

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
100 Park Street South
Mora, MN 55051
August 27, 2007
7:00 P.M.

- 1) **ATTENDANCE:** Present were Commissioners Dave Chmeil, Jack Edmonds, Linda Evans, Frank Grundmeier, Steve Hallan, Richard Hansen, Ben Montzka, Jerry Nelson, Steve Odegard, Marlys Palmer, Dave Patenaude, Jeremy Riddle, Debra Smith, Paul Venhuizen, and Barb Welty. Absent were Commissioners Bob Cupit, Edward Hill, Donald Taylor, George Larson, Mel Larson, and Rick Smisson. Staff present: Penny Simonsen, Bob Voss, Lynn Anderson, Trish Rydlund, Andrew Daniels, Jordan Zeller, and Michele Bollenbeck. Others present: LaRhae Grindal Knatterud and Mike Turpen of Minnesota Department of Human Services-Aging Transformation.
- 2) **APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON:** Both ECRDC Chairman Melvin Larson and Vice-Chairman Rick Smisson could not attend due to illness. Consequently, nominations were opened from the floor to appoint a temporary chairperson. One nomination was received for Barb Welty. Nominations were closed. Jerry Nelson moved to appoint Barb Welty as temporary chairperson. Steve Hallan seconded – motion carried.
- 3) **WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS:** Barb Welty welcomed Commission members and had them introduce themselves. The Pledge of Allegiance was cited.
- 4) **AGENDA APPROVAL:** Richard Hansen moved to approve the agenda with the following changes: deletion of Chair report and addition of a discussion on township signage. Linda Evans seconded – motion carried.
- 5) **MINUTES APPROVAL:** Steve Odegard moved to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2007 annual meeting as presented. Richard Hansen seconded – motion carried.
- 6) **PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES:** LaRhae Grindal Knatterud and Mike Turpen gave a presentation titled Transform 2010 – Preparing for Minnesota's Age Wave!
- 7) **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Executive Director Bob Voss reported on a number of items including:
 - a. APPROVE INVENTORY DELETIONS/ADDITIONS: Richard Hansen moved to approve the inventory deletions of \$10,506.80 and additions of \$24,798.85. Jerry Nelson seconded – motion carried.
 - b. MRDO (Minnesota Regional Development Organizations) Executive Director: MRDO is exploring the possibility of hiring a full-time Executive Director to coordinate their activities including lobbying, marketing, etc.
 - c. BOARD VACANCIES: Currently vacancies are the following: Kanabec County Public Interest, deadline for applications is Friday, September 14th; Tribal Representative; and Debra Smith, Pine County Public Interest, is tendering her resignation effective August 28, 2007.

Linda Evans moved to accept with regret Debra Smith's resignation. Ben Montzka seconded – motion carried.

- d. ECRDC BUILDING CONTRACT FOR DEED: The ECRDC building was purchased on a contract for deed in 1999 from Bernard and Maree Nordenstrom. Dave Nordenstrom met with ECRDC Staff on June 28th to discuss a possible early pay-off. The proposed terms of the payoff would involve paying the remaining principle (\$59,044.20) plus all interest through January 2009 (\$6,563.03) less a \$3,500 "closing allowance" for a net pay-off of \$62,107.23. A letter was sent to Dave Nordenstrom indicating that the ECRDC will continue under the current contract which includes the scheduled January 2009 payoff.

- 8) **TREASURERS REPORT**: Jerry Nelson presented the July and August revised Treasurer's Report. Linda Evans moved to approve the Treasurer's Report to include the check written from June 22 – August 9, 2007. Ben Montzka seconded – motion carried.

