



JANUARY

FULL COMMISSION MEETING

THURS., JANUARY 8, 2026

**4-H BUILDING - BIG ROOM
MURRAY CO. FAIRGROUNDS**

3:30 P.M.



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*
Carol Biren	Health and Human Services
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*
Rod Hamilton	Economic Development
Eric Hartman	Region 8 School Boards* SRDC Secretary
Chris Hollingsworth	Pipestone County Commissioners*
Lyndon Johnson	Lincoln County Municipalities
Tiffany Lesmeister- Knott	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*

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



FULL COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, January 8, 2026
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	Re-appointment Commission David Sturrock – SW MN Higher Education Action Needed: Approve SW MN Higher Education Commissioner	
5	3:40	Consent Agenda Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 13, 2025, FC Meeting Minutes • December 11, 2025, BOD Meeting Minutes • November Receipts & Expenditures Report Action Needed: Approve of Consent Agenda Items	5-12 13-15 16-19
6	3:44	Finance Reports — <i>Treasurer Anderson & Finance Director Nelson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurer’s Report, including bank accounts & investments • Administrative Report through November 2025 Action Needed: Approval of Treasurer’s Report Action Needed: Approval of Administrative Report	H-1 20
7	4:00	Budget & Personnel Committee Report — <i>Committee Chair Anderson & Finance Director Nelson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget revision Action Needed: Approve Committee Recommendations	21
8	4:10	Legislative Report – <i>Chair Miron Carney / Executive Director Trusty</i>	
9	4:15	Deep Dive – <i>Policy Manuel Exec. Director Trusty & Finance Director Nelson</i>	
		<u>Committee & Staff Reports</u>	
10	4:40	Economic Development Report — <i>Deputy Director Weis & Economic Development Specialist Murphy</i>	22-25
11	4:45	Revolving Loan Funds Report — <i>Committee Chair Byrnes & Deputy Director Weis</i>	26-28

12	4:50	Community Development Report— <i>Development Planners Walker, Bucklin, Webb</i>	29-32
13	4:55	Transportation Report— <i>Committee Chair VanDeVere & Development Planners Walker & Webb</i>	33
14	5:00	Executive Director’s Report— <i>Executive Director Trusty</i>	34-35
15	5:10	Chairman’s Report— <i>Chairman Langseth</i>	
16	5:15	Reports from SRDC Commissioners Representing Local Units of Government & Public Interest Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rick Anderson, Lyon Co. Commissioners • Lyndon Johnson, Lincoln Co. Municipalities • Rick VVan Holdt, City of Worthington 	
17	5:30	Unfinished Business	
18	5:30	New Business	
19	5:30	Other Issues	
20	5:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcements • SRDC Office is closed Monday, January 19th in observance of Martin Luther King Day • SRDC Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, February 12 at 3:30 pm at the SRDC Office • SRDC Office closed February 16th in observation of President’s Day • SRDC Full Commission Meeting: Thursday, March 12, 2026 • Commissioner vacancies: Murray County Townships, Pipestone County Township, School Board Rep., Lower Sioux, and Cultural Diversity 	
21	5:35	Adjourn	



MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Paul Langseth, Commissioners Rick Anderson, Kent Bargfrede, JoEllen Benson, Carol Biren, Kristie Blankenship, Bob Byrnes, Miron Carney, Pam Cooreman, Lori Grant, Donna Gravley, Mark Haberman, Rod Hamilton, Eric Hartman, Steve Kellen, Tiffany Lesmeister-Knott, Dennis Madison, Jeff Moen, Bob Paplow, Jenny Quade, Craig Rubis, Sherri Thompson, Mic VanDeVere, Bob Van Hee and Dennis Welgraven

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Carrie Bendix (excused), Leah Bittner (excused), Dan Delaney, Chris Hollingsworth, Lyndon Johnson, Ron Kottke (excused), David Sturrock and Rick Von Holdt (excused)

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Paul Langseth called the meeting to order at 3:33p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/APPROVAL

Agenda was revised--added several contracts.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner VanDeVere and seconded by Commissioner Hartman to approve the agenda as amended. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Van Hee and seconded by Commissioner Welgraven to approve the September Receipts and Expenditures report, the September Full Commission meeting minutes and the October Board of Directors meeting minutes. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONTRACTS

Community Development Director Walker presented the following contracts for approval: CERTS – Green Step and the Pipestone County Comp Plan & Zoning Ordinances update. Finance Director Nelson presented the yearly Explore SW MN contract.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Cooreman to approve the CERTS-Green Step contract. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Paplow to approve the Pipestone County Comp Plan and Zoning Ordinance update contract. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Madison and seconded by Commissioner Gravley to approve the Explore SW MN contract. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

FINANCE REPORT

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

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Bargfrede and seconded by Commissioner Lesmeister-Knott to approve the Treasurer's Report as provided. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Finance Director Nelson went over the Administrative Report through the end of September 2025. She pointed out some line items. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Carney and seconded by Commissioner Grant to approve the Administrative Report as provided. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

PROJECT REVIEWS

None

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

A. Budget & Personnel Committee Report

The B & P committee brought to the Full Commission the MN Paid Leave Law that will go into effect January 1, 2026. The following provisions were recommended for Full Commission approval:

Small employers will pay .66% of the annual payroll as a premium to the state. The premium can be split between the employer and the employee. The B&P Committee is recommending the Commission cover the entire cost of the premium for 2026.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Byrnes to approve the Commission paying the entire cost of the premium for 2026. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

The B&P Committee is recommending the Commission allow stacking under the MN Paid Leave Law. This will allow staff to use their own leave to cover their salary that is not received from the law to get them to 100% of their salary.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Quade to approve the Commission to allow stacking of benefits for 2026. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

The B&P Committee is recommending the Commission allow intermittent use of the MN Paid Leave Law in 1-week intervals.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Carney to approve the Commission to allow intermittent use of the leave for 2026. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Finance staff asked for approval to purchase several modules available with our current financial software. The modules are Karma Suite that would help track contract/grant hours, an HR module to help computerize benefits and a fixed asset module. It was decided that the Karma Suite and Fixed Asset modules would not be beneficial in comparison to the costs. The B&P Committee is recommending the purchase of the HR module at a cost of \$5,300 startup for the first year and then \$1,700 per year after that.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Quade to approve the Commission adding the HR module to our current financial software. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Approval was given to close the office on Friday, December 26 with staff taking vacation or comp leave for the day.

B. Legislative Committee Report

Legislative Committee Chair Carney reported that after a state special election, the democrats keep the majority by 1 seat. There will be 2 more state special elections. Senate democrats have a 1seat majority also. Governor Walz will seek a 3rd term. There are 4 that have filed for Governor as of now. The session starts February 17, 2026.

Coalition of Greater MN Cities (CGMC) and Greater MN Partnership (GMP) held their fall conference in November. Their legislative day will be March 25, 2026.

The SRDC legislative committee will meet soon to discuss their 2026 legislative priorities. Transportation planners have met with MnDOT staff to discuss increasing the amount of the MnDOT contracts with RDCs. This amount has not been increased for many years. RDCs are asking for an additional \$50,000. MnDOT staff did not think that would happen this year. If this does not happen, RDCs will need to revise their work program to have the duties match the contact amount.

