazon.

"During the year I have to think that the online sales were a factor," he said.

The city finance department had expected a drop in local sales tax revenue due to the closure of ShopKo earlier in the year but that does not seem to have materialized.

"That is something that we just haven't seen and it's probably because people are staying local, shopping local and shopping from home," LaFayette said. "We're seeing those tax dollars being spent in town and that's really causing a rise in those numbers for us."

But the news was not all good. With the increase in sales tax has come a decrease in third penny revenue over last year. The third penny revenue is often referred to as the "bed and booze" tax and is directly affected by the level of tourism and convention activity. Through eleven months the city was off by about 4% over last year.

"We're just going to have reign back in a bit the funding for our third-penny projects, such as what we were going to put in down there at the Roundup Grounds," he said. "It won't necessarily stop what we're doing down there but it will probably slow things down, especially things that may or may not have been planned for next year."

The city has received its first tax payment from the state. It is up a healthy amount from last year's first payment but LaFayette says it does not guarantee the second payment will be. But the initial third penny payment was \$3,000 higher than last year's, which is seen as a positive sign.

By the numbers last year's total sales tax revenue in the city for all twelve months was \$3,001,867.55. This year through eleven months the total was already \$3,017,234.47. The 2020 year-to-date figure is higher than the yearly total for any previous year dating back to before 2015.

The third-penny revenue for all of 2019 was \$180,870.94. Through eleven months this year the total is \$162,752.65 which is on pace for about a 4% drop from last year.

Third penny exceeded last year's monthly revenue totals in January, March, April, July, September, and October. Revenue was up 8% in July, which may be attributable to the largest Black Hills Roundup in recent times. Revenue dropped sharply in August, perhaps reflecting a slower than normal Rally season.

Belle Fourche Beacon | [news@bellefourchebeacon.com](mailto:news@bellefourchebeacon.com)

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## Law Firm Expands to Belle Fourche | Belle Fourche Beason

The tradition a hundred years ago was for a lawyer to “hang out their shingle” when they started a law practice. This American colloquialism dates from the first half of the 1800s, when lawyers used shingles for signboards.

Well, there is not wooden shingle at 1409 5th Avenue, Belle Plaza location, but Melling & Roseland Law, PC, expanded their Hettinger, ND practice to include Belle Fourche and they are open for business.

The two principles are Erin Melling and Aaron Roseland.

The history of the firm began in Hettinger, North Dakota in 2009 when Faulkton native, Aaron Roseland, moved there upon graduation from the University of South Dakota School of Law School.

Aaron was thrust into a major role with the firm as he immediately replaced the Adams County State’s Attorney, who was retiring. A position he maintains to this day. In addition to his duties as State’s Attorney, he has practiced civil law as well, specializing in criminal defense, real estate transactions, and general litigation. He is licensed in North Dakota and South Dakota.

Melling who, bought a house and has relocated to Belle in November, will be full time in the Belle office.

Her legal focus is primarily family law, estate planning, probates, and other general civil litigation. She is licensed in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana.

It has long been a goal of Melling’s to open the practice. “I love the area, the community, and most of all, the people.”

The firm had discussed the possibilities of expanding south for several years prior to making the move. “As the years passed, I seemed to gain more and more clientele from South Dakota.” Early in 2020, the firm decided to make the move, reach out, and open office here.

“It just made sense for our firm to have an office more centrally located to the jurisdictions where the cases were coming from.” said Melling. She went on to say, “I am beyond excited to be returning to the area after all of these years.”

Erin Melling, born and raised in a Hettinger agriculture family, served as intern with Roseland for the summers after her first and second years of law school.

Upon graduation from Law School, she was offered a position with the firm; became a partner with the firm in 2015; and in 2017 became the managing partner.

Erin had a knowledge of Belle Fourche, and the area, that led to the firm opening an office.

After high school graduation in 2002 in Hettinger, her first year of college undergraduate school was at Dickinson State University. When her grandfather was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer in 2003, she returned to Hettinger to help care for him.

After his passing she resumed studies at Black Hills State University graduating in 2008 with a bachelor’s degree in Science.

During her time at BHSU, Erin lived in Belle Fourche and, as she stated, “Absolutely fell in love with the community.”

“To me Belle Fourche was and is the perfect combination of small-town values with access to bigger town convenience.”

