

07/26/19

SHERIDAN COUNTY
APPLICATION FOR ONE CENT OPTIONAL SALES & USE TAX FUNDS

FISCAL YEARS 2020 TO 2023
(July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2023)

GENERAL INFORMATION:

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Forward Sheridan____ **PHONE:** 307-673-8004_____

CONTACT PERSON: _Jay Stender_____ **MAILING ADDRESS:** _224 South Main, Room 107__

EMAIL ADDRESS: _jay@forwardsheridan.com_____

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED: _\$100,000__ (Total amount of the 4-year period)

TAX STATUS: __503__ C 3_____

DESCRIBE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF YOUR ORGANIZATION OR MISSION STATEMENT:

Forward Sheridan is the “go to” organizations for business entities at startup, expansion or relocation, providing leadership and productive government relationships. Note that the mission and priority are reviewed every two years and are scheduled for refocus in June of 2018. Mission and priorities are driven by our board and investor input.

NO OF BOARD MEMBERS: 12 + 2 elected = 14

NAMES OF BOARD MEMBERS: Aaron Sopko – Chairman. Mark Law Vice Chair. Anthony Tarver Secretary. Don Parrott Treasurer. Brian Bolton, Dave Hubert, Alicia Cox, Lynn Hartje, Hayden Heaphy, Joe Steger, Keith Marcott, Commissioner Steve Maier, Mayor Roger Miller, Paul Young – Sheridan College President.

PROVIDE A BRIEFLY HISTORY OF YOUR ORGANIZATION IN SHERIDAN COUNTY, INCLUDING ANY SERVICES PROVIDED TO AREA RESIDENTS:

Initiated in 2005 by business owners to address work focused issues. Organization is focused on the business needs, as communicated to us via our investors throughout the NE region. Specific services we provide are focused collectively on business sustainability and growth- this is from the tech information side as well as market relationship development. This has impacted engineering, construction, banking, real estate, and power companies. Another service is the “vetting” or clearing house for potential leads /recruitment. Candidate companies are scrubbed prior to allocating resources to recruit. FS represents Sheridan County with USFS, UW, WBC, MSU, Wind Coalition, and Aerospace sectors.

BRIEFLY LIST PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES FOR REQUESTED FUNDS: (Indicate if the funds are to be used for an operational subsidy or for one-time expenditures such as a project or equipment acquisition or capital improvements; indicate whether other sources are available and been applied for; indicate if you have requested 1% funding from the City of Sheridan and/or the towns of Dayton, Ranchester and Clearmont)

Funds are used for operational purposes which includes physical plant, labor and materials. Our budget is about \$165,000 per year. We use funds for business travel and recruitment – most of our operational day to day expenses and activities are modest.

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BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR ORGANIZATION GOALS AND ESTIMATE THE NUMBER OF PERSON YOU SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY:

- #1 – Business sustainability and growth – this is focused on advanced manufacturing with our efforts in the wind coalition as well as the aerospace initiative. Manufacturing has grown to over 425 jobs and continues to add jobs as employees become available
- #2 – Recruitment of complementary manufacturing and professional services – we continue to provide some vetting and review of leads that come from WBC, our board, banks and other communities to see if they fit and can work in Sheridan. We always focus on what their business entails, does it have a fit in Sheridan, and do they have track history/banking relationships. Due to cost of recruitment some due diligence is required. We have several (3) that are asking for a facility/ physical plant to be provided similar to State Funded grants at the Wrench Ranch. Grants for physical plant are beyond our budget and authority.
- #3 – Community policy and regional advocacy for Sheridan County. This is done via interactions with the WBC, State of Wyo Gov' office/Planning, Endow, and UW among others. Forward Sheridan has been asked and continues to be utilized by some of state partners in economic development forums.

Number serviced: 40 investors (not counting city and county) reflect about 2200 employees or business owners.

Complete this section if your agency has previously been awarded One Cent Funding for the period of July 2015 through March 2018:

Amount Awarded: \$25K from Sheridan County

Have all the funds been expended: Yes

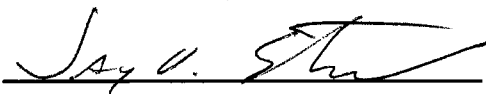
Did you receive 1% Optional Tax Funds from the City of Sheridan or the towns of Dayton, Ranchester and Clearmont. If so what amount was awarded: City of Sheridan 17,700 per year.

Briefly describe the impact that the previous award has had on your program, project or organizational operations. Some discussion items to cover in this section may include:

- *Number of persons served, and demographics of persons served (income level, age, race, etc.)*
- *Describe the overall impact of these funds on your program, project or organization*
- *If your agency has not yet to spent all the awarded funds, please briefly describe your plans to expend the funds by the end of the fiscal year*
- *Did your agency use One Cent funding to leverage additional funds, either through grants or other means?*

Funding from Sheridan County has been an essential portion of our operational budget. We have enjoyed strong fidelity of investors which has enabled us to produce a consistent budget from what to operate. The County funds are used continually to leverage funds from the private sector – we work as a public/private partner. The clearest example is the tech seminars where we get about 30% of the cost from Gov't and the rest is from our corporate partners. We, on occasion, apply for and receive grants – this historically have been as support to another entity.

SIGNED:



Title:

COO

Date:

4-27-2018