President Trump signed the Continuing Resolution on November 12, 2025.

C. Deep Dive

Finance Director Nelson gave a deep dive on the organization and duties of the Budget & Personnel Committee.

D. Economic Development Report

Deputy Director Weis reported that work will be starting on our five-year CEDS report. Committee members are being sought.

EDA has set their priorities for investment opportunities. The priorities are: critical infrastructure, workforce, innovation and entrepreneurship, economic resiliency and manufacturing.

The EDA disaster NOFO has been release offering up to 80% grant funding. Current project discussions include MN West Community & Technical College facility and equipment upgrades, Cities of Wilder and Windom wastewater/sewer project and City of Jackson industrial park expansion.

Weis reminded commissioners of the EECBG grant money for no-match grants to assist small communities with planning for reducing energy use, decrease fossil fuel emissions and improve energy efficiency.

Staff recently met with Geronimo and Nobles Coop Electric to discuss a potential data center project in Nobles County.

At the Career Expo held in Worthington and Marshall staff helped with the Career is Right game and staffed an interactive booth. Approximately 2000 students attended.

Economic Development Specialist Murphy is exploring Bulk Milk Dispensers in schools to cut down on waste from individual milk cartons. She is researching funding for start-up and looking for 1 or 2 schools to pilot the project.

Murphy gave an update on the Meat Processing Train & Retain grant program.

Area Economic Development Professionals have not meet for quite a few years will meet on December 1 at the SRDC office. This meeting with be offered as a hybrid meeting. Discussion points will include childcare, meat processors train and retain grant, and EECBG to name a few.

E. Revolving Loan Fund Report

Fund balances are approximately \$526,000 in the RLF fund and \$365,000 in the CRLF fund. One loan closed in Pipestone County for \$40,000. Three more loans have been approved and are waiting to close. There are 2 in Cottonwood County and 1 in Nobles County totaling \$128,000.

Staff are still working on the transition from GMS to Presta loan software.

Program administration continues for our contracted RLF funds. Jackson Co RLF has 5 active loans which includes a \$50,000 loan that closed recently. Heron Lake and Falcon Development Corporation RLFs have seen activity in the last couple months as well.

PACE

Available PACE funds are approximately: EE-RLF \$127,000, ARRA-\$91,600 and SEP-\$40,900. There are several loans that have not been fully disbursed and a \$40,000 loan that recently closed.

F. Community Development Report

Community Development Director Walker reported the Rural MN Energy Board (RMEB) met on September 22. Commissioner Metz provided an update on the Public Utilities Commission session held on September 16 regarding wind turbine setbacks.

MN Rural Electric Association gave a presentation advocating for ending the state moratorium on building new nuclear facilities. RMEB voted to join this coalition. Xcel Energy presented on early outreach efforts for a proposed 765kV transmission line extending from South Dakota through Southwest MN and into Wisconsin.

The next RMEB meeting will be November 24 and include an update from Sioux Valley Energy on their organization current trends in the energy industry. Apex Energy will present at the March RMEB meeting.

Contract negotiations have resumed on the R-STEP grant for \$1.2 million. SRDC is one of several partners in this project.

Planner Bucklin attended the MN Energy Innovation Summit on October 13. Industry leaders, experts and innovators explored emerging technologies and trends shaping the future of energy and electrification in MN. Good connections were made to help communities with their clean energy goals.

Staff attended the City Council meeting in Hadley recently.

An organizational meeting with Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water will be held regarding the Drinking Water Supply Management Area project.

CERTs staff facilitated 2 community energy ambassador certification workshops in St. James in September.

Walker and Bucklin attended the Minnesota Energy Innovation Summit in October. Presentations, panel discussions, breakout sessions and networking provided lots of information.

Bucklin attended the Powering Tomorrow: Energy Project Resource Summit in October. The event focused on partnerships and resources that support energy and health and safety improvements in educational settings.

CERTs Seed Grant applications have been reviewed. Ten applications were received totaling \$45,500. If an additional \$9,000 is received from the Morgan Foundation, 2 more projects could be funded. More information will be given on the projects that were funded. Bucklin will staff a table for CERTs at the National Science Conference.

Planner Webb will present the Lyon County Comp Plan to the Lyon County Commissioners on November 18 for approval. Webb facilitated a strategic planning session with the Lyon County Landfill Advisory Committee in November.

Nobles County has finalized their steering committee for their Comprehensive Plan update. Their kickoff meeting will be held in November.

Work continues on the Marshall Master Parks plan. Next steps include development of visuals based on the community outreach findings.

G. Transportation Report

SRDC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) met on November 12 to discuss and recommend functional class road designations. Lyon, Murray and Rock Counties had no changes in designation.

Active Transportation grants are due November 22nd. Planner Webb has talked to a couple communities about these grants. Other grant opportunities that are open are Transportation Alternatives, Carbon Reduction Program and PROTECT.

Planner Webb is working to organize a Safe Routes to School coalition in Marshall. Community partners include Marshall School District, SWHHS SHIP, and Lyon County 4-H.

H. Executive Director's Report

The first trainings for MADDO staff will take place in November, focusing on finance staff and leadership training cohorts. Most of the cost for these trainings is covered through McKnight Foundation funding designated for MADDO professional development.

Bob Voss, Executive Director at East Central RDC will retire on January 15, 2026. Nicole Griensewic, Executive Director at Region 9 RDC has resigned.

Trusty and Weis attended the NADO Annual Training Conference in Salt Lake City in October. See his report in the board packet.

I. Chairman's Report

Chairman Langseth referred commissioner to page 25 of the packet where there is a spotlight article on his property. He utilized loan products of the SRDC for upgrades to his short-term rental unit.

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

A. Jackson County Commissioners

Commissioner Bargfrede reported on what is going on in Jackson County. Some of the items he mentioned were: The new law enforcement center should be completed by May 2026 at a cost of approximately \$41.5 million. The county had 90 lots in a housing development and 82 lots have been sold at a cost of \$5,000/lot. UCAP built 6 spec homes and they have all been sold.

The city of Alpha will be building a new city hall with money they have in reserves. In the city of Jackson, a new apartment complex with 42 apartments is finished. There are 1 and 2 bedroom apartments that rent for \$900-\$1200/month. They have also built 8 3-bedroom, 2-car garage townhomes that rent for \$2000/month. Phase 2 will start when 70% occupancy has been achieved. The Little Huskies daycare center has been saved. This daycare serves 100 children. A feasibility study will be done to determine if Jackson can benefit from a hotel. There is an electric charging station in Jackson that was funded 100% by the state. In Lakefield, the golf course has been sold to a private person who wants to build a convention center, new club house and duplexes. For this project to start sewer and water updates will be needed. The city is working on a new trail, city shop and liquor store. Okabena is in need of a new water tower. Heron Lake needs some water updates and Nena's Bar & Grill has been a good asset to the community.

