



MARCH


With the arrival of March, we welcome longer days and the promise of warmer weather ahead.

FULL COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, March 13, 2025

3:30 p.m.

4-H Building, Murray County Fairgrounds



Southwest Regional Development Commission—Full Commission

* Board of Directors

Commissioner	Representing
Rick Anderson	Lyon County Commissioners, SRDC Treasurer*
Kent Bargfrede	Jackson County Commissioners
Carrie Bendix	Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council
JoEllen Benson	Rock County Townships*
Leah Bittner	Redwood County Municipalities
Kristie Blankenship	Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership
Bob Byrnes	City of Marshall & RLF Committee Chair*
Miron Carney	Murray County Municipalities, Immediate Past Chair, Legislative Committee Chair*
Vacant	Lower Sioux Community
Pam Cooreman	Lyon County Municipalities
Vacant	Murray County Townships
Dan Delaney	Pipestone County Municipalities
Lori Grant	Lyon County Townships
Donna Gravley	Cottonwood County Commissioners*
Mark Haberman	Jackson County Municipalities Rep*
Eric Hartman	Region 8 School Boards* SRDC Secretary
Chris Hollingsworth	Pipestone County Commissioners*
Vacant	Lincoln County Municipalities*
Tiffany Knott-Lesmeister	Redwood County Townships
Ronald Kottke	Cottonwood County Townships
Paul Langseth	Nobles County Townships, SRDC Chair*
Steve Kellen	Nobles County Municipalities
Dennis Madison	Rock County Municipalities
Jeff Moen	Lincoln County Townships
Vacant	Cultural Diversity
Bob Paplow	Nobles County Commissioners
Jenny Quade	Cottonwood County Municipalities
Craig Rubis	Jackson County Townships
Vacant	Region 8 School Boards
David Sturrock	SW MN Higher Education
Vacant	Pipestone County Townships*
Sherri Thompson	Rock County Commissioners
Mic VanDeVere	Lincoln County Commissioners, Transportation Committee Chair
Bob Van Hee	Redwood County Commissioners*
Rick VonHoldt	City of Worthington*
Dennis Welgraven	Murray County Commissioners, SRDC Vice-Chair*
Justine Wettschreck	Economic Development
Beth Wilms	Health and Human Services

SRDC Full Commission Membership

- One (1) County member from each of the nine counties.
- One (1) Township member from each of the nine counties.
- One (1) Mayor/Council member from each municipality over 10,000 in population.
- One (1) Mayor/council member for each of the nine counties representing cities under 10,000.
- Two (2) School Board members.
- One (1) Lower Sioux Indian Community member.
- Five (5) Public Interest Groups

SRDC Board of Director Membership

SRDC Chairman & a regional commissioner from each county elected by the regional commissioners from each county and:

- One (1) Elected commissioner from each city over 10,000 in population.
- One (1) Elected commissioner from any county with a population of more than 20,000 but without a city over 10,000 in population nominated by the regional commissioners of that county.
- One (1) School board member selected by the Commission as a whole



SRDC
FULL COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, March 13, 2025
3:30 pm

4-H Building, MC Fairgrounds
3048 Broadway Ave, Slayton, MN

AGENDA

#	Time		Page
1	3:30	Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance	
2	3:31	Introductions	
3	3:35	Additions to and Approval of Agenda Action Needed: Approve Agenda	
4	3:37	Commissioner Appointments: Rock Co Municipalities (Nominee is Dennis Madison) Economic Development (Nominee is Justine Wettschreck, reappointment) Lyon Co. Townships (Nominee is Lori Grant) Lincoln Co. Municipalities (Nominee is Lyndon Johnson) Action Needed: Approve Commissioners	
5	3:40	Board Appointments: Three year Board Terms (expires March 2028) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lyon County (nominee is Rick Anderson) • Redwood County (nominee is Bob VanHee) Action Needed: Approve Board of Directors	
6	3:43	Consent Agenda Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 9, 2025, FC Meeting Minutes • February 13, 2025, BOD Meeting Minutes • January Receipts & Expenditures Report Action Needed: Approval of Consent Agenda Items	5-11 12-14 15-19
7	3:45	Project Reviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Swine Finishing Feedlot Project Review —<i>Economic Development Specialist Murphy</i> • City of Hendricks project review —<i>Deputy Director Weis</i> Action Needed: Approval of Project Reviews	20 21
8	3:50	Finance Reports — <i>Treasurer Anderson & Finance Director Nelson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurer’s Report, including bank accounts & investments Action Needed: Approval of Treasurer’s Report • Administrative Report through January 2025 Action Needed: Approval of Administrative Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY 2026 Budget & Work Plan Timeline 	22 23 24

9	3:55	Legislative Report – <i>Chair Miron Carney</i>	
		Committee & Staff Reports	
10	4:05	Economic Development Report— <i>Deputy Director Weis & Economic Development Specialist Kim Murphy</i>	26-27
11	4:10	Revolving Loan Funds Report— <i>Deputy Director Weis</i>	28-30
12	4:15	Community Development Report— <i>Development Planners Walker, Bucklin, Webb, Murphy</i>	31-24
13	4:25	Transportation Report— <i>Committee Chair VanDeVere & Development Planners Walker & Webb</i>	35
14	4:30	Executive Director’s Report — <i>Deputy Director Weis</i>	36
15	4:35	Chairman’s Report Annual Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRDC’s Awards Committee will need to be appointed by the Chairman for Project/Program of the Year • Chairman picks site for annual meeting 	
16	4:40	Reports from SRDC Commissioners Representing Local Units of Government & Public Interest Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donna Gravley, Cottonwood Co. Commissioners • Leah Bittner, Redwood Co. Municipalities • David Sturrock, Higher Education 	
17	4:55	Unfinished Business	
18	4:55	New Business - Survey	H-1
19	4:55	Other Issues	
20	4:55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcements • SRDC Orientation Meeting – Friday, March 21, 2025 • SRDC Board Meeting – Thursday, April 10, 2025 • SRDC Full Commission Meeting – Thursday, May 8, 2025 • Commissioner vacancies: Murray County Townships, Pipestone County Townships, School Board Rep, Lower Sioux and Cultural Diversity 	
21	4:55	Adjourn	



MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Paul Langseth, Commissioners Rick Anderson, Kent Bargfrede, Carrie Bendix, Kristie Blankenship, Bob Byrnes, Miron Carney, Pam Cooreman, Dan Delaney, Lori Grant, Donna Gravley, Mark Haberman, Eric Hartman, Steve Kellen, Ron Kottke, Tiffany Lesmeister-Knott, Jeff Moen, Bob Paplow, Jenny Quade, Craig Rubis, Sherri Thompson, Bob Van Hee, Dennis Welgraven, Justine Wettschreck and Beth Wilms

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners JoEllen Benson (excused), Leah Bittner, Chris Hollingsworth, David Sturrock, Mic VanDeVere (excused) and Rick VonHoldt (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Jay Trusty, Nadya Bucklin, Kim Murphy, Melissa Nelson, Kathy Schreiber, Jason Walker, and Chris Webb

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Paul Langseth called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/APPROVAL

Contracts and Project Review were added to the agenda.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Cooreman to approve revised agenda as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-24, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENT

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Rubis and seconded by Commissioner Gravley to approve the appointment of Kent Bargfrede as the representative for Jackson County on the Commission. Upon vote taken: Ayes-24, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPOINTMENT

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Carney to approve the appointment of Mic VanDeVere as the representative for Lincoln County on the Board of Directors. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Carney and seconded by Commissioner Van Hee to approve the November 14, 2024 Full Commission meeting minutes, the December 12, 2024 Board of Directors meeting minutes, November Receipts and Expenditures, The Southwest Solid Waste Plan contract amendment, Worthington Economic Development Corporation contract, Explore SW MN contract and the MN Housing Finance Agency allocation request. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONTRACTS

Executive Director Trusty presented the Falcon Development Corporation and Heron Lake RLF yearly contract for approval.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Byrnes and seconded by Commissioner Welgraven to approve the Falcon Development Corporation and the Heron Lake RLF contracts as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

PROJECT REVIEWS

Planner Webb presented the EAW for the Sioux Rock Quarry Expansion.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Carney to approve the project review as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer Anderson referred Commissioners to the Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2024, showing bank accounts and fund designations. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Van Hee and seconded by Commissioner Lesmeister-Knott to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Finance Director Nelson went over the Administrative Report through the end of November 2024. She pointed out some line items. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Lesmeister-Knott and seconded by Commissioner Van Hee to approve the administrative report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

A. Budget & Personnel Committee Report

Finance Director Nelson presented the mid-year budget revision. Committee recommendation was passed.

B. Legislative Committee Report

Legislative Committee Chair Carney reported the committee met in December and are discussing what the SRDC priorities should be for this year. With the power struggle this year and the fact that no bonding bill was passed last year the feeling is that not much else will be accomplished this year. There will be a special election to replace someone that was disqualified. Coalition of Greater MN Cities and Greater MN Partnership's Day on the Hill is February 12.

C. Economic Development Report

Economic Development Specialist Murphy report for Deputy Director Weis that a lot of time was spent assisting smaller communities with various infrastructure needs. Some or all of them could turn out to be EECBG projects. Some of the communities being assisted are Hardwick, Steen, Avoca and Lynd.

