

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
100 Park Street South
Mora, MN 55051
February 23, 2009
7:00 P.M.

Commission Members Present:

Roger Crawford – Kanabec Co. Commissioner
Bob Cupit – Chisago Co. Township
Jack Edmonds – Mille Lacs Co. Commissioner
Frank Grundmeier – Pine Co. Townships
Richard Hansen – Isanti Co. Townships
Edward Hill – Southern School Boards
Sue Larson – Isanti Co. Public Interest
Fred Lere – Pine Co. Public Interest
Ben Montzka – Chisago Co. Commissioner
Steve Odegard – Northern School Board.
Marlys Palmer – Isanti Co. Municipalities
Dave Patenaude – Kanabec Co. Townships
Jeremy Riddle – Mille Lacs Co. Municipalities
Donald Taylor – Chisago Co. Public Interest
Janelle Troupe – Kanabec Co. Public Interest
Paul Venhuizen – Pine Co. Municipalities
Barbara Welty – Mille Lacs Co. Townships

Commission Members Absent:

Dave Chmiel – Kanabec Co. Municipalities
Linda Evans – Mille Lacs Co. Public Interest
Steve Hallan – Pine Co. Commissioner
George Larson – Isanti Co. Commissioner

Staff Present

Bob Voss – Executive Director
Bob Bollenbeck – Transportation Program
Andrew Daniels – Finance Officer
Mary Minnick-Daniels – East Central Arts Council
Trish Rydlund – Information/Office Manager
Penny Simonsen – East Central Sr. Resource Center
Jordan Zeller – Community/Economic Development

1. **WELCOME:** Montzka called to order the regular meeting of the East Central Regional Development Commission at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was cited.
2. **AGENDA APPROVAL:** Moved by S. Larson to approve the agenda with the following additions:
5a – Approve delegates and alternates to CMCOA Board and 8b – ECAC Chisago Co. Board Member appointment. Patenaude seconded – motion carried.
3. **MINUTES APPROVAL:** Hansen moved to approve the December 15, 2008 meeting minutes with the following correction. Under 4c the Mayor of Harris' term ended December 31, 2008. Welty seconded – motion carried.
4. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Executive Director Voss reported on a number of items including:
 - a. CENTRAL MINNESOTA COUNCIL ON AGING (CMCOA) DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES:
Taylor moved to approve the following CMCOA Board Members: Ben Montzka as delegate and Rick Greene as alternate for Chisago County; and Roger Crawford as delegate and Wendy Thompson as alternate for Kanabec County. Hansen seconded - motion carried. Terms run January 1 through December 31, 2009.
 - b. TRANSPORTATION FORUM: The Transportation Forum with Congressman Oberstar has been rescheduled for March 13, 2009 at the Anoka Ramsey Community College Cambridge Campus starting at 1:15 p.m.
 - c. ECRDC BUILDING MORTGAGE: Closing the on the new mortgage took place on January 15 at Ahlgren & Bangma law office in Mora. The pay-off amount on the contract for deed with the Nordenstrom family was \$49,927 plus some closing expenses. The new mortgage amount will be \$50,663. The mortgage will be a 5-year term at 6% interest with monthly payments of \$982.

