



EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

100 Park Street South

Mora, MN 55051

June 23, 2008

5:30 P.M.

Commission Members Present:

Jack Edmonds – Mille Lacs Co. Commissioner
Frank Grundmeier – Pine Co. Townships
Steve Hallan – Pine Co. Commissioner
Richard Hansen – Isanti Co. Townships
Edward Hill – Southern School Boards
George Larson – Isanti Co. Commissioner
Sue Larson – Isanti Co. Public Interest
Fred Lere – Pine Co. Public Interest
Ben Montzka – Chisago Co. Commissioner
Jerry Nelson – Kanabec Co. Commissioner
Steve Odegard – Northern School Board.
Marlys Palmer – Isanti Co. Municipalities
Dave Patenaude – Kanabec Co. Townships
Jeremy Riddle – Mille Lacs Co. Municipalities
Rick Smisson – Chisago Co. Municipalities
Donald Taylor – Chisago Co. Public Interest
Janelle Troupe – Kanabec Co. Public Interest
Paul Venhuizen – Pine Co. Municipalities

Staff Present

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

Commission Members Absent:

Dave Chmiel – Kanabec Co. Municipalities
Bob Cupit – Chisago Co. Townships
Linda Evans – Mille Lacs Co. Public Interest
Barbara Welty – Mille Lacs Co. Townships

Others Present:

Shirley Jones – ECSRC
Katherine Salverda – ECAC
Mike Fetzek – TAC
Sue Rogers – ECAC
Representative Tim Faust
Carla Vita – TAC
Greg Owens – Community Pride Bank, Isanti
Representative Jeremy Kalin
Linda and Randy Berg – ECSRC
John O’Leary – EDA
Fran Caron – ECSRC
Lenore Karash – ECAC
Becki Olseen – Cong. Oberstar Office
Lori Vrolson – Central MN Council on Aging
Elizabeth Vincent – ECSRC
Amanda Thompson Rundahl – ECAC
Carl Long – ECAC
Bruce Cochran – TAC
Shirl Chouinard – ECAC
Julie Dresel – TAC
Harriet Johnson - ECSRC
Ken Martin – Vote Yes for Minnesota

1. **WELCOME:** Chairman Rick Smisson called to order the meeting of the East Central Regional Development Commission at 5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall of the historic NW Company Fur Post in Pine City. The Pledge of Allegiance was cited.
2. **AGENDA APPROVAL:** Richard Hansen moved to approve the agenda as presented. Sue Larson seconded – motion carried.
3. **MINUTES APPROVAL:** Sue Larson moved to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2008, meeting. Richard Hansen seconded – motion carried.
4. **TREASURERS REPORT:** Jerry Nelson presented the April and May 2008 Treasurer’s report. Jerry Nelson moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report to include the checks written from April 22, 2008, through June 6, 2008. George Larson seconded – motion carried.
5. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Executive Director Bob Voss reported on a number of items including:
 - a. **HOUSING/FORECLOSURE PREVENTION:** ECRDC staff participated in a meeting held June 10th at the Cambridge Community College to educate service providers on how to assist those facing mortgage/foreclosure issues.

- b. SAFE COMMUNITIES FUNDING: We received word that the MN Department of Public Safety awarded the ECRDC another Safe Communities grant for \$28,600 to continue our work with the Isanti County Toward Zero Deaths Coalition, Sober Cab Initiatives, etc. The program year runs October 1, to September 30 of each year.

6. PERSONNEL AND BUDGET (P&B) COMMITTEE:

- a. DESIGNATE FINANCIAL DEPOSITORY: Richard Hansen moved to approve Peoples National Bank as the ECRDC's financial depository. Donald Taylor seconded – motion carried.
- b. SPARKS PERFORMANCE REVIEW: Based on a favorable performance appraisal, Jerry Nelson moved to approve a one step increase for Anita Sparks from Pay Grade C Step 1 \$14.84/hour to Pay Grade C Step 2 \$15.62/hour effective June 16, 2008. Sue Larson seconded – motion carried.
- c. PUBLIC HEARING FY2009 BUDGET/WORK PROGRAM/INDIRECT COST PLAN: Chairman Smisson opened the Public Hearing at 5:45 p.m. for comments on the FY2009 Work Program, budget and indirect cost plan. Bob Voss provided highlights of the work program and budget and fielded questions from the Commission and public. Following comments the public hearing was closed at 5:52 p.m. Steve Odgard moved to approve the FY2009 Work Program, budget and indirect cost plan. Ben Montzka seconded – motion carried.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