B. Rock County Municipalities

Commissioner Madison reported on the communities in Rock County. The city of Kenneth is having problems enforcing their nuisance ordinance so they have opted back into a law enforcement agreement. Hardwick has annexed 3 lots into the city. Two will be for the community and the township will build on the third lot. Steen is struggling with filling one council position and their city clerk position. The new Hill Beaver Creek elementary school will open after Thanksgiving. In Hills, the daycare center has all three pods filled. Magnolia finished seal coating and has expanded their fire hall. A splash pad was built in Jasper. Local investors in Luverne have opened the ethanol plant to start methanol production.

C. Nobles County Townships

Commissioner Langseth reported that Nobles County is made up of 20 townships with 60 township supervisors and 39 township clerks and/or treasurers. Two townships hold elections in March while the rest hold them in November. The biggest struggle for the

townships is maintaining roads with all this big equipment using the township roads that were not built to withstand that much weight.

D. Region 8 School Boards

Commissioner Hartman reported that several schools are part of the SW MN CEO program where students elect to be a part of this program and they get hands-on business classes. Several schools are also part of a medical careers course in Luverne where students can explore careers in healthcare. Enrollment is declining all over the country. In Luverne there are now 75 families that home-school their children. Schools are facing a lot of hardships including: the new MN Employee Safe & Sick Time (ESST) and the MN Paid Family Leave have been forced on schools with no accountability, 82 unfunded mandates, costly unemployment insurance, school safety costs and the rise in special education costs as more students now require special education. Lack of housing and daycare make it harder to hire staff as well.

OTHER ISSUES

Commissioner Van Hee asked what other counties were doing about gun laws. A couple counties were addressing that issue at their next meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

SRDC Commissioner vacancies exist from Pipestone County Townships, Murray County Townships, School Board Rep, Lower Sioux and Cultural Diversity.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Langseth adjourned the meeting at 5:30 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 (zoom), Bob Byrnes, Miron Carney, Donna Gravley, Mark Haberman, Eric Hartman, Bob Van Hee (zoom), Mic VanDeVere, Rick Von Holdt and Dennis Welgraven

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Hollingsworth

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

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

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner VanDeVere and seconded by Commissioner Hartman to approve the agenda as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-12, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Gravley and seconded by Commissioner Byrnes to approve the October Revenue & Expenditure report and the following contracts: A.C.E. of SW MN, CERTs, Rural Minnesota Energy Board, Solid Waste Commission, Falcon Development Corporation, Friends of the Casey Jones State Trail, Geronimo Power, SW MN Housing Partnership, Jackson County RLF and Heron Lake RLF. Upon vote taken: Ayes-12, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer Anderson referred Commissioners to the Treasurer's Report as of November 30, 2025, showing bank accounts and fund designations. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Welgraven and seconded by Commissioner Hartman to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-12, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Finance Director Nelson went over the Administrative Report through the end of October 2025. She pointed out some line items. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Carney and seconded by Commissioner Byrnes to approve the Administrative report as presented, Upon vote taken: Ayes-12, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

A. Budget & Personnel Committee Report

The Audit committee met and approved the FY2024 audit. FY2024 ended showing the Commission was about \$37,000 in the black. FY2025 audit will start after FY2024 has been closed out in the accounting system.

The B&P committee reviewed and then recommended to the Full Commission the FY2026 budget revision for approval.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Gravley and seconded by Commissioner Hartman to recommend the FY2026 budget revision to the full commission for approval. Upon vote taken: Ayes-12, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

B. Legislative Committee Report

Committee Chair Carney reported the Legislative Committee met and set their priorities for 2026 as the following: support all local bonding requests, increased MnDOT funding for all RDCs (contract's last increase was 13 years ago) and funding for the Casey Jones Trail and all other regional trails. They will also support the following: dollars for RDCs to provide planning assistance to small communities similar to what CEDA received last session, solid waste priorities, Rural Minnesota Energy Board priorities, and revision of the "missing middle" housing bill.

MADO Executive Director's met with MnDOT and have drafted a letter requesting an updated contract for transportation activities.

The Coalition of Greater MN Cities (CGMC) and Greater MN Partnership (GMNP) has set their legislative priorities as housing and daycare.

C. Deep Dive

Development Planner Bucklin gave a deep dive into CERTs.

D. Executive Director's Report

Trusty reported that the MADO all state staff retreat will be April 29-May 1 in St. Cloud. The next MADO Executive Director meeting will be in Region 8. Crowley is working on finding a place for their meeting. The Southwest Regional Solid Waste Plan is at MPCA for approval. Great Plains Institute President, Rolf Nordstrom, will be retiring in June.

At the last MADO Executive Director's meeting, they met with the MnDOT Commissioner and staff from the Office of Long Range Planning. One of the legislative

mandates of the Office of Long Range Planning is to get agencies and programs within agencies to coordinate with each other.

Weis and Walker updated the commission on their Leadership Cohort training in Willmar. Nelson updated the commission on the finance training in Bloomington. There will be another Leadership Cohort training early next year. There will be a couple of other trainings in 2026.

Trusty staffed the MADDO booth at AMC. This is the 22nd year of having a booth.

Planning has started for the Board retreat that will be held in the spring of 2026.

E. Chairman's Report

Commissioner Langseth reported that the Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) is currently holding their annual conference. Commissioner Lesmeister-Knott is attending. Langseth along with Trusty and Deputy Director Weis will be attending the NADO legislative conference March 8-11, 2026.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

SRDC Commissioner vacancies exist from Pipestone County Townships, Murray County Townships, School Board Rep, Lower Sioux and Cultural Diversity.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Langseth adjourned the meeting at 4:33 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 11/1/2025 Through 11/30/2025

Session ID	Check...	Docume...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amo...	Effective Date
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Nadya N. Bucklin	Employee: BucklinN; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	2,235.22	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	2,034.40	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	706.11	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	1,744.42	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	1,483.27	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	18.83	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	4.71	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Melissa Nelson	Employee: MansonM; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	2,271.71	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Kimberly Murphy	Employee: MurphyK; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	1,775.57	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	393.88	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	1,389.45	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	55.49	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Jayme I. Trusty	Employee: TrustyJ; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	3,177.16	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Jason L. Walker	Employee: WalkerJ; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	2,594.80	11/13/2025
PRS111325	11132...	11/13/20...	Christopher S. Webb	Employee: WebbC; Pay Date: 11/13/2025	1,972.80	11/13/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Craig Rubis	Craig Rubis 11/13/25 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Craig Rubis	Craig Rubis 11/13/25 Meeting	77.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Robert H. Van Hee	Bob VanHee 10/9/25 & 11/13/25 Meeting	100.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Robert H. Van Hee	Bob VanHee 10/9/25 & 11/13/25 Meeting	203.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Steven A Kellen	Steven Kellen 11/13/25 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Steven A Kellen	Steven Kellen 11/13/25 Meeting	49.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Jeffrey Moen	Jenny Moen 11/13/25 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Jeffrey Moen	Jeff Moen 11/13/25 Meeting	95.20	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Jenny L. Quade	Jenny Quade 11/13/25 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Jenny L. Quade	Jenny Quade 11/13/25 Meeting	53.20	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	JoEllen M. Benson	JoEllen Benson 11/13/25 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	JoEllen M. Benson	JoEllen Benson 11/13/25 Meeting	81.90	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Kent Bargfrede	Kent Bargfrede 11/13/25 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Kent Bargfrede	Kent Bargfrede 11/13/25 Meeting	98.70	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Mark A Haberman	Mark Haberman 11/13/25 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Mark A Haberman	Mark Haberman 11/13/25 Meeting	45.50	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Paul Langseth	Paul Langseth 11/13 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Paul Langseth	Paul Langseth 11/13 Meeting	53.20	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Richard Anderson	Rick Anderson 11/13/25 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Richard Anderson	Rick Anderson 11/13/25 Meeting	32.20	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Robert J. Byrnes	Bob Byrnes 11/13/25 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2025
APS112425	11262...	11/26/20...	Robert J. Byrnes	Bob Byrnes 11/13/25 Meeting	44.80	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Nadya N. Bucklin	Employee: BucklinN; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	2,350.02	11/26/2025