Staff is working with the Mid-MN Development Commission, SW Initiative Foundation, SW MN Private Industry Council and several Economic Development and Chamber staffs on planning a workforce summit to be held in our region in April.

Grants applications in the amount of \$10,000 each were written for the City of Jeffers to create a communications room to allow for more convenient fire fighter training and for the City of Hills for playground equipment.

Murphy gave an update on the North Central Regional Food Business Center. An application to the MN Department of Agriculture for Egan's Market in Adrian was awarded in the amount of \$11,378.00 to help with replacing the flooring throughout their building. Highwater Meats in Jeffers was also awarded a grant for equipment update and replacement.

Four applications to the MDA Good Food Access Program Equipment and Physical Improvement program were submitted. These grants are for replacing old, outdated, or non-functioning equipment in small grocery stores.

The Southwest Minnesota Meat Processor Workforce Development Initiative has four participants for on-the-job training. There is possibly one person for the formal training starting in January.

D. Revolving Loan Fund Report

Traditional RLF has approximately \$398,000 available to lend out.

CRLF has approximately \$280,000 available to lend out. One loan for \$100,000 was closed for a Nobles County business in November.

PACE

There is approximately \$98,000 in ARRA funds and \$76,000 in SEP funds available to lend out. These amounts do not account for the applications approved and not fully closed yet and one application for \$100,000 that is awaiting USDA REAP grant determination.

The State would like us to have a participatory lender with the new EE-RLF PACE (\$300,000) funds. Staff have visited with three banks about this. This would allow for more PACE financing to occur.

E. Community Development Report

Planner Bucklin gave an update on the PV-SUCCESS project. This project will study ecosystem services provided to local landscapes using solar developments. Lyon County will be part of the project. Interviews and surveys will be conducted soon.

SRDC received an R-STEP grant for about \$150,000 a year for 3 years. There is a 20% match and will focus on solar siting and community outreach for solar.

Great Plains Institute will be working with MN Department of Health and contracting with the SRDC for the Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) project. We will be helping with workshops in the area and taking minutes. This project is to evaluate the benefits of using solar energy to help provide renewable power while also providing economically viable and environmentally sustainable land use options.

There will be another round of Renewable Energy in American Schools in April. Bucklin will contract the schools that were part of the last application to see if they are interested in applying again.

RSDP Idea Brief proposals are due February 14th. Project ideas should address a community-identified need or opportunity related to one or more of the RSDP's focus areas of sustainable agriculture and food systems, clean energy, natural resources, or resilient communities.

Community Development Director Walker will be facilitating a strategic planning session for the Murray County Historical Society next week.

Planner Webb gave an update on the Lyon County Land Use, Planning and Zoning plan. The Lyon County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee will be meeting on the second Tuesday of each month starting in January to focus on one chapter a month. Two more community open houses will occur in January for the Camden Regional Trail Master Plan. Plan development and writing will be happening over the next couple months.

F. Solid Waste & Natural Resources

Murphy updated Commissioners on the SW Solid Waste Commission's happenings. They last met on November 25, 2024. They had a speaker from Zahn Tech in Lennox, SD who gave an overview of how the company takes garbage and transforms the waste into reusable, organic, construction grade products like fenceposts.

Work on the Solid Waste Regional Plan is wrapping up. The document is out to counties for review. Updates will be made from comments received before it is submitted to the MPCA.

G. Transportation Report

Webb reviewed the Safe Routes to School grant opportunities that are available and when the deadlines are. He is willing to look over applications before they are submitted.

Work on gauging interest in a National Summer Transportation Institutes summer camp has been happening with Mn West. The group would apply to MnDOT to host this camp in Worthington in the summer of 2026.

H. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Trusty reported that the City of Marshall reached out to the SRDC and the SW MN Housing Partnership looking for resources for tenants that will be displaced when the trailer park in Marshall closes.

MADO Executive Directors will meet online at the end of January with work continuing on the MADO Strategic Plan. They will meet in person in February in Grand Rapids. In February they will be meeting with the Blandin Foundation.

The LYFT conference will be held next week, and Trusty will attend.

Trusty and Walker talked to Frank at Midwest Energy who now has an article on their website about the Rural MN Energy Board (RMEB).

I. Chairman's Report

Chairman Langseth talked about the vacancies on the Commission and if anyone knows of someone willing to serve to reach out them or let him or Jay know so they can reach out.

REPORTS FROM SRDC COMMISSIONERS REPRESENTING LOCAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS

A. Murray County Commissioners

Commissioner Welgraven reported that the summer internship program last summer went well and other businesses are interested in the program. The Highway Department moved into their new building last fall and an open house was held. One

big road project coming up is the raising of the dikes on the road to Lake Shetek. Smaller communities in the county are struggling to keep their infrastructure current. Affordable housing is an issue. The largest employer in Murray County is Monogram Meats in Chandler. Murray County Cattlemen’s Association will be building a new eat stand at the fairgrounds this year. There are three new County Commissioners on the board.

B. Nobles County Municipalities

Commissioner Kellen reported there are 10 municipalities in Nobles County. Some of the activities in each municipality are: Adrian-received a pumper truck, new ambulance and new street sweeper. The city was awarded an EDA grant to upgrade their transformer at their water filtration plant. Law enforcement has a certified K-9 now. Replastering of the pool is being looked at before the pool opens this summer. Five new homes have been built in the city. The HRA has a home improvement program for residents to remove and replace sidewalks and driveways and replace windows and siding. Bigelow had nothing to report. Brewster is in Phase II of their water project which includes re-doing their ponds. They are working on purchasing some land for a new housing development. Ellsworth-The city is now part of Lincoln Lyon Murray Pipestone Rural Water system. They are working with the SRDC for wastewater grants and help with new ownership for their grocery store that closed. Parkview Manor nursing home replaced their roof. Leota (unincorporated) is working on updating water and sewer lines. Lismore recently completed their Veteran’s memorial and is planning a 125th Anniversary celebration this summer. Round Lake is in need of affordable housing and will be getting Hwy 264 mill and overlaid in the city limits. Rushmore-is working on turning the old school into a daycare center but has had a lot of roadblocks along the way. Wilmont-they are happy to be done with FEMA. Worthington-is taking a break on updates to the city’s leisure and outdoor amenities. Affordable housing is needed. There will be reconstruction of turn backs on Highway 59. Street projects will be happening this summer. The city is working on a new ice arena/ice plex.

C. Lincoln County Townships

Commissioner Moen reported there are 15 townships in Lincoln County. Township government is the basis of all government. Roads and bridges are a hot topic. Some townships have worked with the county on replacing bridges. Wind towers are present in some townships, so they benefit from that. Hansonville Township has its own building and are working on preserving it and constructed a new sign. Marble township is looking for a new building. Getting people to serve on the township board is difficult.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

OTHER ISSUES

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Paul Langseth referred Commissioners to the announcements included on the agenda.

SRDC Commissioner vacancies exist from Pipestone County Townships, Murray County Townships, Lyon County Townships, Lincoln County Municipalities, Rock County Municipalities, Lower Sioux, School Boards and Cultural Diversity.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Langseth adjourned the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kathy Schreiber, Administrative Specialist.

Reviewed by:

Approved by:

Eric Hartman
SRDC Secretary

Paul Langseth
SRDC Chairman



MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Paul Langseth, Commissioners Rick Anderson, JoEllen Benson, Bob Byrnes, Miron Carney, Donna Gravley, Mark Haberman, Eric Hartman, Mic VanDeVere, Rick Von Holdt, and Dennis Welgraven

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Chris Hollingsworth (excused) and Bob Van Hee (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Jay Trusty, Nadya Bucklin, Sheila Crowley, Kim Murphy, Kathy Schreiber, Jason Walker, Chris Webb and Robin Weis

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Dennis Welgraven called the meeting to order at 3:30p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/APPROVAL

Addition to the agenda was the EDA Resolution under the Executive Directors report.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Von Holdt and seconded by Commissioner Hartman to approve the agenda with the addition. Upon vote taken: Ayes-9, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR APPOINTMENT

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner VanDeVere to approve the appointment of JoEllen Benson as the representative for Rock County on the Board of Directors. Upon vote taken: Ayes-9, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Carney to approve the December Receipts and Expenditures, REMB, Jackson County Revolving Loan Fund and the SW MN Housing Partnership Contracts. Upon vote taken: Ayes-10, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer Anderson referred Commissioners to the Treasurer's Report as of January 31, 2025, showing bank accounts and fund designations. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Byrnes and seconded by Commissioner Von Holdt to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-10, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Executive Director Trusty went over the Administrative Report through the end of December 2024. He pointed out some line items. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Gravley to approve the administrative report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-10, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Executive Director Trusty reviewed the Indirect Cost Plan. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Von Holdt and seconded by Commissioner Haberman to approve the Indirect Cost Plan as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-10, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Executive Director Trusty reviewed the FY2026 Budget & Work Plan Timeline. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Carney and seconded by Commissioner Von Holdt to approve the FY2026 Budget & Work Plan Timeline as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-10, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Chair Langseth arrived.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

A. Legislative Committee Report

Legislative Committee Chair Carney reviewed the current legislative session. He attended the GMP/CGMC Day on the Hill. They were able to meet with most of our legislators. The legislative committee will meet in March after the budget forecast comes out.

