



**Welcome** to the team of business and industry leaders who are dedicated to promoting Southwest Wyoming manufacturing and technology.

Visit our website

## SOUTHWEST WYOMING MANUFACTURING PARTNERSHIP

### OUR MISSION AND GOALS INCLUDE:

**Awareness** of career opportunities.

**Alignment** of education and skill development for career paths.

**Planning** for what is needed now for future opportunities.

**Results** for how to measure success.

## Manufacturing ROCKS!

### Greetings!

Welcome to the SWMP newsletter and to the new year! We have a lot of information to look over so we appreciate you taking the time in doing so!

Please take a moment to look over the notes from the January Meeting. The February meeting will be held next Wednesday on February 24th.

**IMPOSSIBLE**  
only means that you haven't found the solution yet  
*Anonymous*

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Wire Brothers

**Join US** on February 25th  
for another session of the  
Rural Learning  
Network.  
The Rural Learning Network



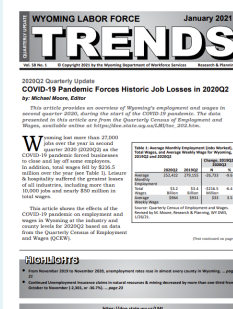
connects leading Next Gen Partnerships in rural communities around the country to push the state of the art in building industry-driven, community-supported partnerships. The Rural Learning Network also serves as a laboratory for "networked communities," creating new tools and resources to help regions

understand and activate public-private networks.

If you wish to attend, please email [Ron Wild](mailto:Ron.Wild@rockymountainpower.net). We would love to see support from all 5 counties in Southwest Wyoming!

**Interested** in learning more about the effects Covid-19 has had on Wyoming? The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services provides a monthly publication with all things labor related. January's issue reports on job losses, unemployment statistics, economic indicators, and other current employment statistics that have been effected by the pandemic.

To view the full report, [Click Here](https://dws.state.wy.us/2020/01/202001-quarterly-update).



Imagine what could happen if we had 50 leaders looking for opportunities to promote Southwest Wyoming every day and working to make tomorrow better than yesterday for our communities! These small efforts will change our future and although this newsletter is a small part of the partnership, it is a great tool to get people connected and keep people up to date on what we're working on. Please ask one other person to join us and get the newsletters!

*All we need is their name and email address!*

Are you interested in participating in the sub-committee meetings?

**Please Contact:**

Training: [Fred.vonAhrens@genlp.com](mailto:Fred.vonAhrens@genlp.com)

B2B: [CJLembke@wyomingcat.com](mailto:CJLembke@wyomingcat.com)

Marketing: [Ron.Wild@rockymountainpower.net](mailto:Ron.Wild@rockymountainpower.net)



## Executive SWMP Meeting Notes 1/27/21

Attendance: Fred, Carl, Ron, Kayla, Kim, Craig B., Craig R., Pam, Jessica, Kelly, Bridget,

**Safety Shares:** A guy walking his dog with a cable leash cut 2 of his fingers off when the leash got caught in the tires.



**Marketing-** Carl went over their notes from the Marketing Kick-off meeting.

**Main points:**

- "Keep Local Alive Website" on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/keeplocalalive.rocksprings/>

- Big push across the state to Keep Local. The team talked about ways they could use those same types of tools to market the area.
  - The SEDC website development update. RMP is helping SEDC fund the development of the website. The request has been submitted to the executives, and we are waiting for it to be processed.
  - Publicizing the benefits of living in Wyoming-Working on bringing back data from different business chambers and local economic development places gives us some examples to identify gaps.
  - Getting people to southwest Wyoming- find out about career opportunities.
  - What is missing? Across the board answer – Active Recruiting effort
    - o Currently business council representative in transition (for Manufacturing partnership is Ron Gulberg )
  - § The business council is putting together a list of Manufactures within the different regions capable of interfacing with that team.
  - Discussed the importance of spreading the word about SWMP and the work we are doing with the schools.
- Newsletter- Got off to a rough start but getting better results, now sitting at 30%, which is better than the national average.
- Ideas to get more people to read it
    - o Create more awareness in their conversations or share the newsletter and reach out to people to follow up on the Newsletters.
    - o Jessica sent out the spreadsheet of who hasn't opened the newsletters so the Leadership team can work on contacting those who haven't opened the newsletter and follow up
  - Business highlight piece for the next newsletter. -Craig Rood will work on the highlight on for Ciner
  - Addressing Housing and Temporary housing availability-
    - o Kayla will gather data from SEDC on the housing situation in the southwest region, inventory trends, and what people are dealing with trying to move into the area. See if we can find a solution.