Southwest Regional Development Commission

Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register

From 11/1/2025 Through 11/30/2025

Session ID	Check...	Docume...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amo...	Effective Date
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	2,532.37	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	457.84	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	1,744.42	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	1,487.80	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	19.00	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Melissa Nelson	Employee: MansonM; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	2,271.70	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Kimberly Murphy	Employee: MurphyK; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	1,775.57	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	1,693.52	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	55.49	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	49.94	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	5.57	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Jayne I. Trusty	Employee: TrustyJ; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	3,365.04	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Jason L. Walker	Employee: WalkerJ; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	2,745.30	11/26/2025
PRS112725	11272...	11/26/20...	Christopher S. Webb	Employee: WebbC; Pay Date: 11/27/2025	2,020.08	11/26/2025
APS110525	61310	11/5/2025	City of Slayton	City of Slayton 9/25/25 to 10/28/25	23.92	11/5/2025
APS110525	61310	11/5/2025	City of Slayton	City of Slayton 9/25/25 to 10/28/25	22.08	11/5/2025
APS110525	61311	11/5/2025	Culligan Water Conditioning	4 bottles water, 1 bag salt, cooler rental	51.80	11/5/2025
APS110525	61311	11/5/2025	Culligan Water Conditioning	4 bottles water, 1 bag salt, cooler rental	6.60	11/5/2025
APS110525	61312	11/5/2025	Grants Management Systems...	Monthly license, warranty, service and support	100.00	11/5/2025
APS110525	61312	11/5/2025	Grants Management Systems...	Monthly license, warranty, service and support	40.00	11/5/2025
APS110525	61313	11/5/2025	JD Rieck HVAC & Plumbing, I...	RLF Loan Disb: JD Rieck HVAC & Plumbing	5,945.56	11/5/2025
APS110525	61314	11/5/2025	Northwest Gas	NW Gas 9/19/25 to 10/22/25	29.50	11/5/2025
APS110525	61314	11/5/2025	Northwest Gas	NW Gas 9/19/25 to 10/22/25	19.68	11/5/2025
APS110525	61315	11/5/2025	One Office Solution	Meter reading, copy paper	384.50	11/5/2025
APS110525	61316	11/5/2025	Quill Corporation	Bath tissue, post-it notes, copy paper	55.57	11/5/2025
APS110525	61316	11/5/2025	Quill Corporation	Bath tissue, post-it notes, copy paper	47.52	11/5/2025
APS110525	61317	11/5/2025	Slayton EDA	EDA Lease Nov 2025	5,003.67	11/5/2025
APS110525	61318	11/5/2025	Stoneberg, Giles & Stroup, PA	Black Sheep Landscaping (JCRLF) + JD Rieck (RLF) legal fees	159.00	11/5/2025
APS110525	61319	11/5/2025	The Computer Man, Inc.	Renew MNADO.org domain; pd through 11/27/30	100.00	11/5/2025
APS110525	61320	11/5/2025	XCEL Energy	Xcel Energy 10/2/25 to 11/2/25	268.12	11/5/2025
APS110525	61320	11/5/2025	XCEL Energy	Xcel Energy 10/2/25 to 11/2/25	178.75	11/5/2025
APS111325	61321	11/13/20...	Chandler Co-Op	Chandler Coop Oct 2025	89.42	11/13/2025
APS111325	61322	11/13/20...	Frontier Communications	Frontier 5078360034 11/10/25 to 12/9/25	899.22	11/13/2025
APS111325	61322	11/13/20...	Frontier Communications	Frontier 5078360034 11/10/25 to 12/9/25	484.19	11/13/2025
APS111325	61323	11/13/20...	Jackson County Pilot	Jackson Co Pilot 1 year subscription	90.00	11/13/2025
APS111325	61324	11/13/20...	Murray County Christmas Fund	Murray Co Xmas Project	1,372.00	11/13/2025
APS111325	61325	11/13/20...	Redwood Valley Technical Sol...	MINADO Qtrly care - Oct-Dec 2025	297.00	11/13/2025

Southwest Regional Development Commission

Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register
From 11/1/2025 Through 11/30/2025

Session ID	Check...	Docume...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amo...	Effective Date
APS111325	61326	11/13/20...	Schaap Sanitation	Schaap 11/1/25 - 11/30/25	47.13	11/13/2025
APS111325	61326	11/13/20...	Schaap Sanitation	Schaap 11/1/25 - 11/30/25	31.42	11/13/2025
APS111325	61327	11/13/20...	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Visa closing date 11/2/25	6,095.84	11/13/2025
APS111325	61327	11/13/20...	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Visa closing date 11/2/25	63.82	11/13/2025
APS111325	61327	11/13/20...	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Visa closing date 11/2/25	21.00	11/13/2025
APS111325	61327	11/13/20...	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Visa closing date 11/2/25	20.00	11/13/2025
APS111325	61328	11/13/20...	Verizon Wireless	Verizon 10/2/25 to 11/1/25	42.60	11/13/2025
APS112025	61329	11/20/20...	Duerksen Electric, Inc.	PACE EE-RLF loan disb: Heron Lake Mini Mart	1,400.00	11/20/2025
APS112025	61330	11/20/20...	Fleet Services Division	Monthly Lease rent 10/1/25 - 10/31/25	741.24	11/20/2025
APS112025	61331	11/20/20...	GMNP - Greater MN Partnership	GMNP 2026 Membership	1,000.00	11/20/2025
APS112025	61332	11/20/20...	Marilyn Samuelson	Janitorial services Nov 2025	472.00	11/20/2025
APS112025	61332	11/20/20...	Marilyn Samuelson	Janitorial services Nov 2025	328.00	11/20/2025
APS112025	61333	11/20/20...	NCPERS Group Life Ins.	NCPERS Dec 2025	64.00	11/20/2025
APS112025	61334	11/20/20...	Quill Corporation	2 black ink cartridges	97.98	11/20/2025
APS112025	61335	11/20/20...	Yolanda Barahona	PACE EE-RLF loan disb: Nena's Bar & Grill	455.40	11/20/2025
CD112025 A...	Aflac 11	11/21/20...		Aflac Nov 2025	241.92	11/21/2025
CD112025 A...	Aflac 11	11/21/20...		Aflac Nov 2025	37.26	11/21/2025
CD112025 A...	Aflac 11	11/21/20...		Aflac Nov 2025	130.26	11/21/2025
CD111725 B...	BCBS...	11/20/20...		BCBS Dec 2025	13,040.93	11/20/2025
CD111725 ...	Wex1...	11/25/20...		Oct 2025 Wex Fees	25.75	11/25/2025
Report Total					<u>85,889.83</u>	

