

**\*\*For Immediate release\*\***

**Questions Posed on the Lodging Tax Initiative**

*-released by BCEDC, Inc. 3/20/2008*

Q: According to last weeks newspaper this tax money is going to go to the Economic Development fund in order to be seed money to get Grant money to pay a person full time to be the Director of the Economic Development.

My comment:

Sounds to me as if this is way to get tax money to get another person or club onto our County government payroll or City government (not sure which). True?

Since when do we pay taxes to a club to pay a person to be another part of government?

What are the city government there for? What are the County Commissioners there for? I cannot see paying someone that has volunteered within a club to become a full time paid employee of the (city, county????).

A: Baca County Economic Development Commission, Inc is a community organization that promotes responsible, sustainable development and growth through the expansion and or retention of the county's agricultural business, educational and recreational resources. BCEDC, Inc is not affiliated with the county or any city government in the county, but was established to serve and support them all. The BCEDC was established because neither the county or city governments have had available funding to hire an economic development director. The county and city governments, while they are able to do some economic development work inherently, do not have a position dedicated to pursuing the needs for economic development in Baca County. The BCEDC as an organization, not a club (there are no dues paid), was created by individual citizens to help fill the need for economic development to happen in our county. The BCEDC, Inc is planning to use the money generated from the lodging tax for various things, which will include a paid Director position. This position will not be a part of the county or city payroll as it is not funded by either. It is also to be noted that the position will be filled as any other public job is filled through an application and interview process. This process will be conducted by the BCEDC board members and the best applicant will be hired.

If you have a question that you would like addressed, please email it to [webmaster@bacacountyedc.com](mailto:webmaster@bacacountyedc.com). Your question, word for word will be submitted to the newspaper for printing. For more information about the Baca County Economic Development Commission, Inc. please visit [www.bacacountyedc.com](http://www.bacacountyedc.com)