



Miletta Vista Winery
4 miles north
St Paul, NE

Wednesday, August 11, 2010

10 a.m.
MINUTES

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM TOURS

RockHard 4 X 4 <http://www.rockhard4x4parts.com/index.html> Louis provided the history of the business as well as a tour of the facility.

Miletta Vista Winery <http://www.milettavistawinery.com/> Mick McDowell provided a tour of the winery and shared the story of their business.

12:00 Noon Lunch at Miletta Vista Winery \$8/person

12:10 PM Introductions: Linda Black, NEDED; Glen Gatz & Donna Jarzynka, USDA RD; Steve Meyer, Trailblazer RC&D; Curie Mincer, CNEDD; Tom Tabor, DED Tourism; Merrill Duntz, SCPPD; Don Reynolds; Charlotte Narjes, UNL-CARI; Mike Feeken, St. Paul Development Corp; Corrine Pedersen, NMPP; Rick Nelsen, NPPD; Shawn Kaskie, CRRD-UNK; Andrea McClintic, Pat Compton, & Alison Hatch, NEDED; Randy Gunn, SC RC&D; Sharon Hueftle, SCEDD; Mike Eureka, Sherman County Economic Development.

12:45 PM Business Meeting

Linda Black

Minutes: from June, 2010, meeting in Callaway were accepted as presented

Financial report: Rick Nelsen provided a financial report including funds to be received and funds payable. Motion was made by Randy Gunn, seconded by Merrill Duntz, to accept the report, all approved.

Old business:

Linda Black

Marketing Audit Updates: Sharon Hueftle shared information about the marketing audit process, and listed the businesses that have received or are scheduled for audits. She also passed around the survey/evaluation tool to be completed by each business audited.

Please send your nominations for additional businesses to be audited to Sharon right away.

BECA Grant Applications: Tom Tabor discussed the Watchable Wildlife (WWL) businesses and potential in Nebraska. NDN-CR is seeking a BECA planning grant to build a statewide coalition of WWL business owners to connect these business people and provide a network for future businesses to connect with. Ideally these businesses would develop partnerships with the opportunity to utilize the Value Added Ag funding for future development. NDN-CR is also seeking BECA funding for projects, Sharon Hueftle reminded attendees that this group determined at their last meeting to seek funding for WWL site assessments, training the trainer programs, and feasibility studies for entrepreneurs. Tom will take the lead on the planning grant application, Shawn Kaskie and Sharon Hueftle will provide leadership for the project application.

BECA 2008 Completion: Sharon Hueftle provided a final report for the activities completed with the Rural Revitalization through Community Development BECA project. Anyone

wanting this report electronically should request it from Sharon, sharonh@scedd.us. This report was provided to co-applicants Phelps and Nuckolls Counties.

Leveraging Technology for the Future of NE, Charlotte Narjes of CARI provided a report on the survey/study completed, and informed the group of future funding and opportunities for the NDN-CR to participate. Merrill Duntz recommended the NDN-CR take this information and develop some questions for Charlotte before determining the role NDN-CR will play in this program. This item was tabled until the next meeting. Rick Nelsen informed the group NCTA.org has information online regarding this subject.

New business

Linda Black

West Company Work at Home opportunity: Sharon asked that resource partners take a look at this opportunity and promote it as appropriate via their email lists.

Provider updates:

Glen Gatz, USDA RD: Glen announced his retirement, effective October 8, his position will be moved to Lincoln. Glen is working with a lot with community facility grants – sirens, Sharman County sign, Sherman County patrol car, fire/rescue pagers, fire truck, and a few water and waste projects.

Donna Jarzynka, USDA RD: Donna will be retiring December 30. Donna works with single family housing. She said USDA RD ran out of guarantee \$ May 1, then got a new allocation but still waiting for funding to be accessible. Lots of money in the bucket for direct financing – extra money this year due to stimulus. Other staff in Kearney will fill Donna's duties initially.

Steve Meyer, Trailblazer RC&D: Women's Wilderness Weekend just completed – 60 attendees! Much fun, good food and education.

Tom Tabor, DED Tourism: Working with the Central NE Tourism on a publication for Central NE; already have a website that won an award last year. This is a very aggressive group and hope to get participation from North Central Nebraska. Tom is on the steering committee for MarketPlace, 500+ attendance annually, will be at Ramada in Kearney, Feb 2011. On the planning committee for the National Wildlife Conference to be in Kearney October 5-7. Cowboy trail experienced flooding..... Will get coalition together for BECA planning grant for NDN-CR.

Merrill Duntz, SCPPD: Old Trusty Days in Clay Center Aug 11, 12. Watch potentially disastrous legislative items: milk could be a toxic substance, dust regulations will prevent driving on a dirt road in the future as well as farming, Cap and Trade bill looks different than previous one but considering having vote take place during "lame duck" session. SCPPD in June, 2010, used 17% more kilowatt hours on residential power than 2009. Last few weeks have been good for electric business!

Mike Feeken, St. Paul Dev Corp: Mike suggested we all stop and get gas before hitting the road today – spread sales tax! St. Paul is doing some land development projects and business expansions, demolitions. Façade improvement (grant up to \$5000, matching) for visual improvement in its third cycle, spent nearly \$75,000, and about 35 applicants. Best program for most visual impact per dollar invested.