**Talent Workshop-**

- Fred went over the actions and notes from the Talent Workshop- attached in the documents sent out
  - The state officially approved Western for the CTE education degree that will roll out in the fall.
- The announcement was emailed out to the team.

**Engage with Schools, Educators, counselors, and students –**

- Superintendents- Sublette Co- Ron was able to find an entry through some teachers. He will work to leverage more significant participation in the Sublette Co. school district.
- Fred will work with Kelly and Craig on SW1 and SW2
- Tim Schroader, we can engage as a resource if we feel we have a need

**Update on B-to-B partnership efforts- N/A**

**WWCC-**

- WWCC recently received a CDL simulator- that supports 4 students at a time
- One of Westerns top priorities is workforce services and meeting the needs of the industry
- Kim wants to send an email to the team for their thoughts on how Western is doing and how they can improve in specific areas they have an opportunity to.
- Looking at the possibility of Friday College
- Looking at expanded pathways in career and tech education

**Follow up on action items-**

- o Career Awareness and branding – with Jed
  - o Start in early grades info on career paths, address stigma – Lauren and Craig
  - o Career Fair, drive through – Lauren
  - o AP Industrial arts training before CC Level – Marty
  - o Legislative effort to expand intern age brackets- Ron
- \*\*The legislative body is looking at modifying the ages to bring kids into a work environment on an internship. Ron**



will sit in on the meeting. They are looking at making a Legislative solution.

#### Actions:

- Jessica will send out a list of who hasn't opened the newsletter of who received it ([Completed](#))
- Kayla- Gather information on the housing situation in the five-county region. Inventory trends? Understanding what people deal with and the struggles to move into the State/Area.
- Fred will get with Craig B. and Kelly- Who would you want to be the go-to to get players in bringing businesses and educators together.
- Ron and Fred will set up a meeting in Q1 for Business and Educators to prioritize Career Gaps in the community.
  - o Businesspeople get on a virtual "field trip" until we can get out in the areas and talk with the students about what a day is like in their job from start to. What is needed for the job- an example would be a welder and have Q&A
- Ø Craig Rood and Craig Barringer Work on SW2 to determine what the kids in the schools want to know before we have a business person on a Zoom call.
- Ø Carl and Kelly Work on SW1 to find out what the kids in the schools want to know before we have a business person on a Zoom call.
- Pam- Will work on refining and organizing the company contacts list by job type and then **contacts for each company** for that job type. Pam will share with the team and then ask everyone to fill out the spreadsheet for their businesses once it's finalized.
- Requested adds
  - o To prepare for these jobs, what do they need? Certificates, 2 yr degree, 4 yr degree, or graduate degrees
  - o User friendly
  - o Add numbers of jobs
  - o Salary range- ( this one won't work)
- Pam will work with Educators on developing training gaps in a curriculum
- SW2 looking for vehicles for their auto shop
- o Genesis has one ready to deliver. Carl and Craig R. will see what they have as well
- When Covid is over, request the industry to sit down with the CTE Teachers and talk about what they are doing and what the industry would like them to do. (Gaps)
- o Q1 Craig Rood will schedule a kick off zoom meeting. Western will host a manufacturing summit- Brainstorm session to get the conversations going. Then plan more when things start to open up for an in-person.

