



<http://www.ndncr.com>

**Nebraska Development Network Central Region
Giltner Community Center
4021 N Commercial
June 17, 2009 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
MINUTES**

Call to order, 10 AM

Linda Black, NDN-CR Co-Chair

Introductions: Donna Jarzynka & Sheryl Larsen, USDA RD; Melissa Vincent & Sharon Hueftle, SCEDD; Linda Black, NEDED; Dena Beck, REAP; Shelly Schnakenberg, SCRC&D

Business meeting:

Minutes from 2/18/09, approved

Financial report, Rick Nelsen, \$4330.76 on hand at PVSF, will move account to Minden when time available

Old business:

Rural Revitalization through Community Development Mini-Summits:

Superior, 5/4/09 evaluation, Sharon Hueftle: provided evals and financial report

Taylor, 5/5/09 evaluation, Dena Beck: provided press release and evaluation figures.

Overall the workshop was well received, no expenses for NDN-CR; partnered with CNEDD

Looking Ahead: October, South Central Region: Dena will send a draft letter to attendees for finalization to be sent to communities as a recruiting tool for the October RRCD.

Options: Hildreth, Clay Center, Minden, Elm Creek

August 19, Next Meeting: Location TBA: Amherst, Ansley

New business:

Governor's Conference on Rural Development, Friday, **Nov 6**

"Connecting Nebraska" awards: Linda will send email to NDN-CR members requesting nominations

Scholarships: 4 will be offered

Touring Local Businesses (Hastings example), Sharon Hueftle: Sharon presented an article from a patron in the area; the patron would like to see the economic developers organize regional tours such as the one in Hastings. The group determined this was not an option at this time.

Provider Updates: see below

Adjourned: 12:45 PM

*As one of the seven Development Networks in the State of Nebraska,
Nebraska Development Network Central Region is a group of development service providers
working together to better meet the needs of the constituents.*

Dena Beck, REAP: Quick update on numbers of REAP loans for the 2009 2nd Quarter. We are having an outstanding quarter and currently setting at 19 loans totaling \$261,600 for the quarter that ends June 30th. We continue with a trend of lower leveraged loan as it seems banks are not lending to our clientele as much in the last 18 months (lending & leveraged graph provided). Reported on the SPUCC Golf Outing in Curtis in July.

Donna Jarzynka & Cheryl Larson, USDA RD: housing funding in place, need to get word out; signed up a new lender in Minden; lots of stimulus money for all programs; many checks and balances being put in place for transparency, extra work and monitoring within USDA RD. New requirements with Davis Bacon for housing rehab will be challenging. Energy and Value Added program applications keeping Kelley busy as well as business apps; Glen working on grant to Red Cloud for Assisted Living; multi-family available in Kearney office again.

Melissa Vinzant, SCEDD: many projects, NSP and CDBG Apps, library projects, fire hall and fire equipment projects; Marquette fire hall; energy efficiency renovations popular.

Shelly Schnakenberg, SCRC&D: Organic Workshops in process (Randy is there today!), SCRC&D partnering with Trailblazer and Northeast RC&Ds. Women's Wilderness Weekend hosted by Trailblazer August 7-9 at South Central 4-H Camp, Alma. Grazing conference coming up in Kearney Aug 11-12, Holiday Inn. Buy Fresh Buy Local flyers available.

Linda Black, NEDED: NSP 1 apps have been submitted, NSP 2 is in the works. Stimulus funds: Gov rec'd \$3.3m discretionary funds to be spent by end of 2010 with job creation required – 4 projects selected to be funded that can meet the time line. Discussed stimulus for retention projects. Looking at a very flat budget. Several communities re-certifying, not an easy task. New certification applications coming in. Looking at certification opportunities or alternatives for smaller communities. Cami Barner, financial packager in NP, also covers six counties as field staff. Busy time for business recruitment – wind, solar, bio diesel. Data storage needs being a huge issue, NEDED will put money into developing data center sites, have asked for proposals and visited sites, could provide some funding for potentially up to four communities.

Sharon Hueftle, SCEDD: Moved to City Building in Holdrege and added an Administrative Assistant; Replacing Disaster Recovery Coordinator. PK I&E – attendees have been pleased but numbers are decreasing; PK EDGE starting in Minden in August. Applied for 3 NSP grants – 7 communities for demolition; NSP 2 app for 3 communities for demolition. Administering several CDBGs; RBEG Revolving Loan Fund available for businesses in Kearney, Hamilton and Buffalo Counties; Preparing Community Needs Assessment Surveys for number of communities.