- 9) **EAST CENTRAL SENIOR RESOURCE CENTER**: Penny Simonsen reported on the following:

- a. Caregiver Coach staff worked directly with 43 family caregivers during the first six months of 2007.
- b. Fourteen caregiver education sessions were held at various sites; Senior Activity Center, Cambridge; Pine Medical Center, Sandstone; Isle Recreation and Education Center, Isle; and Parnly Senior Housing and Services, North Branch.
- c. Parnly continues to offer two monthly support groups pertaining to Alzheimers and Parkinsons.
- d. Two senior surf days have been held and three more have been planned; September 19th at the Milaca Public Library, September 25 at the Mora Public Library and September 26th at the Isle Recreation and Education Center.
- e. Caregiver Education program will be working collaboratively with the Princeton Community Education this fall to provide services.

- 10) **TRANSPORTATION**: Bob Bollenbeck reported on the Toward Zero Deaths Program. We received notice that the ECRDC has been awarded funding to continue the Isanti County TZD/Traffic Safety Initiative for \$26,100 for FY2008. Some expansion is moving forward as North Branch stakeholders will be meeting on September 10th to discuss this.

The Area Transportation Partnership (ATP) was discussed. Steve Hallan moved to approve the following policies for the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC):

- a. Ensure the development of a balanced invest program over time. This would include a variety of transportation projects eligible for federal funds.
- b. Geographic/jurisdictional equity should be determined over time.
- c. Federal, state and historical regional spending may be reviewed for balance
- d. Funding could flow from one category to another, depending on applications.
- e. TAC recommends a ranked ordered list of projects to RDC which considers technical scoring and regional significance criteria.
- f. The ECRDC is the final authority on Region 7E priorities.

Richard Hansen seconded - motion carried. Jerry Nelson opposed.

Linda Evans moved to approve a policy establishing that Transportation Enhancements will be considered every other year but won't necessarily be guaranteed funding. Frank Grundmeier seconded – motion carried. Ben Montzka abstained/Jerry Nelson opposed.

- 11) **ARTS COUNCIL (ECAC):** Linda Evans brought forth the following FY 2008 Art Organization Project Grant recommended by the ECAC for approval:

Applicant	Project	Amount Funded
First Tuesday Performance Series, Princeton	Third Season highlighting visual and performing artists	\$5000
ISD 911 Performing Arts Committee, Cambridge	Children's Theatre Company residency and public performance	\$5000
Revolution Media, Milaca	Production of "A Christmas Carol"	\$5000
Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer	Fall Arts and Music Festival	\$4900
St. Croix Valley Orchestra, Center City	Season 17	\$1880


Jerry Nelson moved to approve the ECAC Organization Art Project Grants as recommended. Ben Montzka seconded – motion carried.

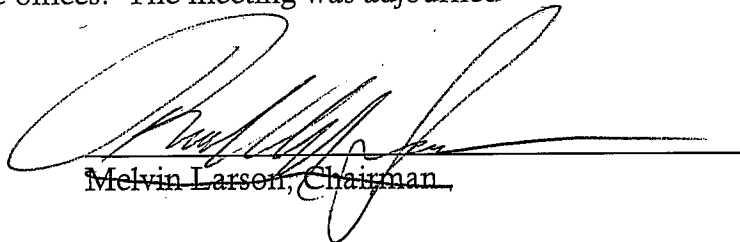
- 12) **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT:** Jordan Zeller gave an overview of the Community Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) Governing Board and Advisory Board. They are now in place. Jeremy Riddle was elected Chair, and Dr. Robert Musgrove was elected the Advisory Committee Liaison.

Zeller also gave an update on current Revolving Loan Fund loans. There are three loans for a total of \$128,000. They are anticipating closing with Lake Superior Laundry on Wednesday, August 29th.

Jeremy Riddle moved to accept the RLF Committee's recommendation and appoint Jim Neely to the RLF Committee as a Mille Lacs County representative. Linda Evans seconded – motion carried

- 13) **TOWNSHIP SIGNAGE:** Barb Welty gave an update on the township signage and that townships need to be prepared for the application process.
- 14) **ADJOURNMENT:** Temporary Chair Barb Welty announced that the next meeting will be held October 22, 2007 at the ECRDC offices. The meeting was adjourned


 Robert L. Voss, Executive Director


 Melvin Larson, Chairman