#### Topics for the next meeting

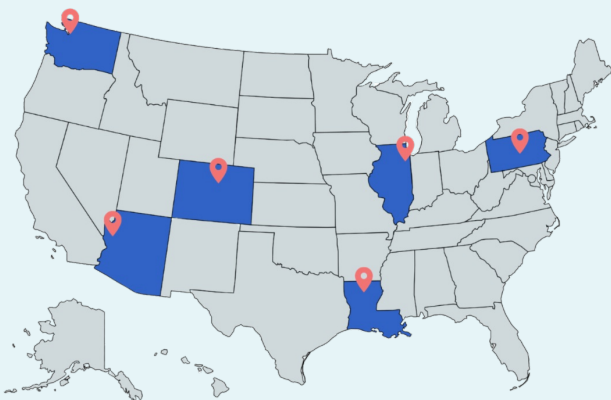
- o Circle back on rebranding.

## The Benchmarking Project

After a decade in action and with almost 100 partnerships in nearly 20 states, the Next Gen community of practice has both grown and diversified. Over the years, Next Gen partnerships have learned and evolved to tackle challenges with their region's best interests in mind. This work is imperfect and messy but it is driven by continuous improvement and a commitment to collaboration by otherwise siloed initiatives.

Building off Next Gen's toolbox and in partnership with Ascendium Education, the Benchmarking Project set out to document the lifecycle of six partnerships across the nation. The Project is not an evaluation; it is an assessment of the common factors that make these partnerships work. These profiles in this compendium identify each region's motivations for launch, mechanisms for change, moments of transformation, measurable results, major ingredients for success, and plans for the future. While the profiles follow the same outline, the stories are quite distinct, demonstrative of unique starting places and varying strengths and weaknesses along the way.

Together these six regions demonstrate that this work is that of constant cultivation and continuous improvement. Without exception, each region demonstrated the critical role of business and industry leading from the center, as well as almost dogged maintenance of coordinated responses and solutions from public and community-based partners.



[Download the Full Report](#)



Western Wyoming Community College has been approved to offer a fully-online Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree in Business Management, with courses starting February 15. There is still space in the program and time to enroll. The enrollment deadline is February 17 by 5:00PM.



The State of Wyoming's post-secondary educational attainment goal is for 67% of 24 to 65-year-olds to have valuable post-secondary credentials by 2025. This generated a bill granting Wyoming community colleges permission to begin accreditation processes for BAS degree offerings. The bill was sponsored by Senator Tara Nethercott, and was signed into law by Governor Mark Gordon on March 15, 2019. On October 22, 2020, the Higher Learning Commission, the College's accrediting body, interviewed Western's BAS Committee for the final review process.



"Western is excited for the start of its Bachelor of Science of program. The institution has invested a great deal of resources and worked closely with service area employers to ensure that this program meets the needs of our students and enables them to advance their careers," stated Mark Rembacz, Associate Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness at Western.

Western's BAS degree will provide those currently working in many different industries the expertise to move into management positions. It can also help those looking to start their own businesses or provide the necessary background to pursue a new job. Additionally, it allows individuals to continue working and obtain a degree at the same time - at a fraction of the cost of a four-year institution. By completing coursework from the comfort of their own homes with no in-person classes, students have more time to spend with their families.

"Students can benefit from the flexibility of this program and fit the coursework into their lives. As an instructor in this program, I hope to use the students' life, work, and previous academic experience as a springboard and build upon it to give them more confidence in their management and leadership skills. It's exciting to think about all the different perspectives people from various industries will bring to the virtual classroom," stated Beth Gard, Instructor of Business at Western.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Upcoming Next Gen Community of Practice Learning Opportunities

\* **Next Gen 101 Workshops:** New to Next Gen? Have team members who need an orientation? In need of a refresh yourself? We will be holding a two-part Next Gen 101 virtual series. This is an ideal opportunity for anyone new to Next Gen to get a crash course in the what, why and how of Next Gen Sector Partnership-building. The training is open to anyone interested in learning more. Hold the dates May 11th & 12th, 11:00-2:30 PST. Registration fee is \$380 per person. Registration details coming soon.

\* **Level Up Next Gen Training** Been at this for a while and looking for ways to grow, strengthen and sustain your Next Gen Partnership? Our two-day Level Up Next Gen Training is designed for regional teams of 6-10 practitioners and business leaders with active Next Gen Sector Partnerships. This year's Level Up will be September 28th & 29th, 11:00-2:30 PST. The registration fee is \$450 per person. Registration details coming soon.