Account Title	November 2025 Actual	Total Budget - FY26 Operating Budget	FY26 YTD Actual	Total Budget Variance - FY26 Operating Budget	% of Overall Budget	Explanation/Comments
Tax Revenue	31,662	479,586	38,069	441,517	7.9%	When current taxes rec'd, pymts primarily rec'd in Dec and June
R9 McKnight (balance of what we rec'd upfront)	7,089	132,927	21,969	110,958	16.5%	Monthly amount is what was used of what we have
RLF Admin (Covid and Regular)	9,848	60,000	45,354	14,646	75.6%	
Contract Revenue	21,080	164,090	154,430	9,660	94.1%	Based on activity to date
PACE Loan Orig/Int/Misc	0	6,800	0	6,800	0.0%	Loan Int/Loan Orig fee mostly received in Dec & June (code 432./4656)
Rental Revenue/Bank and CD Interest Revenue	5,060	21,000	30,122	(9,122)	143.4%	Based on Billings - Yearly amt is \$75000, bill 3 times a year, 1st one is in Dec
MnDOT Revenue	0	75,000	0	75,000	0.0%	
Dept-Commerce Revenue.	20,144	191,658	89,544	102,114	46.7%	Certs (Regular), EECBG and State Comp. Grant
EDA Revenue	0	70,000	46,364	23,636	66.2%	Federal Share - Sept amt is for Aprt-June 2025. Have to request quarterly payments now
Total Revenue	94,884	1,201,061	425,853	775,208	35.5%	
Salaries & Fringe	81,429	1,142,572	443,037	699,535	38.8%	Includes FY26 Salaries/Fringe (including 15% increase to Health Insurance/H.S.A.) also includes MN Pd Leave that starts Jan 2026
Travel	6,428	60,000	25,476	34,524	42.5%	Staff Travel
Committee Expenses	1,131	34,000	8,058	25,942	23.7%	Includes Board Retreat, Orientation & Annual Meeting
Postage Expenses	1,021	5,349	2,063	3,286	38.6%	not including housing reimbursement
Insurance	(124)	5,917	5,803	114	98.1%	Insurance Dividend/Our portion of Bldg Ins,Cyber Security Ins
PACE Loan Interest Paid	0	508	0	508	0.0%	Loans were paid off in June 2025
Office Space Costs	590	15,000	3,586	11,414	23.9%	Utilities
Equipment/Building Updates	0	10,000	227	9,773	2.3%	
Communications	527	9,219	3,315	5,904	36.0%	
Printing/Publication	640	8,000	3,053	4,947	38.2%	Annual Report designed in house, sent out for printing, includes outreach items/mktg
Office Supply/Meeting Expense	282	8,000	1,287	6,713	16.1%	
Program Supply	0	0	2,137	(2,137)		Reimbursed by Contracts
Computer	495	53,000	17,592	35,408	33.2%	Includes 5 new laptops, setup and 1 docking station
Consultant/Contracted Services/Legal	0	6,000	14,210	(8,210)	236.8%	Part of the Wipfli Manual & Cost Alloc contract (was budgeted for FY25)
Audit	0	33,000	20,000	13,000	60.6%	Audits that may get done by Kinner & Co during FY26
Dues/Memberships/Other	1,000	5,000	1,000	4,000	20.0%	Includes MADO Coordination (\$2,000 per region)
Finance Fees & Exp	0	5,500	181	5,319	3.3%	
Lease Payment	2,095	23,360	10,365	12,995	44.4%	Our portion of the principal payment
Debt Service-Principal/Interest	0	11,635	0	11,635	0.0%	Paid in December to the State of MN (Princ paid, but Int is internal tracking)
Total Expenses	95,514	1,436,060	561,390	874,670	39.1%	
Revenues over Expenses	(630)	(234,999)	(135,537)			



Southwest Regional Development Commission

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Revenues	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Revised Budget	BUDGET DIFFERENCE	EXPLANATION
Tax Levy	479,586	471,544	(8,042)	3% levy increase with a delinquency allowance
Current Contracts	169,088	334,838	165,750	Based on expected earnings of contracts-See sheet -- U of M-McKnight rec'd additional \$10,000 for award, added Certs - Green Step, added Geronimo
R9 McKnight balance of what we received up front	150,000	132,927	(17,073)	R9 McKnight balance of what we received up front - 7-1 balance was \$132,927
MN Department of Transportation	75,000	75,000	-	Same
Economic Development Administration	70,000	70,000	-	
RLF- both Covid and Regular	60,000	60,000	-	
Commerce	120,000	142,792	22,792	\$290,000 over 2 yrs 4 mths, est. start March 2024, budgeted amt is est to be remaining at end of FY25
CERTS Funds	66,660	75,000	8,340	CERTS 25/26 is \$66,660 per FY, we received the FY26/27 contract, they increased the amount to \$75,000 per FY
PACE loan orig/int/misc	6,800	6,800	-	Loan int/loan orig fee mostly received in Dec and June (code 4656/4321)
Interest Earned & Miscellaneous	21,000	69,840	48,840	Bank interest/CD interest/Loan orig. fee **Building CD was cashed out by Slayton EDA, we rec'd \$34,839.75**
Total Revenues	1,218,134	1,438,741	220,607	
Expenditures	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Revised Budget	BUDGET DIFFERENCE	EXPLANATION
Committee Expense	34,000	34,000	-	Includes Orientation, Board Retreat and Annual Mtg
Salaries & Fringe	1,142,572	1,142,572	-	Includes FY26 Salaries/Fringe (including 15% increase of Health Insurance/H.I.S.A), also includes MN Paid Leave that starts January 2026
Staff Travel	60,000	60,000	-	Staff Travel
Office Space	15,000	15,000	-	Utilities (reduced significantly, because we don't come close to \$40,000 since we split costs with Housing)
Postage	5,349	5,349	-	
Communications	9,219	9,219	-	
Print/Publication/Marketing	8,000	8,000	-	Annual report designed in-house, sent out for printing, Includes outreach items/mktg
Insurance	5,917	10,000	4,083	I added Cyber Security Insurance to this
Supplies-Mtg/Wkshp Expenses	8,000	8,000	-	
Computer	53,000	56,000	3,000	Software Subscriptions, Firewall, Maintenance and Setup, ACH Fees -Website Redesign & Web Maintenance + MIP renewal (increased by 8%) + 5 laptops and setup (budgeted \$10,700 and cost ended up being \$8,315.50), adding HR Module + setup \$5,288
Audits	33,000	41,000	8,000	FY23 & FY24 Audits finished in FY26 by Kinner & Co Based on past need & increased by 10% ** part of the Wipfli contract was paid in FY26 but was originally budgeted in FY25**
Consultant/Contracted Services/Legal	6,000	24,013	18,013	
Dues/Memberships & Other	5,000	5,000	-	
Financing Fees & Other	5,500	1,000	(4,500)	
Equipment/Building updates	10,000	5,000	(5,000)	
PACE loan interest	508	-	(508)	Both the REED and REDG loans were paid off June 2025
Debt Service-Principal & Interest	11,635	10,000	(1,635)	Per schedule - we pay State of MN \$10,000/year - last pymt due is 12-31-2033
Building Lease Principal Payment	23,360	23,360	-	Per schedule (Building Lease final payment is June 2026)
Total Expenditures	1,436,060	1,457,513	21,453	
Overall Balance	(217,926)	(18,772)	199,155	
Anticipated Reserve Changes by Category				
Incr/(Decr) in Equipment Reserve	-	-	-	
Incr/(Decr) in Building Reserve	-	-	-	
Incr/(Decr) in Employee Transition Reserve	-	-	-	No planned use of reserves
Incr/(Decr) in PACE Adm for Interest	12,766	12,766	-	PACE as part of audit, using PACE interest & fees to support administration
Incr/(Decr) in Unrestricted Reserve	(230,692)	(6,006)	199,155	