Corrine Pedersen, NMPP: Many communities have small power plants and EPA is coming down hard on these with major investments needed to keep them running; if these communities cannot get power off the grid their patrons will be without power. NPPD – NMPP/MEAN – MUD – OPPD - LES and the Rural Electric providers in Nebraska are providing energy kits for 5th. graders teaching them and their families to be more energy efficient. Corrine also passed out a flyer for NEDA's fall conference in Minden and Kearney Sept 22-24, 2010.

Don Reynolds: Don and family have run GROW Store in GI for 2 years, 90 members represented. He shared info about GROW and opportunity for entrepreneurs to get assistance with product development. Sept 29 at Conestoga Mall will hold an info meeting on GROW Nebraska. SCORE does small business counseling – need more members.

Rick Nelsen, NPPD: NPPD held webinar today on facts books, will continue to provide education this way. NPPD Briefing will be Oct 13, Kearney will be a site. New Ec Dev starting Sept 1 in Custer County, Elizabeth Babcock. NEDA will be fun and educational, Chef Carlos at the Ramada will be doing a cooking demo during Thursday's reception. Rick is president of NREDA this year, just had annual conference in Portland.

Shawn Kaskie, CRRD-UNK: Kay Payne used to do CNAS, then role shifted primarily to programming related to entrepreneurship. CRRD is once again offering market research to communities and businesses. UNK/CRRD will have a booth at the state fair.

Andrea McClintic, NEDED: On the MarketPlace Committee; Furnas-Harlan Ptp has a new director, Marcy Kitt Houghtelling. Working with NPPD on another LB840 seminar – this one on uses of funding more than the technical “how-to” aspect. Andrea has been assisting with a couple CDBG start-up applications.

Alison Hatch, NEDED: new with DED in May, and now works with Tim O'Brien with Business Retention and Expansion. DED is doing a competitiveness study with Battelle to identify new industry sector opportunities, refine strategies and policies for each industry (including incentives, infrastructure, sites, regulatory policy and workforce training components), develop a Nebraska innovation strategy, develop population and workforce retention and attraction strategies, and more. Results from the study are due to DED in September.

Randy Gunn, SC NE RC&D: working with organic ag transition information/education with 8 other councils. Sponsoring a no till workshop; working with WWL annual conference; working with Dena Beck, Ne Rural Living and Center for Rural Affairs on some local foods projects and “Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food” program. Working with Dena and Sharon on survey of professionals regarding their knowledge and training needs on business transition and business start-ups. Steve Chick, State Conservationist is retiring at the end of the year; he has been a great supporter of RC&D Councils. SC NE RC&D 7th in nation to receive “Circle of Diamonds” Level II designation – 6 are in Nebraska.

Pat Compton, NEDED: attended EPA training in Ohio on new lead paint regulations. (DED housing projects fall under HUD rules!) – EPA compliance rules impact all contractors on all projects whether they have Federal funding or not. Enforcement will be triggered by “complaint” from consumers developing lead “issues” with liability on the contractor. We really need to be aware of legislation that impacts so many facets of our economy and not just let it slide. LB 403 – verifying citizenship – will require reports to the Department. More information to come. Owner Occupied Rehab application cycle ended July 31, 2010. In the Central Region Sherman County and the community of Ewing applied. Scoring takes place in August with announcements of award to follow.

Sharon Hueftle, SCEDD: SCEDD's Business Disaster Recovery Coordinator, Alison Raymond, is available for presentations – please contact SCEDD if you would like to book her for your meeting. Melissa is administering 7 energy grants and several CDBGs. The Pricilla's motel in Holdrege has been demolished with NSP funds, Superior and Harvard downtown buildings are next. Town Hall in Bladen had nearly 60 participants – largest to date! Contact SSCEDD for assistance with community strategic planning thru Town Hall meetings or Surveys. Sharon is working with several business clients; EDGE Classes starting in Holdrege and Red Cloud; marketing audits have been very successful. The EDD Directors across the state have formed a formal organization, Nebraska Regional Officials Council (NROC).

Mike Eurek, Sherman County Ec Dev: Newly appointed to his position in June. He is currently continuing the work started on a NAHTF funded subdivision in Loup City. Infrastructure development is in progress. The subdivision has been in the planning stages for a long time but should see new houses starting to build by spring. Received a Nebraska Energy Grant for new windows in the Sherman County Court House. Received a Tourism Target survey and will be implementing recommendations. Received funding for sheriff's patrol car through the USDA. He is working on a new website for the community. He is also helping businesses in his

area that are internet based thus is researching the use of search engine optimization, banner advertising, website analytics, search “AdWords”, etc

Linda Black, NEDED: 3 data sites to receive funding to assist in development to be announced at the Diplomat’s Passport weekend. The state is also looking to fund assistance of development of dual rail served sites – 19 communities with 31 sites were submitted for review, those were narrowed to 8-9, will select 3 to 4 after intense analysis– rail served sites seem to be strongly on the preferred list again for site selectors and consultants. Working with NDO’s – to enable a broader and less restrictive use of CDBG reuse funds than currently allowed. Approximately \$8m sitting in program income not being utilized. 29 ED Certified Communities – new refined applications; recertification is being re-worked also and both initial and recertification will be for 5 years. Looking hard at websites- community, LOIS and NEDI.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 20, 2010 Time and Location TBA