

Architect, lease contracts approved for Hand-In-Hand early-childhood center

By Frances K. Foster

Staff reporter

The Sheridan Economic and Educational Development Authority Joint Powers Board on Tuesday approved a \$119,250 contract with Armstrong Design Studio of Sheridan for design and engineering services for the first phase of the Hand-In-Hand early-childhood education center.

The Wyoming Business Council has funded the project with two \$1.5 million grants.

Armstrong's phase one fee will be paid from the first \$1.5 million grant, and the remaining \$67,750 of his total fee of \$187,000 will be paid from the

second \$1.5 million.

The first phase will begin with a schematic design of the center to be completed by the first week of April, explained ADS owner Edward Armstrong.

SEEDA also approved a five-year lease with four five-year extensions, all at \$1 per year, with Sheridan Quality Child Care Initiative Inc., which will operate the education center.

Finally, SEEDA approved advertising for Requests for Qualifications for a construction-manager-at-risk for the project. Tentative RFQ deadline is March 20.

SEEDA will next meet at 5:30 p.m. March 25 at the Sheridan County School District 2 administration office, 201 N. Connor St.