B. Deep Dive

Legislative Committee Chair Carney and Executive Director Trusty gave a deep dive on the SRDC's process and how priorities are decided on for the legislative session.

C. Executive Director's Report

Trusty will meet with the Solid Waste Administrators on February 14 to prepare for a Southwest Solid Waste Commission meeting on February 24 regarding a plan of action for C&D Waste in the future. This will be an on-going discussion. The Solid Waste Plan is in need of a couple budgets then it will be turned into MPCA.

The RDC Executive Directors will meet in Grand Rapids the end of February. Cheryl Glaser will be there to work with the directors on MADDO strategic planning. Blandin Foundation staff will attend to discuss their goals and how that could include the RDCs.

New member orientation will be March 21 in Slayton. Invites will be sent out. CERTs Executive Directors will meet in April.

Trusty presented the EDA Planning Grant Resolution that needs to be passed as part of the EDA Planning Grant.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Carney and seconded by Commissioner Hartman to approve the EDA Planning Grant Resolution Upon vote taken: Ayes-11, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

D. Chairman’s Report

Langseth reported that he and Trusty will be attending the NADO Washington Conference March 9-12. They will not be back in time for the March Full Commission Meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Paul Langseth referred Commissioners to the announcements included on the agenda.

SRDC Commissioner vacancies exist from Pipestone County Townships, Murray County Townships, Region 8 School Boards, Lower Sioux and Cultural Diversity.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Langseth adjourned the meeting at 4:37 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kathy Schreiber, Administrative Specialist.

Reviewed by:

Approved by:

Eric Hartman
SRDC Secretary

Paul Langseth
SRDC Chairman

Southwest Regional Development Commission
 Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register
 From 1/1/2025 Through 1/31/2025

Session ID	Check ...	Document...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amount	Effective Date
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Nadya N. Bucklin	Employee: BucklinN; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	1,949.89	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	2,302.99	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	178.35	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	1,258.70	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	392.06	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	1,418.26	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	13.43	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Melissa Nelson	Employee: MansonM; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	1,853.88	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Kimberly Murphy	Employee: MurphyK; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	1,650.89	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Kimberly Murphy	Employee: MurphyK; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	31.61	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	1,620.01	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	88.16	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	38.59	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	16.53	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Jayne I. Trusty	Employee: TrustyJ; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	3,175.57	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Jason L. Walker	Employee: WalkerJ; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	2,457.56	1/9/2025
PRS010925	01092...	1/9/2025	Christopher S. Webb	Employee: WebbC; Pay Date: 1/9/2025	1,706.69	1/9/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Nadya N. Bucklin	Employee: BucklinN; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	1,958.62	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	1,900.90	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	559.61	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	124.33	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	37.34	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	1,590.86	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	61.99	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	1,415.86	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	17.92	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Melissa Nelson	Employee: MansonM; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	2,156.08	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Kimberly Murphy	Employee: MurphyK; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	1,684.62	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	1,728.06	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	104.95	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	55.22	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Jayne I. Trusty	Employee: TrustyJ; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	3,186.79	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Jason L. Walker	Employee: WalkerJ; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	2,461.75	1/23/2025
PRS012325	01232...	1/23/2025	Christopher S. Webb	Employee: WebbC; Pay Date: 1/23/2025	1,961.07	1/23/2025
APS012925	01292...	1/29/2025	Craig Rubis	Craig Rubis 1/9/25 to 1/10/25 Meetings	100.00	1/29/2025
APS012925	01292...	1/29/2025	Craig Rubis	Craig Rubis 1/9/25 to 1/10/25 Meetings	198.10	1/29/2025
APS012925	01292...	1/29/2025	Robert J. Byrnes	Robert Byrnes 1/9/25 Meetings - Comm and TAC, 1/24/25 RLF	50.00	1/29/2025

Southwest Regional Development Commission

Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register

From 1/1/2025 Through 1/31/2025

Session ID	Check ...	Document...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amount	Effective Date
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Robert J. Byrnes	Robert Byrnes 1/9/25 Meetings - Comm and TAC, 1/24/25 RLF	44.80	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Robert J. Byrnes	Robert Byrnes 1/9/25 Meetings - Comm and TAC, 1/24/25 RLF	50.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Robert H. Van Hee	Robert Van Hee 1/9/25 Meeting	50.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Robert H. Van Hee	Robert Van Hee 1/9/25 Meeting	101.50	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Ronald Kottke	Ronald Kottke 1/9/25 Meeting	50.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Ronald Kottke	Ronald Kottke 1/9/25 Meeting	39.20	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Steven A Kellen	Steven Kellen 1/9/25 Meeting	50.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Steven A Kellen	Steven Kellen 1/9/25 Meeting	49.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Eric A. Hartman	Eric Hartman 11/20/24 to 12/12/24	50.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Eric A. Hartman	Eric Hartman 11/20/24 to 12/12/24	50.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Eric A. Hartman	Eric Hartman 11/20/24 to 12/12/24	68.34	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Jeffry Moen	Jeff Moen 1/9/25 Meeting	50.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Jeffry Moen	Jeff Moen 1/9/25 Meeting	105.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Kent Bargfrede	Kent Bargfrede 1/9/25 Meeting	50.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Kent Bargfrede	Kent Bargfrede 1/9/25 Meeting	98.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	SW MN Housing Partnership - ...	Kristie Blankenship 11/14/24 & 1/9/25 Meeting	100.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Mark A Haberman	Mark Haberman 1/9/25 Meeting	50.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Mark A Haberman	Mark Haberman 1/9/25 Meeting	45.50	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Miron V. Carney	Miron Carney 7/10/24 to 12/12/24	333.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Miron V. Carney	Miron Carney 7/10/24 to 12/12/24	67.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Paul Langseth	Paul Langseth 1/9/25 Meeting	50.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Paul Langseth	Paul Langseth 1/9/25 Meeting	50.40	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Richard Anderson	Rick Anderson 1/9/25 Meeting	50.00	1/29/2025
APS012925 ...	01292...	1/29/2025	Richard Anderson	Rick Anderson 1/9/25 Meeting	32.20	1/29/2025
CD011525 W...	12	1/25/2025		Dec 2024 Wex Fees	22.00	1/25/2025
APS010925	60937	1/9/2025	City of Slayton	City of Slayton 11/19/24 to 12/16/24	24.41	1/9/2025
APS010925	60937	1/9/2025	City of Slayton	City of Slayton 11/19/24 to 12/16/24	26.45	1/9/2025
APS010925	60938	1/9/2025	Culligan Water Conditioning	3 bottles water, 2 bags salt, cooler rental	46.55	1/9/2025
APS010925	60938	1/9/2025	Culligan Water Conditioning	3 bottles water, 2 bags salt, cooler rental	12.60	1/9/2025
APS010925	60939	1/9/2025	Darren Veldhuisen	Snow removal 12.2, 12.18, 12.19 & 12.20.24	240.00	1/9/2025
APS010925	60939	1/9/2025	Darren Veldhuisen	Snow removal 12.2, 12.18, 12.19 & 12.20.24	360.00	1/9/2025
APS010925	60940	1/9/2025	Grants Management Systems ...	Monthly license, warranty, service and support	100.00	1/9/2025
APS010925	60940	1/9/2025	Grants Management Systems ...	Monthly license, warranty, service and support	40.00	1/9/2025
APS010925	60941	1/9/2025	Jason Nielsen	Jason Nielsen RLF mtg 12/12/24	50.00	1/9/2025
APS010925	60942	1/9/2025	Minnesota Counties Intergover...	PC646025-1 & WC646025-1 2025 Renewal	7,837.00	1/9/2025
APS010925	60943	1/9/2025	Minnesota Trails Magazine	2nd half blog visits + 4 qtrs 1/3 pg ad 2025	6,370.20	1/9/2025

Southwest Regional Development Commission
 Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register
 From 1/1/2025 Through 1/31/2025