After college graduation, her uncle unexpectedly passed away, so she once again returned to Hettinger to help her Mother manage his estate and probate.

Melling remarked, “It was through that experience that I came to appreciate the value of thoughtful, thorough estate planning, and it inspired me to seek admission to Law School.”

She entered the University of South Dakota School of Law in Vermillion in 2010 and graduated in 2013.

We asked Melling what had made her pursue law as a profession?

She replied, “Through my life experience and inspiration from several educators, I have come to love the practice of law. In particular, I had a professor during undergrad that showed me that if you really wanted to make positive changes in the world, seeking and attaining a law degree was an effective way to have that opportunity. That, coupled with various issues families and friends have confronted inspired me to want to help people, protect people, and assist people in planning for the future so that they might be able to avoid some of the hardships and tribulations that those close to me have suffered through.”

This interview has definitely convinced this writer that she will have a positive effective on the future of the area.

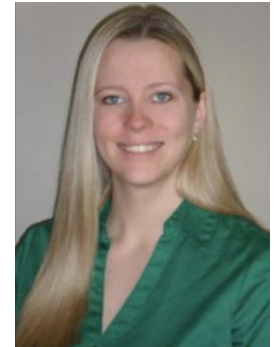
In her words, “I am so excited to be here. I look forward to meeting new people, integrating myself into the community, and assisting those who need my help.”

Their office is currently open most weekdays from 9 am to 5 pm. They will be looking to hire a legal assistant soon at which time they will be open Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm. For the time being, Melling is the only one in the office so if you need to contact them please call and leave a message if she is unable to take your call.

The Firm’s number is 605- 723-1659.



**AARON ROSELAND**



**ERIN MELLING**



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605-723-0185 | [PainAndMovementSolutions.com](http://PainAndMovementSolutions.com)

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## IDIC Specialty Drilling Chemicals, LLC in Progress



AHMED RASHEED, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF IDIC SPECIALTY DRILLING CHEMICALS, LLC OF ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT RETURNED TO EGYPT FOR THE HOLIDAYS JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS. WORK IS PROGRESSING ON THE FACILITY, AS GENERAL CONTRACTOR EZ FABRICATION & WELDING HAS MOST OF THE MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY TANKS ERECTED. RASHEED HOPES TO HAVE THE PLANT OPERATIONAL IN MARCH OF 2021. BEACON PHOTO





# Belle Fourche, SD

Ladera Circle, Lot #17  
Highway 34, East of Belle Fourche



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**1,680 Ft<sup>2</sup> Home**

**2 Car Garage**

**2 Acre Lot**

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- 🏠 2 acre lot with plenty of room for the kids to play or to park your RV
- 🏠 Includes the following stainless steel kitchen appliances: Gas Stove with griddle, Dish-washer and Microwave
- 🏠 Vaulted ceilings in the master bedroom and living room with ceiling fans
- 🏠 Luxury Vinyl Plank flooring in the common areas and carpet in the bedrooms
- 🏠 Master Suite includes a large walk-in closet and dual vanities in the master bath room
- 🏠 Bedrooms are 14x16, 12x12 and 12x11
- 🏠 Mudroom provides space to remove boots and hang up coat before entering the home, also houses the Laundry Room and an enclosed area for the Furnace and Water Heater
- 🏠 R value of the walls is R-19, and the attic has R-50 blown in insulation
- 🏠 The crawlspace has an R-13 blanket on the foundation walls and R-21 foam insulation blown in the Rim joist between the floor joist
- 🏠 The crawlspace is conditioned with heating and cooling ducts as well as return air ducts to turn the air over
- 🏠 The storage area in the garage attic has a pull down ladder for easy access and is also insulated with R-19 under the sheeting
- 🏠 The Gas furnace is a 95% efficient 85,000 BTU forced air furnace with a 3 ton 13 Seer A/C unit
- 🏠 MDU provides Gas to the property
- 🏠 The tap fees for the water have been paid. The fees for the water are \$40 for the first 3,000 Gallons per month and \$4 per thousand gallons after that
- 🏠 The Annual HOA dues are: \$180 in 2021, \$240 in 2022 and \$300 in 2023 and provides snow removal and gravel on the common roads
- 🏠 **A 2% Buyers Agent Commission is available to Realtors**



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