WECRD Timeline

2000

January: Blue Ribbon Committee gathered 2000 signatures of support in 8 days.
Individuals signed this statement: **"We encourage the city to continue the process of working towards the construction of a community recreation and cultural facility."**

Summer: BRC gathered 1500 verified voter signatures (over 2500 total signatures were gathered to place forming the Western Elmore County Recreation District question on the ballot)

November: Voters decided to tax themselves to form the Western Elmore County Recreation District by an overwhelming **64% "Yes" vote**

1998

City of Mountain Home hired consultant to assist the Blue Ribbon committee

Conducted Market Study: **aquatic & family recreation, arts performance space & general gathering/meeting space were cited by respondents as the 'needs' of the community**

2003

Facility site finalized.
Land purchase agreement signed (pending WECRD received favorable clearances for facility construction)

- Land Survey
- Level 1 EPA
- FEMA review
- City 'Area of Impact' zoning ordinances
- Elmore County Planning and Zoning Review

Leadership committee formed

Stan Olson, Olson & Associates Architects, designed facility based on extensive community input.

1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004

1997

City of Mountain Home performed Capital Expenditure Survey

Building an indoor recreation center received favorable response

1999 Blue Ribbon Committee held public meetings:
Very positive responses for:

- Community Recreation / Cultural Facility
- Formation of a Recreation District

2001

WECRD Directors appointed by Governor Kempthorne
WECRD Directors developed:

- Strategic Plan of Work
- Project Time Line
- Facility Site Matrix

WECRD Directors investigated:

- WECRD / YMCA collaboration
- Other facilities in similar communities

2004

10 acres of land purchased. WECRD holds the option to buy an adjacent additional 10 acres

Leadership Committee evaluated:

- Architectural design
- Facility alternative energy options
- Facility Construction Cost analysis
- Facility Operational Cost analysis
- YMCA collaboration

2002

WECRD Directors wrote, had reviewed & revised:

- Comprehensive Business Plan
- Facility Financial Operational Analysis
- Facility Construction Cost Analysis

First tax dollars received.

Financial Feasibility Study Conducted.

- 76% of the interviewees indicated the facility would fulfill many of the needs presently absent in the greater Mountain Home community. "*People clearly understood the benefits. They realized the proposed center would bring the community together because it would offer something for everyone… they understood the potential impact of the project on the local economy. They also recognized that having such a facility in Mountain Home would be one piece of the puzzle in attracting business people to the community.*"
- Interviewees indicated facility planning should move forward and for the Directors to consider a variety of funding options to realize the goal of constructing the facility. *"people thought perhaps a combination of private and public funding might be the ticket to accomplish the job…"*