- a. CHAIRPERSON: Voss announced Rick Smisson and Edward Hill had been nominated by mail for Chairperson. Voss opened the floor for nominations for Chair. No nominations were made. Commissioners cast their ballots and Rick Smisson was elected as chair.
- b. VICE-CHAIR: Voss announced Ben Montzka, Jeremy Riddle, and Barbara Welty had been nominated by mail for vice-chair. Voss then called for nomination from the floor for vice-chair. No nominations were made. Commissioners cast their ballots and Ben Montzka was elected as Vice-Chairman.
- c. SECRETARY/TREASURER: Voss announced Jerry Nelson had been nominated by mail for secretary/treasurer. Voss then called for nomination from the floor for secretary/treasurer. No nominations were received. Richard Hansen moved to cast a white ballot for Jerry Nelson. George Larson seconded – motion carried.
- d. COUNTY CAUCUS FOR PERSONNEL & BUDGET (P&B) COMMITTEE: Commission members from each county caucused to select a member for the P&B. Steve Hallan moved to approve the following ECRDC board members to the P&B Committee: Sue Larson seconded – motion carried.

Chisago County – Don Taylor

Isanti County - George Larson

Mille Lacs County - Barbara Welty

Pine County - Steve Odgard

Kanabec County – Dave Patenaude

- e. ECRDC LIAISON'S TO PROGRAM COMMITTEES: The following are the appointments to the various ECRDC advisory committees.
 - 1) East Central Arts Council (ECAC): Nominations were opened from the floor. One nomination was received for Linda Evans. Sue Larson moved to appoint Linda Evans as nominated. Richard Hansen seconded – motion carried.
 - 2) Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC): Nominations were opened from the floor. One nomination was received for Barbara Welty. Jerry Nelson moved to appoint Barb Welty as nominated. Steve Odgard seconded – motion carried.
 - 3) Revolving Loan Fund Committee (RLF): Nominations were opened from the floor. One nomination was received for Jerry Nelson. Richard Hansen moved to appoint Jerry Nelson as nominated. Sue Larson seconded – motion carried.

- 8. **EAST CENTRAL ARTS COUNCIL (ECAC)**: On behalf of the East Central Arts Council, Mary Minnick-Daniels brought forth the following recommendations for approval:

- a. FRACM Contract: Sue Larson moved to approve the technical assistance contract for \$16,700 to have Mary Minnick-Daniels provide staff support for the Forum of Regional Arts Councils. This would begin July 1, 2008 and end June 30, 2008. Richard Hansen seconded – motion carried.
 - b. IMAGE Art Show: Don Taylor moved to allocate \$5,000 to the Audubon Center of the North Woods, Sandstone, to host the IMAGE Art Show. The show will take place in December, 2008. Dave Patenaude seconded – motion carried.
9. **EAST CENTRAL SENIOR RESOURCE CENTER (ECSRC)**: Penny Simonsen reported that Senior Linkage Line® staff will be performing assessments with people who are receiving home delivered meals.
- Simonsen thanked Pine Medical Center, Sandstone, and the Senior Activity Center, Cambridge, for allowing the ECSRC to house satellite offices at their sites.
- Simonsen reported that Mora HRA and Isanti County Commission on Aging received word that their applications for MN Department of Human Services Community Services/Service Development funding were selected. The money will be used to support affordable senior housing and rural delivery services, respectively.
10. **TRANSPORTATION**: On behalf of the Transportation Advisory Committee, Bob Bollenbeck brought before the Commission the following recommendations:
- a. Mn/DOT Planning Grant: Richard Hansen moved to enter into the agreement for distribution of Mn/DOT planning funds, agreement number 93056, with the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation. Sue Larson seconded – motion carried.
 - b. TAC Bylaws: George Larson moved to approve the amended TAC Bylaws as presented. Sue Larson seconded – motion carried.
11. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT**: Jordan Zeller reported that the Revolving Loan Fund Committee approved two new loans. The loans were made for \$50,000 to Isanti Custom Meats for a new retail store in Isanti and \$40,000 to Cambridge Heating & Air in Cambridge for business expansion.
12. **ADJOURNMENT**: Chairman Smisson announced the next meeting will be on August 25, 2008 at the ECRDC offices in Mora. Don Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting. Sue Larson seconded – motion carried. The Annual Meeting banquet followed.

Robert L. Voss, Executive Director

Rick Smisson, Chairperson