Session ID	Check ...	Document...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amount	Effective Date
APS010925	60944	1/9/2025	Murray County Christmas Fund	Murray Co Xmas Project donations	600.00	1/9/2025
APS010925	60945	1/9/2025	One Office Solution	Meter reading balance	11.33	1/9/2025
APS010925	60946	1/9/2025	Redwood County Auditor/Trea...	PACE assessment 2025	20.00	1/9/2025
APS010925	60947	1/9/2025	Schaap Sanitation	Schaap 1/1/25 to 1/31/25	30.51	1/9/2025
APS010925	60947	1/9/2025	Schaap Sanitation	Schaap 1/1/25 to 1/31/25	45.76	1/9/2025
APS010925	60948	1/9/2025	Slayton EDA	EDA Lease Jan 2025	4,848.63	1/9/2025
APS010925	60949	1/9/2025	Slayton Electric, Inc.	Replace balasts	55.14	1/9/2025
APS010925	60949	1/9/2025	Slayton Electric, Inc.	Replace balasts	82.70	1/9/2025
APS010925	60950	1/9/2025	SRDC	Explore SW Dec 2024	20.00	1/9/2025
APS010925	60951	1/9/2025	Stoneberg, Giles & Stroup, PA	RLF: Midway Farm Equip legal fees	79.50	1/9/2025
APS010925	60952	1/9/2025	XCEL Energy	Xcel Energy 12/3/24 - 1/5/25	158.88	1/9/2025
APS010925	60952	1/9/2025	XCEL Energy	Xcel Energy 12/3/24 - 1/5/25	238.32	1/9/2025
APS011625	60953	1/16/2025	AdMfg, Inc	Explore SW web domain mgmt, 3 domain names @ \$25 ea for 2025	75.00	1/16/2025
APS011625	60954	1/16/2025	Chandler Co-Op	Chandler Coop Dec 2024	117.23	1/16/2025
APS011625	60955	1/16/2025	NCPERS Group Life Ins.	NCPERS Feb 2025	64.00	1/16/2025
APS011625	60956	1/16/2025	Painted Prairie Vineyard	Rental fee for staff Xmas party	75.00	1/16/2025
APS011625	60957	1/16/2025	Quill Corporation	Stickies, ink, TP, Kleenex, pens, labels, trash bags	328.21	1/16/2025
APS011625	60957	1/16/2025	Quill Corporation	Stickies, ink, TP, Kleenex, pens, labels, trash bags	91.01	1/16/2025
APS011625	60958	1/16/2025	Southwest Minnesota Private I...	SW MN Meat Train & Retain	5,047.40	1/16/2025
APS011625	60959	1/16/2025	TCM Bank NA	TCM Visa Closing date 1/1/25	1,948.88	1/16/2025
APS011625	60959	1/16/2025	TCM Bank NA	TCM Visa Closing date 1/1/25	20.00	1/16/2025
APS011625	60959	1/16/2025	TCM Bank NA	TCM Visa Closing date 1/1/25	60.00	1/16/2025
APS011625	60959	1/16/2025	TCM Bank NA	TCM Visa Closing date 1/1/25	20.00	1/16/2025
APS011625	60959	1/16/2025	TCM Bank NA	TCM Visa Closing date 1/1/25	10.00	1/16/2025
APS011625	60960	1/16/2025	The Computer Man, Inc.	3 yr renewal GFI Archiver subscr., 2/8/25 - 2/7/28	1,243.12	1/16/2025
APS011625	60960	1/16/2025	The Computer Man, Inc.	3 yr renewal GFI Archiver subscr., 2/8/25 - 2/7/28	1,243.13	1/16/2025
APS011625	60961	1/16/2025	Verizon Wireless	Verizon 12/2/24 to 1/1/25	41.06	1/16/2025
APS012325	60962	1/23/2025	Adrian Building Center	PACE EE-RLF loan disbursement: Harder Saloon	17,095.87	1/23/2025
APS012325	60963	1/23/2025	AFLAC	Aflac Jan 2025	409.44	1/23/2025
APS012325	60964	1/23/2025	Bluepeak	Bluepeak 1/24/25 - 2/23/25	59.99	1/23/2025
APS012325	60964	1/23/2025	Bluepeak	Bluepeak 1/24/25 - 2/23/25	60.00	1/23/2025
APS012325	60965	1/23/2025	Frontier Communications	Frontier 5078360034 1/10/25 - 2/9/25	466.69	1/23/2025
APS012325	60965	1/23/2025	Frontier Communications	Frontier 5078360034 1/10/25 - 2/9/25	866.70	1/23/2025
APS012925	60966	1/29/2025	Abila	Abila Multiple Clouds 2/26/25 - 3/25/25	813.76	1/29/2025
APS012925	60967	1/29/2025	Adrian Auto Service, LLC	Refund: CRLF Loan Agreement Balance - Adrian Auto	20.50	1/29/2025
APS012925	60968	1/29/2025	Larkin Hoffman	Oct - Dec 2024 Legislative Representation	3,599.00	1/29/2025

Southwest Regional Development Commission

Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register

From 1/1/2025 Through 1/31/2025

Session ID	Check ...	Document...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amount	Effective Date
APS012925	60969	1/29/2025	MN Association of County Plan...	MACPZA 2025 Membership Dues - Chris	85.00	1/29/2025
APS012925	60970	1/29/2025	Marilyn Samuelson	Janitorial services Jan 2025	328.00	1/29/2025
APS012925	60970	1/29/2025	Marilyn Samuelson	Janitorial services Jan 2025	472.00	1/29/2025
APS012925	60971	1/29/2025	Minnesota Counties Intergover...	PC Renewal 1/1/25 - 1/1/26	3,036.00	1/29/2025
APS012925	60972	1/29/2025	SRDC	Nov + Dec 2024 Planner	2,650.00	1/29/2025
APS012925	60973	1/29/2025	SRDC	Nov + Dec 2024 Exec Dir + Planner	6,435.00	1/29/2025
APV012925	60973	1/29/2025	SRDC	Nov + Dec 2024 Exec Dir + Planner	(6,435.00)	1/29/2025
APS012925	60974	1/29/2025	TeamKeeper	Custom Expense & Charge Code Balance Reports	500.00	1/29/2025
CD011525 B...	BCBS02	1/20/2025		BCBS Feb 2025	13,480.51	1/20/2025
CD011425 Q...	Q4 MN...	1/14/2025		Q4 MN Sales Tax	267.00	1/14/2025
Report Total					119,105.66	

Southwest Regional Development Commission Project Review

Meeting Date: March 13, 2025

Project Review: Lass Farms, Inc. New Swine Finishing Feedlot - Environmental Assessment Worksheet

Project Description:

Lass Farms, Inc. plans to construct a new swine finishing feedlot comprising a power-ventilated barn with a capacity of 1,440 Animal Units (4,800 head of swine) and an 8-foot-deep below-ground Liquid Manure Storage Area. Additional features include a stormwater detention pond and a temporary animal mortality storage area (12x12x4 feet).

Water for the facility will come from Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water Supply, and construction is set to begin in Spring 2025, with completion expected by Fall 2025. The initial phase will focus on Best Management Practices for stormwater and erosion prevention.

There are seven residences within one mile of the site, with two having received waivers from the Rock County Zoning Ordinance. The nearest town, Kenneth, MN, is about 2.7 miles away, and there are 52 feedlots within a 3-square-mile area. Manure application sites are within 2.5 miles of the facility, primarily in Vienna and Battle Plain Townships, managed for crop production.

Staff Comments:

Staff contacted the Rock County Land Management office, and no environmental concerns were expressed. Rock County Land Management has been in regular contact with Extended Ag, and everything is in order.

This project proposal has several concerns that are addressed within the review:

- Issue: Surface waters. Elevated levels of suspended solids, phosphorus, and bacteria (e.g., E. coli) increase the risk of algal blooms. Lass Farms will address surface water contamination by implementing effective manure management, including timely applications and establishing buffer zones along waterways.
- Issue: Local knowledge base and tech capacity. There is confusion about the impacts of tile drainage and its benefits to producers. Lass Farms will collaborate with the local Soil and Water Conservation District to better understand these effects and promote their advantages for producers.
- Issue: Land development and stewardship - Manure application and disposal directly affecting water quality. Lass Farms will reduce the impacts of manure application by following setbacks and incorporating manure to minimize the contributions of fecal coliform to the watershed.

Project Review Time: 2 hours

Income to the SRDC as a result of this review: \$0

Reviewer: Kim Murphy

Southwest Regional Development Commission Project Review

Agenda Item:

Meeting Date: March 13, 2025

Project Name: City of Hendricks, Lift Station Replacement Project - USDA Rural Development

Project Description:

The City of Hendricks is seeking assistance and/or financing through USDA Rural Development under their CY2022 disaster program for a lift station replacement project. The submitted application is for \$1,114,000.

Staff Comments:

- The current lift station has aged and needs replacement. The replacement project will be of similar size.
- This project has been a work in progress with their engineers via DGR and is ready to have a bid request go out as soon as funds are obligated.
- Construction is expected to begin this year.

Project Review Time: Less than 1 hour

Income to the SRDC for this Review: \$0

Reviewer: Robin Weis, Deputy Director

**TREASURER'S REPORT
MONTH END February 28, 2025**

Bank Account Information

INVESTMENTS -General Fund

Bank	Amount	Due Date	APY Interest Rate
United Prairie Bank - Worthington	\$ 104,460.72	5/25/2025	5.07%
Jackson Federal Savings & Loan-Jackson (X5272)	110,423.23	01/20/26	3.96%
Currie State Bank-Currie	117,821.98	09/02/25	4.33%
Currie State Bank-Currie	100,000.00	09/02/25	4.33%
Jackson Federal Savings & Loan-Jackson (X5331)	104,194.63	12/13/25	4.16%
Jackson Federal Savings & Loan-Jackson (X5332)	104,194.63	12/13/25	4.16%
Magic Fund - First National Bank	100,012.77	11/27/26	4.55%

NOTE: The security deposit for the office building in the amount of \$50,000 is at the Slayton City Clerk's office at an investment rate of .75% . We currently have extra security at Minnwest Bank-Slayton and United Prairie Bank-Worthington to allow deposits above FDIC limits.