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

JANUARY 2026

CEDS| EDA PLANNING

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)

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. SRDC is in the process of ensuring the CEDS committee covers all key regional areas and is in alignment with guidance from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). If you are interested in being on the CEDS committee, contact staff.

The CEDS committee is set to meet **January 21 at 9 a.m. for their kick-off meeting**. Cornerstone meetings are tentatively scheduled for, all from 1-3 p.m., and all available in-person or hybrid:

- March 16- Human Capital
- March 30- Economic Competitiveness
- April 13- Community Resources
- April 27- Foundational Assets

Individual CEDS meetings are also being scheduled to gather specific information including a conversation with Lower Sioux Indian Community that took place on December 8.

EDA – Infrastructure Projects

EDA Investment Opportunities

The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) has updated its Investment Priorities following reauthorization. Current priorities include:

- Critical Infrastructure
- Workforce Development
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Economic Resiliency
- Manufacturing

Additional information on EDA priorities and funding opportunities can be found at:

- Investment Priorities: [Investment Priorities | U.S. Economic Development Administration](#)
- Funding Opportunities: [All Funding Opportunities | U.S. Economic Development Administration](#)

EDA Disaster NOFO

The EDA Disaster Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) has been released. Projects may be eligible for up to an 80% grant award. Eligible applicants include units of government, institutions of higher education, and other entities located within FEMA-declared disaster areas.

Eligible counties in the SRDC region include: **Cottonwood, Jackson, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, and Rock.**

Staff are currently developing preliminary project plans with the following partners:

- Minnesota West – equipment and facility upgrades
- City of Windom – infrastructure improvements
- BRRRA (Nobles and Rock Counties) – additional railroad spur lines

Additional projects identified include:

- **City of Wilder and City of Windom** – wastewater sewer system improvements
- **City of Jackson** – industrial park expansion

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

JANUARY 2026

CEDS| EDA PLANNING

City of Adrian – EDA PWEAA Grant

SRDC continues to assist the City of Adrian with implementation of its funded EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance (PWEAA) grant for construction of an electric substation.

- **Total Project Cost:** \$3,258,900
- **EDA Grant Award:** \$1,629,450 (50%)

SRDC provides administrative and financial services and serves as liaison between the City of Adrian, DGR Engineering, and the EDA.

EECBG – Energy Planning for Small Communities

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program supports planning efforts for cities and counties with populations under 15,000. Eligible activities include strategies to:

- Reduce energy use
- Reduce fossil fuel emissions
- Improve energy efficiency

Key program details:

- **No local match required**
- Eligible to all cities in the SRDC region and the counties of **Cottonwood, Jackson, Lincoln, Murray, Pipestone, and Rock**

Total SRDC Allocation: \$99,959.78

- 10% reserved for project administration
- **Maximum grant award:** \$20,000 per community

Eligible planning efforts may include resiliency plans, energy audits, engineering studies, and similar activities.

Project Status

- Two agreements have been executed for **\$20,000 projects** each
- Approved by the CEDS Committee for the Cities of **Slayton and Pipestone**
- A third application was received in late December for energy audits on three municipally owned buildings
 - This application will be reviewed by the committee in early January

Outreach continues for this program. All projects must be completed by **November 2026**.

State of Manufacturing

The State of Manufacturing – Regional Presentation was held on November 12 in Redwood Falls. Highlights include results from the 2025 State of Manufacturing Survey.

Resources:

- **Presentation:** 2025 State of Manufacturing Results
- **Magazine Article:** *The State of Red Tape (Winter 2025)*



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

JANUARY 2026

CEDS| EDA PLANNING

Committees and Regional Coordination

Southwest

Minnesota Youth Committee

This committee meets quarterly to support career and technical education and to educate students and parents about local career and training opportunities.

- **Last Meeting:** November 6, 2025
- **Upcoming Meetings:** February 5, 2026 and May 7, 2026

Southwest Regional Transportation Coordinating Council (RTCC)

SRDC represents economic development interests on the council.

- **Last Meeting:** December 2, 2025
- **Next Meeting:** March 3, 2026

Friends in the Field

This quarterly group focuses on regional issues and collaboration.

- **Last Meeting:** October 8, 2025
- **Next Meeting:** January 14, 2026
 - Focus topic: **Rural Healthcare**

MADO Leadership Cohort #1

Deputy Director Weis and Community Development Director Walker attended MADO Leadership Cohort #1 on November 19–21 at Ridgewater Community and Technical College in Willmar.

The highly interactive training focused on:

- Effective communication
- Navigating workplace conflict
- Strategic planning
- Inspiring teams to excel
- Project management essentials
- Leading organizational change

The training emphasized practical application through planning tools and real-world change scenarios. The facilitator was **Corey Roskamp** from Ridgewater's Customized Training Division.

Plans are underway to host **Cohort #2** in early 2026, with **Finance Director Nelson** planning to attend.

Economic Development Planning and Leadership Future Leader Network – Rock County

Deputy Director Weis will attend a Future Leader Network session focused on economic development on February 23 at 7:00 p.m. in Rock County.

Industrial Park Strategic Planning – City of Redwood Falls

Deputy Director Weis will be working with the **City of Redwood Falls** through an **EDA Planning Grant** to support industrial park strategic planning efforts.

- **Planning Session:** January 7
- **City Council and Staff Working Session:** March 31



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

JANUARY 2026

CEDS| EDA PLANNING

Upcoming Learning and Networking Opportunities

The following upcoming events may be of interest to board members and regional partners:

- **January 15** – LYFT Career Pathways Conference
- **January 22–23** – EDAM Winter Conference
- **February 26** – Partners in Ag Innovation Conference (PIAGI 2026)

Food System Initiatives

Child Nutrition Program – Bulk Milk

There is growing interest across the region in introducing **bulk milk dispensers** within school child nutrition programs. These systems provide an innovative method for delivering cold milk while significantly reducing packaging waste.

SRDC staff have been in communication with several agencies to explore funding options and implementation requirements. Outreach will continue to identify **one to two pilot school sites** willing to support and promote a transition from traditional milk cartons to bulk milk service.

General Technical Assistance (TA)

Staff are actively seeking funding sources to conduct outreach and build relationships with **local sustainable farmers and food producers** interested in business growth and collaboration.

