



### **New CAEDA Board Members Elected for 2011**

*Casper, Wyoming, December 20, 2010:* The Casper Area Economic Development Alliance (CAEDA) held its Annual Meeting on December 7 to review the year's activities and elect three new board members. Jim Porter of Porter, Muirhead, Cornia & Howard was reelected to another term. The two new board members chosen by CAEDA's investors were Tom Brauer and Don Davis. Lisa Hubbard of CAEDA's Nominating Committee led the election process.

Tom Brauer is a native of Casper, a licensed Professional Engineer and is the President of Civil Engineering Professionals, Inc. (CEPI). Don Davis has been employed by WLC Engineering, Surveying, and Planning since 1975. Davis became an owner in 1989, Vice President in 2000, and President in 2007. All of the elected candidates are heavily involved in the Natrona County community. Each will officially begin a two-year term of service with the CAEDA board on January 13, 2011.

In addition to the elections, current CAEDA Board Chairman, Dr. Walter Nolte, President of Casper College, opened the meeting by thanking the investors and board members for their ongoing commitment to the community. The featured guest speaker for this event was Sean Stevens of the Wyoming Business Council. Stevens' presentation was called "How Wyoming Compares: The Good, The Bad, & The Ugly". This presentation focused on how Wyoming compares to other states in regards to economic and business development.

Other highlights of the meeting included the presentation of CAEDA's 2010 Annual Report by Robert Barnes, President and CEO of CAEDA. Barnes focused on three main items from the annual report: the Casper Area Business Innovation Center, the One Cent Tax Campaign, and our community's competitiveness. Mr. Barnes noted that the innovation center, scheduled to open in early 2012, is an innovative, entrepreneur-centered, economic development strategy that offers balance to traditional economic development practices.

The One Cent Tax Campaign was another important project that CAEDA worked diligently on, alongside the Casper Area Chamber of Commerce, during 2010. Through speaking events, marketing strategies, and fundraising initiatives, the Chamber of Commerce and CAEDA were able to achieve a 70% - 30% vote supporting the One Cent Tax.

Finally, Mr. Barnes discussed the need for Casper and Natrona County to remain competitive. Mr. Barnes noted that economic development is a competitive endeavor, and that competition continues to drive



business and industrial location decisions. He stated that it is important to build an attractive community and work towards economic security to ensure our community is seen as a competitive one.

The 2010 CAEDA Board of Directors includes: Dr. Walter Nolte, Casper College; Tim Monroe, Business Consultant; Chris Lorenzen, Wyoming Medical Center; Jim Porter, CPA; Bob Sutter, Hilltop National Bank; Bob West, Granite Peak Development; Jeff Bishop, Eastland Development Company; Mike Huston, First Interstate Bank; Lisa Hubbard, GSG Architecture; and Tim Kugler, Wells Fargo Bank. Three additional Board seats are allocated to the City of Casper, Natrona County, and the Casper Area Chamber of Commerce. This year's representatives were Mayor Bill Brauer, County Commissioner Barb Peryam, and Chamber Representative Milton Green. The meeting was held at the Petroleum Club in Casper with CAEDA investors and community leaders in attendance.