- d. CHISAGO COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES SEAT: We received two nominations to fill the Chisago County Municipalities seat on the ECRDC Board – Jill Behnke, Center City Mayor, and John Daher, Stacy Mayor. Ballots for the two nominees were sent out and March 11 is the deadline for ballots to be returned. The winner will likely be seated at the April 27th Commission meeting.
 - e. ECRDC ANNUAL MEETING: The ECRDC annual meeting will be held on June 22, 2009. It is Chisago County’s turn in the five-county rotation. More details about location, guest speaker, menus, etc. will be provided as it becomes available.
 - f. HAZARD MITIGATION: All plans for Chisago, Kanabec, and Mille Lacs counties were approved by the Minnesota Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. They also have all been approved by their respective County Boards (these County resolutions cover the participating townships). There are a few cities that have yet to approve the plans. The local emergency management directors are handling this local approval process.
5. **TREASURERS REPORT**: Troupe presented the December 2008 and January 2009 Treasurer’s report. S. Larson moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report to include the checks written from December 22, 2008, through February 6, 2009 and general journal registry for November 7, 2008 through January 31, 2009. Hansen seconded – motion carried.
6. **PERSONNEL AND BUDGET (P&B) COMMITTEE**:
- a. DANIELS PERFORMANCE REVIEW: Based on a favorable performance appraisal, Odegard moved to approve a one step increase for Andrew Daniels from Pay Grade C Step 5, \$36,030 to Pay Grade C Step 6, \$37,197 effective April 1, 2008. Palmer seconded – motion carried.
 - b. OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS: The following items are being reviewed/discussed by the P&B Committee: nepotism policy, nominating committee policy, and possible future funding opportunities. The P&B has decided not to pursue a nominating committee at this time - appointment of Commission officers will continue to be done by the Commission at the annual meeting.
7. **EAST CENTRAL ARTS COUNCIL**: Mary Minnick-Daniels, on behalf of the ECAC, brought before the Commission the Art Organization Project Grants. Welty moved to approve the following

Project/Name of Organization -in order ranked	Total Project Costs	Request	Funding Recommended
Mora CAPP, Tonic Sol Fa (Residency and Concert) Day, Mora	\$8,180	\$3,900	\$3,900
City of Isanti, Mural Project with artist Walter Horcher, Isanti	\$9,980	\$5,000	\$5,000
Kanabec History Center/Kanabec Co. Artists Tour Sticks and Stones Fall Fest, Mora	\$11,520	\$5,000	\$4,350
Cambridge Friends of the Library 2009 One Book Community-wide Reading Project, Cambridge	\$5,698	\$1,300	\$1,300
Pine Center for the Arts, Todd Green Lyceums and Community Concert, Pine City	\$7,433	\$3,500	\$3,500
Mille Lacs County Ag. Society Fiddle Contest at the Mille Lacs County Fair, Princeton	\$6,240	\$3,000	\$3,000
City of Lindstrom Harmony in the Parks Summer Concert Series, Lindstrom	\$10,920	\$3,500	\$3,500
North Branch Area Comm. Ed. Magic of Main Street Music and Art Festival, North Branch	\$6,960	\$3,265	\$3,265
Franconia Sculpture Park, Community Hot Metal Pour, Shafer	\$10,538	\$5,000	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$77,469	\$33,465	\$32,815

grants. Taylor seconded – motion carried.

The Arts Council advertised an opening for a representative from Chisago County. The ECAC recommended Laurie Beil, North Branch, for this position. Taylor moved to approve Laurie Beil to the ECAC. S. Larson seconded – motion carried.

There is still an opening for a representative from Mille Lacs County. Please advise Minnick-Daniels if you are aware of an artist, arts organization member or arts advocate that may be interested in filling this vacancy.

8. **EAST CENTRAL SENIOR RESOURCE CENTER (ECSRC):** Simonsen reported that the Senior LinkAge® (SLL) assessment was performed and the SLL goals are being reached. They exceeded their 2008 call goal of 3,600 calls. This also includes the 23 volunteers recruited. More than 60 caregiver coach units were logged in January which exceeded expectations. Simonsen worked with the following organizations with their CSSD applications: Elmhurst Commons, Braham; Depot Studios, Isle; City of Hinckley; City of Ogilvie; Alzheimer’s Association; Windows Victim Services; Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe; Heartland Express; Kanabec County Public Health; and both Isanti County Commission on Aging and Mora HRA.
9. **TRANSPORTATION:** Bollenbeck then brought before the Commission the Region 7E – FY2013 Regional Priorities to be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Welty moved to approve the Regional Priorities listed below. S. Larson seconded – motion carried.