This initiative aims to:

- Establish a regional network of farmers and producers
- Create a platform for information sharing
- Support peer mentoring, networking, and educational opportunities

Strengthening connections across Southwest Minnesota will provide valuable long-term resources to the regional food system.

Southwest Minnesota Meat Processor Workforce Development Initiative

The **Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)** has awarded **\$250,000** to SRDC to support the **Southwest Minnesota Meat Processor Workforce Development Initiative**. Funding is provided through the MDA's **Meat Processing Train & Retain Grant Program** and supports small- to medium-sized meat and poultry processors with hiring, training, and retention of new employees.

Program Status

SRDC has entered **Year Two** of the grant contract. Progress to date includes:

- **Seven individuals** have completed or are participating in **On-the-Job Training (OJT)** experiences, supported by the **Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council for Career Services**.
- **Central Minnesota Jobs and Training** is working with **Happy Halal Meats**, which recently opened in Willmar, MN
 - **Four individuals have been hired for OJT at this facility**
 - **Ridgewater College** has one student who transferred from the Agriculture Program to the **Meat Cutting Program** this fall

REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF)

JANUARY 2026

C-RLF | TRADITIONAL RLF | CONTRACTED RLF PROGRAMS

SRDC Revolving Loan Funds

COVID-19 RLF (C-RLF) and Traditional RLF

The Revolving Loan Fund Committee consists of five members and meets on an as-needed basis. The committee oversees both the COVID-19 RLF and the Traditional RLF programs.

- **Last meeting:** October 6
- **Loans approved:** Four
- **Loan status:**
 - One loan in **Cottonwood County** has yet to close
 - Loans in **Pipestone, Nobles, and Cottonwood counties**

have recently closed.

Interest Rates

SRDC RLF projects are financed at **75% of the prime rate**, in compliance with federal regulations governing RLF awards.

The committee has received **two interest-only requests** from seasonal businesses.

Funds Available for Lending

As of **December 18, 2025**, funds available are as follows:

- **Traditional RLF:** \$540,807.68
- **C-RLF:** \$299,470.74

These balances do not reflect the most recent loan closings in Nobles and Cottonwood counties.

C-RLF funds will remain **federalized** until the seven-year requirement has been met.

Presta –

New Financial Software

SRDC has transitioned to Presta, a new financial software platform for Revolving Loan Fund applications.

- Applications can now be submitted online at:

<https://app.letspresta.com/signup/32/85>

As of **December 31, 2025**, the previous financial software (**GMS**) has been discontinued, and SRDC has fully transitioned to Presta. Staff continue to request minor software modifications, and the vendor has been responsive and accommodating.

Site Visits and Compliance

Site visits are required every **three years**, though they are conducted more frequently as needed. Annual business tax documentation continues to be collected for loan files.

Site visits are also coordinated with:

- Communication audits
- Client interviews for storytelling and outreach

RLF success stories are available on the SRDC website: <https://www.swrdc.org/regional-spotlight/>

REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF)

JANUARY 2026

C-RLF | TRADITIONAL RLF | CONTRACTED RLF PROGRAMS

Contracted Revolving Loan Funds

SRDC assists with **business start-ups, retention, expansion, and financing**, and provides administrative support for **three contracted revolving loan fund programs** within the region. SRDC is also in communication with an additional program.

Jackson County RLF

- **Active loans:** Five
- **Funds available for lending:** \$176,079.48
- **Outstanding principal:** \$303,589.83
- **Last committee meeting:** October 8, 2025

The most recent loan closed in the amount of **\$50,000** for real estate and business acquisition. The committee recently approved **interest-only requests on two loans.**



Heron Lake RLF

The Heron Lake RLF focuses on economic development within a **20-mile radius of Heron Lake** and utilizes **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** funds.

SRDC continues to assist with:

- GMS data entry
- Amortization schedules

Funds remain available for businesses requiring gap financing within the service area. One loan was recently paid in full.

Falcon Development Corporation (FDC)

Additional information on FDC is available at: <https://www.swrdc.org/revolving-loan-funds/>

FDC is a local organization supporting economic development within a **30-mile radius of Heron Lake**. These funds are **not federalized**, meaning **Davis-Bacon requirements do not apply** to construction projects.

- Board size: Six members (seven maximum)
- Last meeting: August 6, 2025

The committee recently approved an **increase to an existing loan** to accommodate an equipment purchase. FDC currently has **limited lending capacity.**

Contact Information

For questions regarding SRDC's Revolving Loan Fund or contracted RLF programs, please contact:

Robin Weis

Deputy Director

Phone: 507-836-1638

robin@swrdc.org

PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (PACE) REPORT

JANUARY 2026

General Information

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing is available to **small business property owners**, including **agri-businesses** and certain **non-profit organizations**, based on facility usage.

Board members are encouraged to help **spread the word** about PACE to property owners considering improvements that reduce energy usage and operating costs.

Interest Rate: 3% below Prime, with a 3% floor for new projects

Funds Available

As of December 2025, the following PACE funds are available:
PACE EE RLF (12/18/2025): \$79,428.01
PACE ARRA (12/22/2025): \$113,309.96
PACE SEP (12/22/2025): \$55,679.86

Loan Portfolio Status

Total PACE loans since inception: 48

- **Loans paid in full:** 9
- **Active loans:** 39

New **2026 special tax assessments** were filed prior to the start of 2026.

In 2025, **five new PACE loans** were approved in the following counties:

- **Jackson County** (3)
- **Freeborn County** (1)
- **Nobles County** (1)

Delinquencies

Currently, one PACE loan is in default due to non-payment of 2024 and 2025 property taxes. At the time of this report, it is unknown whether additional loans may enter default status pending confirmation of fall special tax assessment collections.

PACE Committee

The PACE Committee meets as needed, often in conjunction with **Rural Minnesota Energy Board (RMEB)** meeting dates.

Committee Members: Metz, Wildermuth, Wachal, VanDeVere, Paap

- **Last Meeting:** August 26, 2025

Energy Audits and Assessments

Energy assessments and audits provide valuable information to property owners and often serve as the first step toward cost-saving energy improvements.

- **The Minnesota Department of Commerce (MN DOC)** is working to expand access to energy auditors.
- **Contractor estimates** and an **energy assessment/audit** are the first two steps required for PACE financing.
- Referrals for energy audits are commonly made to:

- **RETAP**
- **MNTAP**
- **Center for Energy and Environment (CEE)**
- **EnergySmart**

Staff recently received a request for an energy assessment related to an updated grain dryer, which is an eligible PACE-financed improvement. At this time, an energy auditor has not yet been secured.

Recent **PACE success stories** are available on the SRDC website

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

JANUARY 2026

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

Solid Waste & Natural Resources

Solid Waste Commission:

The Southwest Solid Waste Commission met on **Monday, November 24, 2025**. Discussion topics included the Southwest Minnesota Solid Waste Regional 10-year Plan, regional highlights, and legislative updates. The next regular meeting is scheduled for **January 26, 2026**.

Energy

Rural Minnesota Energy Board (RMEB)

The Rural Minnesota Energy Board (RMEB) met on **November 24** at 1:00 p.m. The meeting included two project-related presentations:

- **Proposed Data Center:**

Adam Tromblay of **Nobles Cooperative** and Jordan Burmeister of **Geronimo** presented a proposal to construct a **400–450 MW** data center in Nobles County.