TOTAL INVESTMENTS	741,107.96
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ACCOUNTS-Dedicated and Undedicated Funds Program Accounts

		<u>2/28/2025</u>
Minnwest Bank South-Slayton	Checking	\$ 2,965.00
Minnwest Bank South-Slayton	Savings	603,879.01
Minnwest Bank South-Slayton	Savings-F & H	29,746.68
First Independent Bank-Russell	Savings	85,536.57
United Prairie Bank-Worthington	Savings	61,131.07
Jackson Federal S&L-Jackson	Savings	50,540.44
TOTAL CASH ACCOUNTS	\$	833,798.77

Approximate Designated Funds-Projects

Regional Cultural Diversity Coalition	\$	-
MN Rural Broadband Coalition		-
Assigned Funds		(11,296.85)
Committed to: Acquisition of Capital Assets-Equipment		(91,318.26)
Committed to: Acquisition of Capital Assets-Building		(243,151.09)
Committed to: Unemployment Claims		(53,013.00)
Committed to: Employee Retirement Transition		(10,973.00)
Compensated Absences Payable		(56,502.00)
TOTAL DEDICATED FUNDS	\$	(466,254.20)

	<u>2/28/2025</u>	<u>2/29/2024</u>
Total Investments	\$ 741,107.96	\$ 719,519.90
Total Cash Accounts	\$ 833,798.77	\$ 594,240.23
Total Dedicated Funds	\$ (466,254.20)	\$ (466,254.20)
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR CASHFLOW	\$ 1,108,652.53	\$ 847,505.93

SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNTS-NonAdministrative

EDA Planning Funds	\$	50	
EDA Revolving Loan Funds-(business loans only)		379,781	
C-EDA Revolving Loan Funds-(business loans only)		314,678	
PACE Funds-EE-RLF		245,478	
PACE Funds-ARRA-(loans only)		104,687	PACE Loan Funds 432,748
PACE Funds-SEP-(loans only)		82,583	
PACE Funds-(Electric Companies-funds to pay off loans & admin)		10,154	
PACE (County Funds used to pay down on REED loan) \$88,704		-	
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS	\$	1,137,412	



Southwest Regional Development Commission

Month End January 2025 Fiscal Year 2025

YTD Comparison % of Budget 58.33

Revenues	FY25 Budget					January - March			Year to Date	Under / Over Budget	% of Overall Budget	Explanation/Comments
	July - September	October - December	January	February	March	January - March	April - June					
Taxes	465,617	1,325.51	195,933.42	7,836.65		7,836.65	0.00	205,995.58	260,521.42	44.0%	When current taxes received, payments primarily received in Dec and Jun	
Contract for Services	272,778	42,953.48	56,527.93	14,689.78		14,689.78	0.00	114,171.19	158,606.81	41.9%	Based on activity earned to date.	
RS-McKnight	191,275.00	191,275.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	191,275.00	0.00	100.0%	We received all of the R9 McKnight money up front, in July 2024	
MnDOT-Regional	75,000	37,500.00	0.00	30,000.00		30,000.00	0.00	67,500.00	7,500.00	90.0%	Based on Billings Yearly amt is \$75000	
Economic Development Adm	105,119	9,822.68	19,246.46	2,742.51		2,742.51	0.00	31,811.65	73,307.35	30.3%	Grant Earned (Federal share)	
EDA Trails Grant	58,291	58,291.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	58,291.08	0.00	100.0%	Based on activity earned to date. (Federal share) Done Sept 2024	
RLF Admin (Covid & Regular)	60,000	20,775.64	18,255.78	5,364.00		5,364.00	0.00	44,395.42	15,604.58	74.0%	Based on activity earned to date. \$290,000 over 2 yrs 4 mths, est. start March 2024, est. to use in FY24 \$40,000	
Commerce - State Comp Grant	179,000	28,772.15	30,209.25	5,971.14		5,971.14	0.00	64,952.54	114,047.46	36.3%	Based on activity earned to date - main Certs (not subprojects), which equals more time	
CERTs Funds	86,160	4,284.01	27,024.14	7,311.91		7,311.91	0.00	38,620.06	47,539.94	44.8%	Loan init/loan orig fee mostly received in Dec and June (code 46564321)	
PACE loan orig/int/misc	6,800	757.11	3,315.48	0.00		0.00	0.00	4,072.59	2,727.41	59.9%	**USDA is being reviewed, contract is terminated as of 2-25-25 - December is the last payment to be received** Based on Billings (800 hours at \$75/hr for the year)	
USDA Food Grant	30,000	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	0.00	100.0%	Bank int/loan orig fee **Bank interest is coming in higher than estimated and includes CD interest**	
Interest & Miscellaneous	19,184	11,706.52	3,182.22	1,323.59		1,323.59	0.00	16,212.33	2,971.67	84.5%	Need to replace the roof and only a small amount will be paid by insurance (Quote is \$65,000, our portion is \$31,860 and SWMHP's portion is \$33,190)	
Building Reserves Used	31,850		0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	31,850.00	0.0%		
Total Revenues	1,581,074	422,463.18	388,694.68	75,239.58		75,239.58	0.00	866,397.44	714,676.64	54.8%		
Expenditures												
Committee Expenses	30,300	4,790.44	5,273.36	1,908.90		1,908.90	0.00	11,972.70	18,327.30	39.5%	Includes Board Retreat & Orientation, added Annual Mtg	
Salaries & Fringe	1,072,887	223,789.31	272,725.31	75,190.65		75,190.65	0.00	571,705.29	501,181.71	53.3%	Includes FY25 Salaries/Fringe (including 8% increase of Health Insurance/H.S.A)	
Travel	60,000	12,667.31	18,883.11	2,627.32		2,627.32	0.00	34,177.74	25,822.26	57.9%	Staff Travel	
Office Space Costs	44,194	2,166.86	2,281.83	803.94		803.94	0.00	5,252.63	38,941.37	11.9%	Utilities	
Postage (on hand, not including Hsg Reimb)	5,349	29.97	2,029.97	9.99		9.99	0.00	2,069.93	3,279.07	38.7%	We sent out the EDA Trails booklets, so had to get more postage in November. EDA Trails did reimburse us for most, we had to estimate because of the timing of the Contract ending and books showing up.	
Communications	9,219	3,936.66	1,868.21	458.46		458.46	0.00	6,263.33	2,955.67	67.9%		
Printing/Publication	20,504	1,851.73	4,758.77	11.33		11.33	0.00	6,621.23	13,882.77	32.3%		
Insurance	5,917	2,615.85	173.57	24.41		24.41	0.00	2,813.83	3,103.17	47.6%	Insurance dividend/Building Insurance	
Supplies	17,000	4,748.71	6,302.36	480.09		480.09	0.00	11,531.16	5,468.84	67.8%	August includes our Strategic Plan, this also includes our part of MADO	
Program Supply (Trails EDA)	11,418	11,418.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,418.27	0.00	100.0%	Reimbursed by Trails EDA	
Computer	41,250	3,883.06	4,343.79	2,730.88		2,730.88	0.00	10,957.73	30,292.27	26.6%	Quoted price for FY25 audit - Kimer & Co. + estimated amt for FY22/FY23 Audits	
Audits	41,000	14,884.00	10,000.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	24,884.00	16,116.00	60.7%		
Consultant/Contracted Services/Legal	33,275	80.00	40.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	120.00	33,156.00	0.4%		
Dues/Memberships & Other	7,200	14.25	4,000.00	85.00		85.00	0.00	4,095.25	3,100.75	56.9%	Includes MADO Coordination (\$2000 per region)	
Financing Fees & Expenses	5,500	72.75	182.11	49.75		49.75	0.00	304.61	5,195.39	5.8%		
Equipment/Building Updates	10,000	0.00	56.00	55.14		55.14	0.00	111.14	9,888.86	1.1%		
PACE loan interest paid	508	0.00	391.79	0.00		0.00	0.00	391.79	116.21	77.1%	Paid in December and June	
Debt Service: Prin. & Int.	10,000	0.00	10,000.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.00	100.0%	Paid in December	
Building Lease Principal Pymt	23,183	5,675.96	5,755.15	1,936.17		1,936.17	0.00	13,367.28	9,815.72	57.7%	Our portion of lease pymt	
Total Expenditures	1,448,704	292,624.55	349,065.33	86,372.03		86,372.03	0.00	728,061.91	720,642.36	50.3%		
Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	132,370	129,838.63	19,629.35	-11,132.45		0.00	0.00	138,336				

**SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
FISCAL YEAR 2026
BUDGET AND WORK PLAN PROCESS**

2025

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| February-March | SRDC Standing Committees discuss work program and budget requests for FY2026. |
| April 3rd | SRDC Budget and Personnel Committee meets to discuss the SRDC FY2026 Budget and Work Program. |
| April 10 | <u>If needed</u> , SRDC Budget & Personnel Committee meets prior to the Board meeting to finalize the budget and work program for FY2026. |
| April 10 Board | SRDC Fiscal Year 2026 Work Program and Budget are presented to the SRDC Board of Directors for approval and referral to the Public Hearing. |
| May 8 | Public Hearing on SRDC Fiscal Year 2026 Work Program and Budget |
| May 8 | SRDC Fiscal Year 2026 Work Program and Budget that incorporates any comments received during the Public Hearing is presented to the Full Commission for approval. |

G:\WORKFOLDER\FINANCE\BUDGET\FY26\Time Table for Budget FY26

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

MARCH 2025

CEDS | EDA PLANNING

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)

Our current CEDS can be found at <http://www.swrdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/CEDS-2022-2027.pdf>. Every five years, EDA requires an updated CEDS for the region. Our next CEDS is due on 12/31/2026. If you are interested in being on the CEDS committee, please contact staff.



