



Nebraska Development Network - Central Region [www.ndncr.com](http://www.ndncr.com)

February 18, 2009

Sportsman Grill 801 Front Street Gibbon, NE

Minutes

**10:10 Co-Chair Dena Beck called the meeting to order**

**Introductions of those present:** Rick Nelsen, NPPD; Merrill Duntz, SCPPD; Scott Welk, SPPD; Randy Gunn, SC RC&D; Joan Eastman, Village of Giltner Clerk; Dena Beck, REAP; Donna Jarzynka and Cheryl Larson, USDA RD; Cory Snell, Mayor of Gibbon; Sharon Hueftle and Melissa Vinzant, SCEDD; Pat Compton, NEDED. EdToribio and Janie Dolan joined as presenters. Scott Knapp joined later.

Program was given by Home Energy Alternatives Owner, Ed Toribio regarding renewable energy options. Jamie Dolan of Central Nebraska Cremation Services discussed her business.

**12:37 Business Meeting started**

**Agenda was approved, Minutes from December 3, 2008 were approved.**

Financial Report, \$4345.76 balance as of Jan 30, 2009; only activity since last meeting was to pay registration to the Governor's conference for Kristy Dvorak, Arnold. This balance includes \$1000 from SCEDD for match of the BECA Grant. Rick will change banks to one with no charges.

**2009 Regional Revitalization Workshop** updates & schedule:

April 28, Superior

August, Sargent-Taylor-Burwell

Dena will draft a letter to send to central communities as a recruiting tool for the October RRCD.

**Other Networks:** NDN-CR would like to know what is happening in other Development Networks, anyone with information please provide it to Dena.

**Old Business:**

**Scholarship report:** have paid for only Kristy Dvorak

**Web site update:** the resource page is currently hidden until updated, Sharon will visit w/ Diana

**Resource Guide Update:** University has an Entrepreneurship Clearinghouse – consensus was to partner as opposed to keep up our own.

**Other Business**

**How can we support Ed Toribio:** he is one of a few resources on renewable energy locally, can talk to groups (Rotary, etc), schools classes, etc. He provides good education.

**Provider Updates: see below**

**Meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM**

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**Provider updates:**

**Rick Nelsen, NPPD:** Heartland training in April; March 12 NPPD video briefing 9-3, Kearney is one location. NEDA in May – Wed morning session on wind energy, tour Ainsworth wind farm, discuss component manufacturing, etc. Working w/ Minden Development to help them become an economic development certified city. Pat, Linda and Rick met w/ Steve Waring in Alma – housing is a big area of interest for Alma.

**Merrill Duntz, SPPD:** NPPD and some of the rural PPD's have set up an energy wise program for residences: CFL's, commercial and industrial lighting, 14 Seer rating or greater for heat pump program, refrigerator/freezer recycling program. One for One program for commercial and industrial lighting. Irrigation program also – it all has to do with energy efficiency. Will be looking at Ed's program for education for customers. Trailblazer RC&D brought Elvis to Franklin, about 150 people showed for an outstanding program – raised funds for Women's Wilderness Weekend in August. SPUC reorganizing, Legislative reception will be held in April in Lincoln, 75 year anniversary celebrated in Oxford April 12. Clay Center losing school in 2010/11 school year, will go to Sandy Creek or Harvard. City of Clay Center looking at LB840. Nebraska Resources, pipeline taking natural gas from near Clay Center area to Norfolk area has been cancelled.

**Scott Welk, SPPD:** Energy efficiency information from the new federal stimulus program – incentives available to tie to local incentives (Energy Wise). Working with Aurora on data center projects; Aventine on hold – to be back under construction in summer. VeraSun ethanol in Central City for sale. Keystone pipeline coming through to the east of our area, Yankton to near Fairbury. Keystone XL - coming by Fullerton, from Canada to Oklahoma.

**Randy Gunn, SC RC&D:** LeRoy Jons retired but still working, vacancy has been issued. Ravenna has expressed some interest in recycling. Buy Fresh Buy Local promotion. Organic workshops coming up. Advisory committee meeting for Hastings well head protection area – doing some education of citizens. Monica Boyken and Randy met with group in Funk – Class 1 school was vacated last year, Loomis is utilizing it for elementary this year. In the future they would like to see a community center and business incubator. If you have ideas please visit with Randy. Wind energy development webinar Feb 27.

**Joan Eastman, Village of Giltner Clerk:** welcome to Joan as the new clerk of Giltner.

**Dena Beck, REAP:** PK I&E Club started; McCook I&E Club – 80 attended noon hour on a Friday; PK Partnership is also doing Business and Ag succession workshops, partnering with FSA in the fall to teach on the new farm plan. March 23 in Holdrege – Business Succession Workshop. SPUC – Dena will be president in 2011. MarketPlace extended early bird price until today. Things picking up in the service area – more start-up and expansion talk.

**Donna Jarzynka, USDA RD:** Operating on a continuing resolution – there is money to operate but out of funds in guaranteed loan program; have money in direct loan program. Trying to pull together activity for June – home fairs, success stories, etc for home owner month. Going to a 2 tier income program in loans – on hold due to new administration. If passed this program will make more households eligible for guaranteed loans. USDA RD has gone to a web based application program for lenders, makes turn around faster.

**Cheryl Larson, USDA RD:** Prior to running out of funds USDA RD programs were very popular – the only agency with 100% financing.

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**Sharon Hueftle, SCEDD:** SCEDD is preparing to hire a Disaster Coordinator; extended RBEG Business Facilitation project thru 2009 to be able to serve more businesses; Revolving Loan Fund available for disaster effected businesses in Kearney, Hamilton and Buffalo Counties. PK Partnership: PK I&E Club has kicked off and is going good; taking 14 youth and 4 teachers to MarketPlace. Starke Round Barn in Red Cloud is a good project, turning a historic barn into a tourism opportunity. Continue to administer grants for Harvard & Aurora.

**Melissa Vinzant, SCEDD:** CDBG applications in the works: Franklin Sr Center, Marquette Community Center, Oxford Community/Senior Center. Hildreth survey nearly complete, working with them on library funding; working on a couple assistance to firefighters grants – going to training this weekend.

**Pat Compton, NEDED:** CNEDD is hosting a Housing Summit June 17 in Burwell; just completed application guideline workshops with video conferences; deadline dates are new changes this year. OOR not due until July 31. NSP – state receiving over \$19.m – HUD finally gave pre-approval of the fourth revision, still many unknowns. Not sure what is in the recovery bill that will affect our area, NE Affordable trust funds have decreased (from doc stamp on real estate transfers). Emergency Shelter Grants through HHS now Emergency Solution Grants. Will include more funds for preventative services – could be 13 times larger than the amount that has been available as a result of the stimulus bill, for short and medium term rental assistance. Also a huge increase in weatherization funds – millions.

**Scott Knapp, NBDC:** Passed out a PTAC brochure and told of the series of 4 workshops @ UNK; also setting up an SBA webinar series. EPA pre-bid in Grand Island – Parkview well project north and west of CCC; 50 to 60 people at the pre-bid meeting. Similar meeting in Hastings in October re: superfund sites. EPA wants to work with small businesses – this is for people with remediation businesses – for water cleanup. Grand Islands project will be about \$5m, Hastings \$5-10m. NBDC received extra funding to add PTAC staff, so will have an office in Wayne and a new person in Lincoln. Odee Ingersoll is doing exit planning seminars and some valuations, webinars on exit planning, and working on grants to fund the UNK Center as NBDC's exit planning center.

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