\* **Topical Webinars:** During the spring and summer of 2021, we will hold three special interest webinars covering hot topics within our Community of Practice and drawing on the best practices of our more advanced Next Gen Partnerships and on the insight from expert Next Gen Coaches. These webinars will be held via Zoom. Mark the following dates on your calendar:

- \* Stories from Six Best-in-Class Partnerships, April 13th, 2021 from 10:00-11:30am PST
- \* Tips and Tricks for Partnership Website Building, July 13th, 2021 from 10:00-11:00am PST
- \* Lessons from our Rural Learning Network, November 16th, 2021 from 10:00-11:30am PST

\* **Peer-to-Peer Calls:** What Works, What Doesn't in COVID Economic Recovery: We'll be continuing our Peer-to-Peer Best Practice calls from 2020. This year, we will dive into how partnerships around the country are approaching economic recovery during a COVID era, highlighting the strategies that are making an impact and the challenges along the way. We'll hold two All-Partnership calls and two sector-based cohorts to focus on the nuances of healthcare and manufacturing. Please share with your business and support partners. These webinars will be held via Zoom. Mark the following dates on your calendar

- \* All Partnership Peer-to-Peer Best Practice Call, March 2nd, 2021 from 10-11:00 am PST
- \* Manufacturing Peer-to-Peer Best Practice Call, June 8th, 2021 from 10:00-11:00am PST
- \* Healthcare Peer-to-Peer Best Practice Call, June 9th, 2021 from 10:00-11:00am PST
- \* All Partnership Peer-to-Peer Best Practice Call, August 3rd, 2021 from 10-11:00 am PST

To be added to the waiting list for any of these events, email:

[info@nextgensectorpartnerships.com](mailto:info@nextgensectorpartnerships.com)

## Local Business Champion Spotlight

Founded in 2015, Ciner (pronounced 'jin-ner') Resources Corporation is one of the leading low cost suppliers of natural soda ash. Our





facility in Green River, Wyoming has been producing high-quality, environmentally-friendly soda ash and distributing it around the world since 1962. Together with our colleagues in Turkey, we are the world's largest producer of low cost natural soda ash.

Unlike the synthetic Solvay and Hou processes, Ciner uses an all-natural mining system. Our soda ash is mined from the

ground; the Ciner method is environmentally friendly and produces a pure, high-quality product. Our all-natural approach keeps costs low, allowing us to distribute Ciner soda ash all over the world in a cost-effective and competitive manner.

## "CINER IS COMMITTED TO SAFETY"

Our mission is to nurture a culture founded on safety, supported by integrity, leadership, commitment, and respect. Ciner is committed to behavior-based principle-driven safety, health processes, and programs, led by effective management systems and employee involvement.

Every Ciner employee, from the plant in Green River, to our corporate headquarters in Atlanta, is empowered to modify any operation that poses a potential threat to themselves, their fellow workers, the surrounding community, or the environment.



## AT CINER THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO COME OUT OF THE MINE ARE THE MINERS

Our stellar safety performance continues to speak for itself. Ciner Wyoming's Big Island Mine and Production Facility is a four-time winner of the U.S. Department of Labor Sentinels of Safety award for being the country's safest underground mine.

Our mine and surface rescue teams are consistently among the best in the country, with seven national mine rescue and three international surface rescue championships.

*We are very proud of the fact that not only is our soda ash produced in a world-class facility that has the fewest emissions per ton, but our employees take a lot of pride in nurturing a culture where safety is a value, not just a priority. At Ciner we truly believe the most important thing to come out of the mine are the miners.*

## CINER IS COMMITTED TO OUR ENVIRONMENT

Ciner understands how important the environment is to our industry. We take pride in the fact that all of our products are made from naturally occurring ingredients. Soda ash is a mineral mined from the ground and refined with no additional chemicals added to the product. Our product is pure and safe enough to be added to food products that are consumed every day. In addition, Ciner soda ash is more environmentally friendly than other products that could be used in its place. Ciner is committed to working towards producing innovative, reliable, and safe products for the environment and for the future.

