

## Memorandum

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Tom Baker, Town Administrator  
**Date:** March 4, 2014  
**Re:** Sponsorship of RFBRC

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this item is to decide if the Town will be a sponsor of the Roaring Fork Business Resource Center.

**Background and Discussion:** As part of our discussions regarding economic development, council has considered sponsoring of a number of groups. During the 2014 budget discussions the question of sponsoring RFBRC was discussed along with the RREDC. Council included funding in the 2014 Budget (Economic Development line item) for modest funding of each so Council had the option to fund, if desired. For 2014 budget purposes, Council targeted \$500 as the RFBRC sponsor amount, but final action was to be taken in 2014. The RFBRC has been providing periodic advice on grants (they were paid for this – at a reduced rate), they are facilitating a business start-up idea (Whole Works – textiles) and have encouraged this business group to look at New Castle for its business location, also, recently I asked for business plan advice and general business start-up advice for an inquiry for a solar garden box business that Ross Talbott and I received a presentation about at Carl McWilliams' home.

**Recommendation:** RFBRC is a good resource to have access to and staff recommends a \$500.00 sponsorship. (Disclosure: I am a recent past Board Member of RFBRC).ponsorship mem 3.4.14