



Ellsworth Development Authority



The Members appointed by Governor Rounds to serve the purposes of the South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority, established by the State Legislature and its many other advocates, are honored to serve this important component in supporting Ellsworth Air Force Base as an area of critical state concern.

Those appointed by Governor Rounds are listed at our website: www.ellsworthdevelopmentauthority.org

As Chairman, I would like to invite members of the public to attend the South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority – SDEDA meeting of the Members scheduled for December 7th and 8th 2009.

Our meetings will be held at the Comfort Inn & Suites Convention Center
on Elkvale Road at I-90 Exit 61.

Please try and join us at 9:00 AM on December 7th. Mark Merchen, our Executive Director, will be kicking off our two days of business and informational meetings by giving an overview presentation about combined efforts since 2005 to establish a master plan for the area surrounding EAFB and show how SDEDA intends to work with and alongside local jurisdictions and other advocacy groups to:

1. advance mission development at EAFB, headed by the Congressional Delegation and Ellsworth Task Force;
 2. continue coordinated and individual efforts of local jurisdiction's, under the banner of Moving Forward With Ellsworth Steering Committee; to address -- one jurisdiction at a time -- land use regulations that emphasize the primary responsibility of elected officials to protect the health and safety of those living and working near the base, and at the same time the property rights of the same; and
 3. continue the efforts of both public and private interested parties; working together to make sure that South Dakota is always a great place for the U.S. Department of Defense to conduct its important national defense mission at EAFB.
- After this informational presentation, a time will be set aside for media questions and public comment.

After a designated time for media questions, one hour will be set aside for a public comment and question period. If you would like to participate in this part of our meeting, you will be asked to fill out a speaker request form. Speakers will be given 5 minutes to make comment or ask a question of the Authority. If time remains after all speakers have had a chance to speak, speakers will be given a second or third opportunity to speak for 5 minutes based on time remaining for the public comment portion of our meeting.

The SDEDA meetings will adjourn around noon on December 7th to participate in an informational tour of EAFB and the surrounding area. The SDEDA will reconvene its business meeting at the Comfort Inn & Suites -- December 8th at 8:00 AM

If you have any questions please email us at
info@ellsworthdevelopmentauthority.org
or call 605-719-3844