SRDC facilitated the **MADO Economic Development Staff Quarterly** on 2/6/2025. Joe McKinney, Executive Director, spoke about the recent (December 2024) EDA reauthorization. One of the biggest changes we may see is the minimum grant rate being increased from 50% to 60%. Don Michael Jackson from the Small Business Administration (SBA) also spoke about potential partnerships.

Our **EDA planning grant** was due 2/17/2025. Grant funding requested per year is \$70,000 or \$210,000 over the three-year planning grant.



INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Staff recently assisted the **City of Steen** with an MPCA Small Communities Planning grant for stormwater improvements. The application was submitted for \$27,700 (includes 10% match) for stormwater improvement planning. It is expected that awards will be made in March 2025.

The **City of Hardwick** is in the process of applying for a \$30,000 USDA SEARCH planning grant that will include planning efforts for water system improvements. The hope is for system updates to the water system that will allow for remote reading of residential water meters. The city has requested assistance from SRDC regarding USDA ADA requirements. SRDC is involved with the ADA Checklist for Existing Buildings and providing technical assistance with the required Accessibility Transition plan.

Friends in the Field: The group will next meet on 4/9/2025.

EDA PLANNING

EDA Investment Opportunities: Priorities can be found at [Investment Priorities | U.S. Economic Development Administration \(eda.gov\)](#). Priorities have recently changed with the reauthorization to include Critical Infrastructure, Workforce, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Economic Resiliency, and Manufacturing. You can find EDA funding opportunities at [All Funding Opportunities | U.S. Economic Development Administration \(eda.gov\)](#).

The **EDA Disaster NOFO** is being drafted. Eligible units of government, higher education, etc., based on FEMA disaster declarations ([dec_4797.pdf](#)), are those within Cottonwood, Jackson, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, and Rock counties.

The **Public Works Economic Adjustment Assistance (PWEAA) grant** opportunity continues to be available, now at 60% grant rate. More information can be found at [Public Works | U.S. Economic Development Administration](#).

SRDC continues to assist the **City of Adrian** on their funded EDA PWEAA grant for an electric substation. The grant award was 50% of the project cost (\$3,258,900) or \$1,629,450. The SRDC provides administrative and financial services, acting as a liaison among the City of Adrian, DGR Engineering, and the EDA.

Southwest Minnesota Youth Committee- The committee meets quarterly to gather members who support career and technical education programs and to educate students and parents about local career and training opportunities. The committee last met on 2/6/2025 and will again meet on 5/1/2025.

Southwest Regional Transportation Coordinating Council (RTCC): The group met on 3/4/2025. SRDC is responsible for representing economic development on the council.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

MARCH 2025



EECBG (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant)- Energy Planning for Small Communities

EECBG is a funding source for planning efforts designed to assist small communities (this includes cities or counties under 15,000 in population) in implementing strategies to reduce energy use, to reduce fossil fuel emissions, and to improve energy efficiency.

SRDC recently shared our EECBG PowerPoint with other MN RDCs. The EECBG application has been approved by the Department of Commerce. Two applications have been received.

Childcare: Successful DEED Childcare Economic Development program applicants from this region include: Hendricks Community Hospital Foundation in the amount of \$159,000 and Nobles County Community Service Agency at \$480,000.



SRDC completed a three-year strategic plan for Wonder World between Aug 2024 and January 2025 and received \$5,000 compensation from SWIF for the work. Other assistance for Wonder World included submitting grant applications to the Lyon County Riverboat Foundation, DEED, and Boxcar wind; presenting to the Murray County EDA, developing a funding plan, and connecting them with other technical assistance providers.



USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Regional Food Business Center North Central Regional Food Business Center

Due to Executive Orders under the current Administration, USDA Regional Food Business Center funding has been paused. Due to the uncertainty of the USDA's ability to authorize and process North Central Regional Food Business Center (NCRFBC) reimbursements beyond January 19, 2025, necessary action was taken by the NCRFBC to terminate our contract effective February 25, 2025.

Due to Executive Orders under the current Administration, USDA Regional Food Business Center funding has been paused. Due to the uncertainty of the USDA's ability to authorize and process North Central Regional Food Business Center (NCRFBC) reimbursements beyond January 19, 2025, necessary action was taken by the NCRFBC to terminate our contract effective February 25, 2025.

Workforce Summit: Employers and economic staff in the EDA regions of 8 and 6W recently received a "Save the Date" for a Workforce Summit to be held on Tuesday, April 29 at Heritage Event Center near Taunton, MN. The focus is on employer recruitment and retention.

Southwest MN Meat Processor Workforce Development Initiative

Due to Executive Orders under the current Administration, USDA Regional Food Business Center funding has been paused. Due to the uncertainty of the USDA's ability to authorize and process North Central Regional Food Business Center (NCRFBC) reimbursements beyond January 19, 2025, necessary action was taken by the NCRFBC to terminate our contract effective February 25, 2025.

Career Expos- Staff will again be assisting with the "Career is Right" session. The expos are scheduled for September 23 in Worthington (MinnesotaWest) and September 24 in Marshall (SMSU). SRDC will be displaying an interactive booth focused on community and economic development employment opportunities.

Mankato State of Energy Summit

The 2025 State of Energy Summit on Monday, March 24, hosted by the MN State Energy Center of Excellence, will be open to students, faculty, educators, and industry professionals. The Summit will be held at the Centennial Student Union Ballroom in Mankato. CERTs staff, the SW and SE regional coordinators, presented on the CERTs ambassador program and Seed Grant projects. The day includes a MN energy careers panel, education and training innovation breakout sessions, utilities and energy innovations breakout sessions, a policy and advocacy panel, and energy career fair and networking. This summit is an adaptation of the MN Energy Consortium's annual meeting, made up of various energy industry professionals.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

MARCH 2025

Art of Hosting Training

This training focused on creating engaging and productive meetings and events. The training highlighted some specifics of facilitating meetings and events, such as learning how to address conflict and tension in groups and interpersonal dynamics, gaining knowledge of effective engagement methods and practices, and understanding the patterns of human dynamics. The training included hands-on experience and practical application, ensuring that acquired knowledge can be effectively used in real-life situations.

The Taylor Family Farms Foundation supports and enhances rural communities in southern Minnesota and northwest Iowa. Areas of interest for grants include health and human services, youth and education and community engagement. The Taylor Family Farms Foundation seeks grant applications for community, outdoor, recreation projects that promote healthy lifestyles for the upcoming granting period. Preferences are given to projects that are accessible to all regardless of age or ability. Project proposals for these grants require a fifty percent match from other funders/partners. Typical grants range from \$10,000 to \$50,000. The application deadline was February 28. SRDC staff assisted with an application for efficiency upgrades to Iona Township Hall and Community Center, and the replacement of a liner and decking for the Lambertson outdoor pool. More information can be found at [Taylor Family Farms Foundation | Home Page.](#)



April 29, 2025

Heritage Event Center
3621 County Highway 8, Taunton, MN

Southwest MN Workforce Summit

For employers, HR staff, schools, community,
and economic development

SAVE THE DATE!

Brought to you by economic development and workforce partners of SW Minnesota

REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF) REPORT

MARCH 2025

COVID-19 RLF | TRADITIONAL RLF | CONTRACTED RLF

RLF

The committee consists of five members and meets as needed. The committee covers both the COVID-19 RLF and Traditional RLF. The committee meets as needed. The committee last met on 12/12/2024 and 1/24/2025.

Interest Rates: SRDC RLF has been financing projects using an interest rate of 75% of prime. This adheres to regulations governing RLF awards.

Application and Checklist: The Application (fillable — same application for both RLF programs) and Requirements Checklist (this is currently being updated to include both SRDC RLF and COVID-19) are online and can be found at <http://www.swrdc.org/economic-development/revolving-loan-funds/>.

Funds Available for Lending

Funds Available: Funds on hand are the following; RLF (as of 2-6-25) \$379,200.66 and CRLF (as of 2-6-25) \$314,197. CRLF funds will remain federalized until seven years have passed. Not included within these figures is a loan approval in Pipestone that is scheduled to close 3/6/2025 in the amount of \$21,348. An additional loan in Pipestone County was approved, but not yet scheduled to close, in the amount of \$36,250.

Delinquent and/or Loan nearing Default Status

SRDC was summoned on August 19 as an interested named party as SRDC RLF (and Jackson County RLF) is a lender with similar collateral (business and real estate) as the primary lender. The business is expected to sell the week of 3/6/2025. SRDC and JCRLF are expected to receive some funds but far less than the principal remaining.



Committee Members

Committee members were recently updated on a potential loan in Lyon County that may be sold for less than what it will take to pay off the SRDC loan. A joint meeting with the lender and loan client has been requested.

Now, more than ever, the committee has had to consider interest only and/or modification requests. Some of the requests are due to seasonality and others are due to changes in the market. Currently, there are six projects where requests have been made.

Two letters recently were sent out requesting payoff, plans for sale, or collateral collection. One has confirmed that they will begin full payments starting 3/1/2025. The other has yet to confirm their plans. The deadline to respond is 3/1/2025.