Sponsor	Facility/Route	Description	Fed \$	Local \$	Total \$	Recomm
Isanti Co.	Vehicle Replac.	2013 Chisago vehicle	56,000	14,000	70,000	\$56,000
Isanti Co.	Vehicle Replac.	2013 vehicle replace.	56,000	14,000	70,000	\$56,000
Isanti Co.	CSAH 9	3 mile reconstruction	2,112,000	528,000	2,640,000	\$1,012,000
Kanabec Co	CSAH 12	4.7 mile overlay	564,000	141,000	705,000	\$100,000
Isanti Co.	Vehicle Replac.	2013 vehicle replace.	56,000	14,000	70,000	\$56,000
Timber Trails Transit	replace existing vehicle	2013 vehicle replace.	56,000	14,000	70,000	\$56,000
Kanabec Co	CSAH 4	2 mile overlay	360,000	90,000	450,000	
Kanabec Co	CSAH 8	.51 mi overlay	421,200	105,300	526,500	
Cambridge	Alabama St. S.	Reconstruction	\$1,834,000	1,499,900	3,333,900	
Isanti Co.	CSAH 2	2.4 mile overlay	316,000	79,000	395,000	
Kanabec Co	CSAH 5	3 mile reconstruction	1,160,000	290,000	1,450,000	
Mille Lacs Co	CSAH 4	4.1 mile reconstruction	1,470,400	367,600	1,838,000	
Mille Lacs Co	CSAH 4	1.78 mile overlay	323,200	80,800	404,000	
		Regional Totals	\$8,784,800	3,237,600	12,022,400	
		District 3 ATP Totals	8,728,800	3,223,600	11,952,400	
		2013 Reg 7E Target -				
		\$1.28 Million				\$1,336,000
					D3	\$1,280,000
					Metro	\$56,000

Recommendations for Federal Project Submittals

Bollenbeck then brought up for discussion the need for a long-range transportation plan. Bollenbeck has spoken with a potential consultant, Rick Arnebeck of SRF, to assist with this process. We are making a request from Congressman Oberstar for funding of \$100,000 to \$200,000 for this plan.

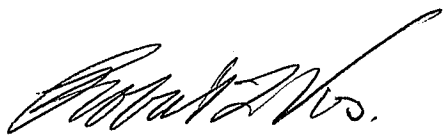
10. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT:** Zeller brought forth the following people for approval to the Revolving Loan Fund Committee. Grundmeier moved to approve Leonard Bonander, Pine

County. Odegard seconded – motion carried. Crawford moved to approve Beth Thorp, Kanabec County. S. Larson seconded – motion carried. Palmer moved to approve Brian Anderson, Isanti County. Hansen seconded – motion carried. Crawford moved to approve Nancy Dahlin, Chisago County. Taylor seconded – motion carried. Hansen moved to approve Sue Larson, At-large member and RDC liaison. Odegard seconded – motion carried.

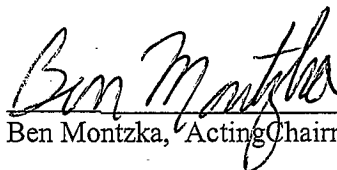
Other action item included the appointment to fill the vacancy left by Rick Smisson on the CEDS Governance Board. Following discussion, it was decided to postpone the appointment until Smisson’s position on the ECRDC board has been filled.

Other items discussed were: the 5-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies was completed and submitted early in February; Financial Resource and Recovery Summit will be held March 5 at the Anoka Ramsey Community College Cambridge Campus; EDA applications were submitted for the cities Cambridge/Mora, Isle, North Branch, and Pine Technical College; and the next City Administrator meeting is scheduled for March 13th at Cambridge City Hall.

11. **OTHER:** The Commission and staff held an open discussion about the federal Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Stimulus Package) and the State’s Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment and its impact on Region 7E.
12. **ADJOURNMENT:** The next meeting will be on April 27, 2009 at the ECRDC offices. Palmer moved to adjourn the regular meeting of the ECRDC. Odegard seconded – motion carried.



Robert L. Voss, Executive Director



Ben Montzka, Acting Chairman