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## KEDC enters new deals

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At their most recent meeting, the Kilgore Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors approved two new contracts with current companies in Kilgore.

According to KEDC Executive Director Amanda Nobles, Clean Blast Services Inc. – doing business in Kilgore as Aluminum Trailer Repair – plans to purchase property they were formerly leasing, make improvements to it and add new jobs.

“Their primary business function is repairing aluminum tank trucks. They also have aluminum valves and fittings that they attach to new tank trucks,” Nobles explained. “It’s an oilfield related company, but it is serving a definite need in our region because of its ability to weld on aluminum.”

In the first year of the contract, Aluminum Trailer Repair aims to add \$50,000 in improvements to the facility in addition to \$25,000 in equipment. Year two brings an additional \$80,000 investment in the building and \$40,000 more in equipment.

There are currently 14 employees, Nobles said, and the company plans to add 10 jobs over the next three years. “Our total incentive over the three years will be \$44,000,” she said.

A second contract with Pak-Sher Co. (a division of T.C. Manufacturing Co. Inc.) involves the \$1.327 million installation of a new co-extrusion line.

Along with the Kilgore Chamber of Commerce, KEDC and Pak-Sher have instituted a plastic bag recycling program at Kilgore Immediate School.

“This is the equipment that will take that recycled plastic and incorporate that into new product,” Nobles explained. The retention project includes a \$53,080 grant from KEDC for 169 retained fulltime jobs in Kilgore. An additional \$25,000 from KEDC will be specifically applied to the recycling program.

“It’s kind of a cool project we can participate in, getting more investment in to Kilgore and keeping jobs,” Nobles said. “A percentage of customers expect their suppliers to prove how they are greening their companies. This helps us help Pak- Sher. That in turn enables Pak-Sher to meet requirements it is facing in a very competitive marketplace

For more in the Kilgore News Herald click [HERE](#).