Site Visits

Site visits are required every three years; however, they are done more often as the need arises. Annual business taxes continue to be gathered for files. Site visits are combined with communication audits and interviews for storytelling. Success stories can now be found at <http://www.swrdc.org/economic-development/revolving-loan-funds/rlf-business-spotlights/>.

REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF) REPORT

MARCH 2025

COVID-19 RLF | TRADITIONAL RLF | CONTRACTED RLF

Contracted RLFs

SRDC helps with business start-ups, retentions, expansions, and financing. Additionally, SRDC assists with three revolving loan fund programs within the region and are in communication with another as of recent.

Jackson County RLF: There are six active loans. Approximately \$177,000 is available for lending. One is in default and a summons letter was received on August 19. The committee last met on 1/29/2025. There is a vacancy on the committee from Heron Lake.

Heron Lake RLF: HLRLF focuses on economic development within a 20-mile radius of Heron Lake. These are Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. SRDC continues to assist them with GMS entry and amortization schedules as requested. There are funds available for businesses in their service area that have gap financing needs.

Falcon Development Corporation (FDC): Information on FDC can be found online at <https://www.swrdc.org/revolving-loan-funds/>. FDC is a local organization that focuses on improving economic development within a 30-mile radius of Heron Lake. The funds provided by FDC are not federalized, which means that Davis Bacon is not applicable to construction projects. The interest rates for these funds can now go as low as 75% of the prime rate. The FDC Board has a maximum of 7 members. The committee currently has six members. The committee will next meet on 5/7/2025.

If you have questions about the business lending via SRDC RLF or its contracted RLFs, please contact Robin Weis, Deputy Director, at 507-836-1638 or via email at robin@swrdc.org.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Funding Opportunities for Businesses and Entrepreneurs

SRDC administers several funding opportunities for businesses and entrepreneurs in Southwest Minnesota. Financing from the SRDC makes projects possible when gap financing or up-front funds are not available.

Two primary funding opportunities include the SRDC Revolving Loan (RLF) and Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)



2401 Broadway Ave
Slayton, MN
507-836-8547

For more information
check out the website at
www.swrdc.org



PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (PACE) REPORT

MARCH 2025

General Information: PACE is available to property owners of small businesses, including agri-businesses and some non-profits based on usage. Please help spread the word about PACE to property owners looking to make improvements that lower their energy usage. Interest rates for new projects are set at 3% under Prime, with a floor of 3%.

Funds Available: Funds are currently available in the approximate amount of PACE EE-RLF (as of 2-20-25) \$245,134.37, PACE ARRA (as of 1-31-25) \$104,622.83, and PACE SEP (as of 1-31-25) \$82,541.86. Not included within these numbers are unspent project expenses and the latest loan approved was for a Renville County agricultural property owner for solar installation at \$60,000. The committee last met on 1/27/2025.

Due to limited funds, staff have engaged in discussions with lenders about participation lending. Several meetings have been held to educate lenders on the PACE program. However, no lender has shown strong interest in pursuing further discussions on this concept. Reasons vary, including businesses banking with other institutions, concerns about infrequent payments, potential defaults, and interest rates. The goal of participation lending is to extend the reach of PACE funds.

Currently, four PACE loans are in default as they have not paid their 2024 property taxes in full.

PACE Committee: The committee meets as needed, often in conjunction with RMEB (Rural Minnesota Energy Board) meeting dates. Committee members are Metz, Wildermuth, Wachal, VanDeVere, and Paap.

Energy Audits: Energy assessments/audits are informational to property owners and may be the start to cost-saving energy improvements. MN DOC is working on increasing access to energy auditors. Contractor estimates and the energy assessment/audit are the two first steps to PACE financing. Referrals for energy audits are often made to RETAP, MINTAP, CEE, or EnergySmart.

PACE 101

There are two new RMEB members interested in a PACE 101. An online training session is scheduled for 3/19/2025 at 1 p.m. Let staff know if you are interested in receiving the link.

PACE Success Stories

A few recent success stories can be found at <https://www.swrdc.org/regional-spotlight/>.

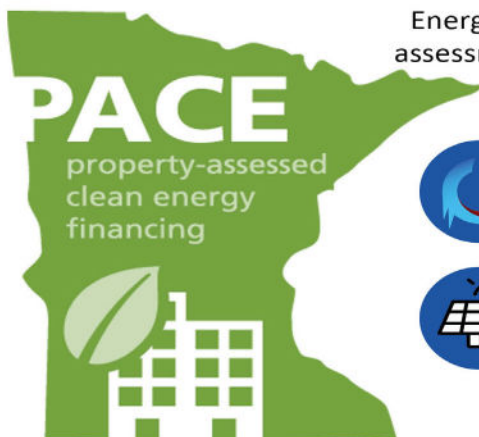
The updated PACE application that includes a checklist can be found at [RMEB PACE Application](#).

If you have questions about the PACE or energy audits, please contact Robin Weis, Deputy Director, at 507-836-1638 or via email at robin@swrdc.org.

Are you looking to cut your energy bill?

PACE Loans are a new way to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades to buildings of commercial property owners, industrial and agri-business.

Energy saving measures are repaid on property tax assessment which eliminates burden of upfront costs providing low-cost, long-term financing



- Heating/Cooling
- Lighting
- Refrigeration
- Insulation • Air Sealing



- Solar Energy Systems
- Wind Turbines
- Geothermal



This Program is administered by the SRDC on behalf of the Rural Minnesota Energy Board.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

MARCH 2025

ENERGY | LAND USE, PLANNING & ZONING SOLID WASTE & NATURAL RESOURCES

ENERGY

Rural Minnesota Energy Board (RMEB): RMEB met on January 27, 2025, at 1:00 PM. One discussion item was whether the RMEB would support ending the moratorium on nuclear power development in Minnesota. The discussion was tabled until commissioners could speak to their colleagues in their respective

counties. The presenters were McKinstry, who provided details about how counties could enter into performance contracting to accomplish large scale efficiency and renewable projects across the county. The only projects that would be the ones that save more than they cost. The next meeting will be held on March 24.

Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas Grant from DOE: SRDC worked with Region 9 to coordinate writing the concept paper for this opportunity, which was submitted Feb 27th. The projects included in the proposal are in five RDO regions. They are:

Project	Category	Technologies & Brief Summary	Total Project cost
City of Windom Municipal Utility	Grid Resilience and Solar	Transformers, bore wires underground, smart switches, solar panels & inverters, smart thermostats	\$5.9M
City of Madison Municipal Utility	Grid Resilience	Substation upgrades, advanced metering infrastructure, boring wires underground	\$17.08 M
City of Tyler Municipal Utility	Grid Resilience	Substation upgrades	\$3 M
City of Lakefield Municipal Utility	Grid Resilience	Replace diesel generator, replace breakers, upgrade streetlights with LEDs, conduct a study on energy monitoring and management systems	\$1 – 10 M
Kandiyohi Power Cooperative	Grid Resilience	Substation and distribution line upgrades, create a microgrid, and do efficiency work	\$2.5 M
People's Energy Cooperative - Stewartville	Grid Resilience	Upgrading distribution lines; voltage changeover of distribution lines, microgrids, integrating DER solar and battery	\$1 M +
City of Blue Earth Municipal Utility	Grid Resilience	4 MW Solar for the utility	\$8.1 M (only requesting \$3.1M Fed)
Eco-Innovation Center, Baxter	Solar	Solar for a planned unit development called "Eco-Innovation"	\$0.150 M
Resiliency Hub, Cass Lake	Solar	Add solar to a new resiliency hub	\$0.150 M
Tri-County Community Action	Solar, Air Source Heat Pumps	Provide ASHPs and Solar to low-income residents and small businesses in rural areas	\$5 M

Total DOE Funding Request (\$M USD):	\$40.824 M
Total Non-Federal Cost Share (\$M USD):	\$12.056 M
Total Project Costs (\$M USD):	\$52.88 M

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

MARCH 2025

ENERGY | LAND USE, PLANNING & ZONING SOLID WASTE & NATURAL RESOURCES

PLANS

Lyon County, Comprehensive Plan: The upcoming schedule is as follows: March-Land Use Chapter, April-Housing Chapter, May-Transportation & Infrastructure Chapter.

Lyon County, Camden Regional Trail Master Plan: Planner Webb is organizing a meeting between all local agencies to outline a shared maintenance agreement for the trail.

City of Tracy, Zoning Ordinance Update: Planner Webb held an introductory meeting with City of Tracy staff on 1/28 to begin the process of updating their zoning ordinance which was originally written in 1968 and last updated in 2005.

Murray County Historical Society Strategic Plan 2025 – 2033: On January 16 staff conducted a strategic planning session for MCHS. Participants reviewed progress on the past plan and then created goals and objectives for the new plan under four themes. The themes were: 1) Programming and Outreach, 2) Facilities, 3) Membership/Fundraising, and 4) Volunteers. Staff then updated the plan and sent it to the Historical Society’s approval in March 2025.

SWHHS Public Health – 6-month strategic plan implementation check-in: On January 14 staff met again with leadership to evaluate their progress on their new strategic plan and to see if anything in the plan needed to be changed or updated. Staff hope to make it a practice to include implementation check-ins with any plan that we create in the future to ensure that the documents are put into practice rather than gathering dust on shelves.

