AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Ratification of BOCC Signature; Letter of Support;

Action Requested: Motion

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins: **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:

Ratification of BOCC Signature on Letter of Support for the IceLab Funding Application

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Liz Mense **Submitter's Email Address:** EMense@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reveiwed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ○

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 12/12/2018

◉ Consent Agenda ○ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 0

Agenda Date: 12/18/2018

Revised April 2015

Gunnison County
COLORADO

Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners
Phone: (970) 641–0248 · Fax: (970) 641–3061
Email: bocc@gunnisoncounty.org · www.GunnisonCounty.org

December 11, 2018

Re: ICELab @Western's Funding Application

To Whom It May Concern:

The Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners supports ICELab @Western's application for Office of Economic Development and International Trade Incubation funding and the Catapult Outdoor Recreation Accelerator project. ICELab's work this past year in developing this unique industry-based accelerator in partnership with Active Interest Media and the Outdoor Industry Association threads local, regional and statewide strategic goals while enhancing organizational assets.

ICELab is an exemplary organization in service to the Western Slope with co-work space, virtual and onsite incubator programming, West Central SBDC consulting and programming, and a regionally focused Accelerator for place-based entrepreneurs. In consideration of ICELab's current mission and programming, the Accelerator will enhance its service to the rising outdoor assets throughout the state, both directly and indirectly.

The Accelerator provides increased support and density for the growing base of outdoor industry companies on the western slope with an influx of industry mentors, connections and like-minded founders. At the same time, the Accelerator complements Western Colorado University's Outdoor Recreation MBA program, the Telluride Venture Accelerator, the Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation, and Delta's ENGAGE programming. The Accelerator is an opportunity to develop a nationally recognized program from the remote location of Gunnison, Colorado, while leveraging its unique educational assets. It is also an opportunity for the ICELab to continue its service to the region with a funding model that leverages outside capital.

As various communities in the region begin to define their industry strengths, the outdoor industry is a perfect fit for the Gunnison Valley. It is a remote classroom with an unparalleled base of outdoor and indoor amenities for testing, developing and accelerating outdoor businesses.

We urge you to consider ICELab's funding application.

Best Regards,

Phil Chamberland, Chairperson Jonathan Houck, Commissioner John Messner, Commissioner

200 East Virginia Avenue · Gunnison, CO 81230