## CINER IS COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITY

Ciner has always had a strong presence in and commitment to the communities where we work and

live. Through donations to local non-profit organizations, our annual company-wide United Way Campaigns, or any other myriad of projects to support our communities, we believe strongly in working hard to give back. Our employees serve as leaders for charitable organizations, volunteer firefighters, and EMTs. We serve as youth sports coaches and community leaders. We're proud of our employees, their efforts, and the resulting reputation Ciner holds within our communities.

Some of the causes and non-profit organizations we are proud to support include:

- Sweetwater County Head Start
- United Way
- Sweetwater County Boys and Girls Club
- Sweetwater County Hospital Foundation
- CLIMB Wyoming
- Kari's Access Awards
- American Red Cross Local youth and civic organizations



## Job Opportunities

Explore the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services website for current job openings or to post an opening within your company.



# Thank you to our sponsor!



*Mission Statement*



Wire Brothers Inc. endorses the following Safety Mission Statement, which supports our belief that safety is everyone's responsibility. Providing a safe environment for our employees, our customers, and families is a primary mission for all of us at Wire Brothers, Inc. We will strive to eliminate unsafe conditions and minimize related risks by identifying and supporting safe work practices, promoting safety awareness, furnishing necessary tools and equipment, and providing employee training and education. We will work together to protect our customers, ourselves, and each other by promoting a culture of shared responsibility and the open exchange of suggestions, ideas, and concerns. Our safety mission benefits us all by minimizing exposures, reducing injuries, preventing property damage, and enhancing the environment at Wire Brothers, Inc.

### Core Competencies

- Reclamation
- Environmental Remediation
- Process gas construction and maintenance
- Pipeline Services
- Well pad construction and hookup
- Location abandonment
- ASME plant maintenance and construction
- Pressure testing services
- Crane services
- Custom fabrication
- Welding Services
- General Dirt Work
- Road Maintenance

### Differentiators

- 30 years of customer satisfaction
- OQSG certified workforce
- "R" stamp for vessel repair projects
- On Staff C.P.W.I.
- Extensive inventory of specialty tools
- Hazwoper capabilities
- Variety of recent model equipment
- Specialty fab shop with plasma CNC
- Extensively trained employees
- ASME certified mobile welders



## *Friendly Reminder . . . .*

### **What is our Purpose and How do we Get There?**

#### ***Purpose:***

**Improve outcomes for our students and those seeking career changes**

· **Business, Educators, Government Services and the Community working together to improve:**

- **Awareness** of career opportunities
- **Alignment** of education and skill development for career paths
- **Planning** for what is needed now and for future opportunities
- **Results** for how to measure success

· **Awareness**

- Increase awareness of career opportunities within our community

§ Students, Educators, Counselors, Government Agencies, Parents and the Community

- Engagement events and opportunities
- § Career Fairs,
- § Jr. High and High School events
- § Mentoring and job shadowing etc.
- § Engagement & Dialog with the stakeholders

· **Alignment to better prepare our students for careers in our community and beyond**

- Direct from high school including career technical training
- Secondary education, certificate programs, two-year degrees, CTE
- University alignment (pathways and career paths)

· **Planning**

- What is needed now,
- Where will the opportunities be
- What will we do to prepare and fill the pipeline?
- § Promotion, Communication processes, Scholarships, etc.
- § Measurements; Create metrics such as % Secondary Education, % successful career changes

· **Membership**

- **Southwest Wyoming: Carbon, Fremont, Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta, Lincoln**

**Membership:**

- **Exec. Core Team:** Fred von Ahrens, Ron Wild, Craig Rood, Pam Heatherington, Carl Lembke, Lauren Schoenfeld, Kim Dale, Kelly McGovern, Craig Barringer, Joan Evans, Jed Vigil
- **Co Conveners:** Kayla McDonald, Bridget Stewart, Lacey Bluemel



Rock Springs, Wyoming  
Phone: 307-251-3980

Get In Touch