Solid Waste Commission:

Prior to the January 27, 2025, regular meeting, the Solid Waste Commissioners were provided a draft copy of the Southwest Solid Waste 10-year plan and asked to respond to the SRDC with feedback or necessary edits. The MPCA was present at the meeting to share updates on the impending Construction & Demolition Rule changes.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2025.



Renewable Energy Siting through Technical Engagement and Planning (R-STEP):

In January, we began contract negotiations, but after the first meeting, the DOE put a “pause” on all activity and canceled all the contract negotiation meetings that we had scheduled.

DWSMA (Drinking Water Supply Management Area) Project:



Supporting solar development within local drinking water protection areas. A \$498,000 Energy Future Grant from the U.S. Department of Energy would allow the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to evaluate the benefits of using solar energy to help provide renewable power while also providing economically viable and environmentally sustainable land use options in southwest Minnesota, where nitrate levels in drinking water has been an ongoing concern. SRDC was a subgrantee whose planned role is/was coordinating and facilitating workshops in four selected areas and convening cohort groups.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

MARCH 2025

ENERGY | LAND USE, PLANNING & ZONING
SOLID WASTE & NATURAL RESOURCES



PV-SUCCESS

CERTs staff are currently doing outreach for Lyon County – including surveys, interviews, and workshops. The two workshops were completed on March 3 and 10. The Lyon County portion of this project will help inform the PV-Success research project, as well as contribute to the Sustainability chapter of the Lyon County Comprehensive Plan.

The PhotoVoltaics Supporting Cultural and Community EcoSystem Services (PV-SUCCESS) project is a collaboration between CERTs, GPI (Great Plains Institute), and MTERA (Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association). PV-SUCCESS is a research project that will study ecosystem services provided by local landscapes. The goals are to understand how large-scale solar development affects them and to develop informational tools that communities can use for planning related to solar development. The project will focus on solar developments that are larger than 1 MW (about 10 acres).

Goals:

- Increase local understanding of large-scale solar and support community engagement on planning to increase benefits and mitigate risks of future projects.
- Contribute to research on the relationship between large-scale solar and ecosystem services, with the goal of increasing benefits to host communities.

CERTs will explore local perspectives on land uses and ecosystem services, experiences with and views on large-scale solar through interviews, surveys, and workshops in different communities with large scale solar projects.

RSDP Idea Briefs

RSDP is in the process of reviewing idea brief proposals for projects that can improve sus-

tainability in communities. The project proposals address a community-identified need or opportunity related to one or more of RSDP’s focus areas: sustainable agriculture and food systems, clean energy, natural resources, and resilient communities. The projects are required to expand community collaborations and support environmental, social, and economic sustainability for public purpose or benefit. Priority is for projects that are from, led by, or that include meaningful participation of historically underrepresented communities.



Of the clean energy focused projects, there is one from our SRDC region – “Repurpose of the Old Lamberton School.” The other projects that fall under the clean energy category in the SW RSDP region, are “Olivia Armory Repurpose,” “Community Resilience Hub – City of Long Beach,” “Vertical Farming,” and “Deployment of Heat Pumps in Rural Minnesota.” “Rauenhorst Farm Agrivoltaics,” is a multi-year project that is also being discussed for extra funding. The SW CERTs Steering Committee discussed these projects at our last Steering Committee meeting on March 6, and gave personal reviews of each project. The statewide RSDP Idea Brief committee will now deliberate at their next meeting, to decide which projects will get funding.



TRANSPORTATION REPORT

MARCH 2025

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE | ATPs | TRANSPORTATION PLANNING | ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION & SRTS

AREAS TRANSPORTATION PARTNERSHIPS (ATP)

ATP 7 will hold its next meeting on Friday, March 14 at 10 AM in Mankato.

ATP 8 will hold its next meeting on Friday, March 7 at 10 AM in Willmar.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Active Transportation Planning Assistance Grant: MnDOT has announced that ten Minnesota cities will receive funding from the latest round of Active Transportation Planning Assistance to support efforts to increase walking and biking within their communities.

“MnDOT’s Active Transportation Planning Assistance program brings together neighbors to dream big and develop a work plan for building their own network for walking and bicycling,” says Will Wlizlo, MnDOT Active Transportation coordinator. “This assistance helps cities reduce pollution, curb traffic, revitalize Main Streets, and increase residents’ health and safety.”

The cities of Mountain Lake and Worthington were awarded planning assistance grants.

E-Bike Rental Program at End-O-Line Park in Currie: Planner Webb has been facilitating meetings between Southwest Health and Humana Services, Murray County, and other local stakeholders in order to gauge the potential for an E-Bike Rental Program at End-O-Line Park in Currie. If funding is secured, then the goal is that 4 E-Bikes will be in place at the park by June 1 for residents and visitors to use the bikes on the Casey Jones State Trail Loop located in Lake Shetek State Park.

Portable Counters Available: If you or someone in your area is planning to apply for MnDOT or other funding for a trial project, consider requesting a portable counter from the SRDC Office. These counters provide valuable information and data on current trail users that can be very beneficial for grant applications and other planning efforts. Contact Planner Webb for more information: chrisw@swrdc.org

RDO Transportation Planner’s Group: Planner Webb has been selected to serve as Co-Chair of the RDO Transportation Planner’s Group in Minnesota. This group works with MnDOT officials and all of the Regional Development Commissions to lead quarterly planning meetings and other efforts in relation to RDO’s and their relationship with MnDOT.

Coordinating
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS
with the Region

For over 30 years, SRDC has helped coordinate transportation programs within the region. Our transportation planning is focused on maintaining and improving the various modes of transportation within our nine-county region and across Greater Minnesota. SRDC assists communities with planning, maintaining, and improving all modes of transportation. We accomplish this by working with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), local units of government, legislators, community members, and organizations across Southwest Minnesota.

Much of our collaborative efforts are made possible through a recurring MnDOT planning grant which helps to keep the cost of our work to a minimum. Under this grant, technical assistance is available to assist communities along U.S., State, and County State-Aide highways.

More information visit our website
www.swrdc.org

2401 Broadway Ave
Slayton, MN 56172
507-836-8547

SRDC
SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The graphic features a green and blue color scheme with a circular inset showing a car on a road and a hand holding a red pen over a document with the words 'Program', 'Needs', 'Impact', and 'Monitoring' written on it.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MARCH 2025

I met with the Solid Waste Administrators on the 14th to prepare for the requested meeting to dig into the future of C&D waste in the region. The Solid Waste Administrators and the Solid Waste Commissioners met at our offices on February 24th to have a facilitated discussion about the practicalities of locating lined Construction & Demolition waste facilities, where available transfer stations could be accessed, etc. The meeting went well, with several options being explored. Kim and Jason helped out by each taking one of the sub-groups for the exercise at the end. This gave the Solid Waste Commissioners time to go a little further in the weeds with the Solid Waste Administrators on the details of the proposed rules and how the region might respond. MPCA staff agreed to begin review of the plan prior to approval by the Solid Waste Commission so that work was completed and forwarded to MPCA for review.

Robin and I met with Commerce and the St. Paul Port Authority to discuss possible ways to roll out PACE lending to all of the regions. Holly at the Port Authority had a couple of interesting ideas about how we could weave everyone's work together to get statewide coverage for a PACE revolving loan program. We will continue to work on this with Commerce to see if we can stand-up a program with the other RDCs.

Speaking of PACE, I gave a PACE presentation to the MADDO Executive Directors at our meeting in Grand Rapids on February 27th. I dove into some of the nuts and bolts of the program so the XDs had a better grasp of just how the program works. I used the presentation Robin put together for her training with Region 5. Also

in attendance at our meeting were representatives from the new Office of Long Range Planning at the Minnesota Management and Budget office, (MMB). Some of you may remember that the State of Minnesota used to have a State Planning Office that went away when the Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED) was re-organized as the Department of Employment and Economic Development, (DEED). The new MMB Office is meeting with us as they put together their efforts to plan for the state's future and look for partners.

Paul and I will be in Washington DC for the NADO Legislative Conference and will be returning on the 13th, unfortunately not in time to make the Commission meeting. We hope to discuss the ongoing delays in payment for work already done on congressionally authorized programs as well as thank the members of the Minnesota Delegation for the recent reauthorization of the Economic Development Administration, (EDA).

Orientation for new elected officials and new SRDC Commissioners will be held on March 21st at the Murray County 4H Building in Slayton. All SRDC Commissioners are encouraged to attend. Many Commissioners have noted to me that after serving in their first term as an SRDC Commissioner revisiting the orientation makes everything clearer than the first time they attended. The Orientation will begin with registration and coffee at 8:30 and the formal presentations will run from 9:00 to 12:00.

Promoting Growth & Opportunities for Southwest MN

We work to connect units of government, businesses, and communities with the resources, planning, and services needed to promote growth. Together we can further opportunities in Southwest Minnesota by promoting a growing workforce and business base and ensuring population stability



COTTONWOOD | JACKSON | LINCOLN | LYON | MURRAY | NOBLES | PIPESTONE | REDWOOD | ROCK



2401 Broadway Avenue, Suite 1

Slayton, MN 56172

www.swrdc.org