- **Transmission Line Project:**

Randy Fordice of **Xcel Energy** provided an overview of community meetings related to a proposed **765 kV transmission line** running from **South Dakota** through **southern Minnesota into Wisconsin**.

The next **RMEB meeting** is scheduled for **January 26, 2026**. At that meeting, Sioux Valley Energy will provide updates on their organization and broader energy industry trends.

State Competitiveness Funding – R-STEP Grant

The **Reliable Energy Siting Through Technical Engagement and Planning** (R-STEP) grant, totaling **\$1.2 million**, which had previously been paused, is now moving forward. The **U.S. Department of Energy** and the **University of Minnesota** have reached a contract agreement, with final signatures pending at the time of this report.

SRDC's role includes the following:

Year One (\$50,000):

- Develop outreach materials
- Inventory existing resources related to energy siting
- Engage RMEB members
- Create informational fact sheets

Year Two (\$100,000):

- Conduct outreach to Regional Development Organizations (RDOs) and local governments
- Develop training modules
- Host community benefits workshops
- Co-host trainings
- Support planning and process development

Community Engagement

SRDC continues to conduct **listening tours** throughout the region to **identify high-priority projects** within local communities. Staff then work to connect communities with appropriate resources to help advance those goals.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

JANUARY 2026

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

Energy and Renewable Energy Initiatives

Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) Project

SRDC is planning an organizational meeting in January with **Lincoln–Pipestone Rural Water**, followed by a project kickoff meeting in **February**.

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) will work with **Great Plains Institute (GPI)** and other partners to evaluate the benefits of **utilizing solar energy** to provide renewable power while supporting **economically viable and environmentally sustainable land-use options** in southwest Minnesota. This work is particularly relevant in areas where nitrate levels in drinking water continue to be a concern.

SRDC is serving as a **subgrantee** for this project. SRDC's role includes **coordinating and facilitating workshops** in one or two selected areas and convening cohort groups to support local engagement and collaboration.

Great Plains Institute – Carolyn Foundation Funded Work

SRDC is subcontracting with the Great Plains Institute (GPI) in the amount of **\$30,000** for work conducted from **August 2025 through December 2026**.

This effort focuses on identifying **high-priority community benefits** related to renewable energy development.

Planned tasks include:

- Community and stakeholder engagement
- Participation in statewide discussions related to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) permitting process

CERTs – McKnight Foundation

SRDC staff are working with **Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs)** at the University of Minnesota to update CERTs' website content related to energy project siting.

The updates will address siting considerations for:

- Wind
- Solar
- Energy storage
- Transmission

Current web content is outdated, and recent changes in the energy siting landscape necessitate updated, accurate information for communities and stakeholders.

Energy and Community Initiatives

City of New Ulm – Energy Assistance Project

The **City of New Ulm** received a **Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Climate Action Grant** to connect residents in an identified low-income census tract with weatherization and energy assistance services.

Grant implementation details include:

- **Minnesota Valley Action Council (MVAC):** Primary recipient responsible for installation of energy-efficient upgrades
- **Region Nine Development Commission (RNDC) and CERTs:** Providing outreach and community engagement support
- **Funding period:** Through June 30, 2026

Outreach efforts are currently being planned and will include a combination of direct mailings and on-the-ground community engagement.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

JANUARY 2026

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

Energy and Community Initiatives

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SW CERT Steering Committee – Seed Grant Review

The **Southwest CERT (SW CERT) Steering Committee** met on November 6 from **10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** to review and finalize Seed Grant applications.

Key details from the review process include:

- **Applications reviewed:** 10 total
- Including **three multi-regional** applications
- **Funding allocation:**
 - **\$45,500** per region
 - **\$15,000** designated for on-the-ground clean energy deployment projects
 - An additional **\$9,000 per region** later made available for projects by and for **marginalized**

and BIPOC communities

Funding award notifications were distributed in early December, with a statewide public announcement scheduled for the week of **January 19.**

Little Huskies Learning Center	Window Upgrades	\$8,000
City of Vesta	LED Lighting Upgrade	\$6,375
Lower Sioux Indian Community	Independent Energy Future	\$5,000
Oertel Architects	Biogenic Building Materials Repository (Hemp-lime)	\$5,125
St. James Climate Smart	Furnace Inspections and Tune-ups	\$10,000
Rock County Ag. Society	Lighting Upgrade on Fairgrounds	\$2500
Comfrey High School	LED Lighting Upgrade	\$8,500
CoNorth	Crossover Compact Heat Pump Installation	\$5,000
Rainbow Research	Clean Energy Transition Teams	\$4,000

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

JANUARY 2026

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

St. James Community Energy Ambassadors

Seventeen St. James residents were recognized as Community Energy Ambassadors on December 18, 2025. Participants of the CERTs ambassador program were from St. James Climate Smart, Convivencia Hispana, and other members of the St. James community. The participants attended two trainings on clean energy topics over the course of a week in September. Three project teams were formed after the trainings, and projects were completed in early December. The projects – the final step of the CERTification process - included a community heat pumps session at St. James Electric, an energy efficiency presentation for residents, and an energy efficiency and recycling resource share to school staff.

Land Use

City of Jasper – Zoning Ordinance Update

The **Jasper City Council** has approved a proposal for **SRDC** to update the city’s zoning ordinance. **Planner Webb** has initiated coordination with the city clerk and will begin work on the update in **February**.

Nobles County Comprehensive Planning

The next Nobles County Comprehensive Planning Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for:

- **Date:** Wednesday, January 21
- **Time:** 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Worthington

At this meeting, the Steering Committee will **review and analyze:**

- Community engagement survey results
- U.S. Census data
- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) information

The committee will also complete a **SOAR Analysis (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, and Results)**

City of Marshall – Master Parks Plan

SRDC staff, in collaboration with **City of Marshall staff**, have completed extensive community engagement efforts, including:

- **9 focus groups**
- **6 resident interviews**
- **314 community survey responses**

Survey results, along with insights from focus groups and interviews, will be analyzed and incorporated into the **Master Parks Plan document**.

Next steps include developing visual concepts based on the **community outreach** conducted this fall. These visuals will be presented to residents for voting and prioritization of park improvements to be included in the final plan.

Geronimo – Nobles County Economic Impact Analysis

In December, SRDC staff completed a first draft of an **economic impact analysis** evaluating a low-density, six-building data center scenario for Nobles County.

Geronimo has since requested evaluation of an **alternative high-density scenario** involving fewer buildings. Once updated technical information is received, staff will finalize the report.

TRANSPORTATION REPORT

NOVEMBER 2025

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

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

MnDOT is currently completing a statewide functional classification road review. The SRDC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) met on November 12 to review the proposed changes and provide recommendations to MnDOT.

Area Transportation Partnerships (ATP)

- **ATP 7:**
 - Next Meeting: Friday, January 7 at 10:00 a.m.
 - Location: Mankato
- **ATP 8:**
 - Next Meeting: Friday, December 12 at 10:00 a.m.
 - Location: Willmar

Transportation Planning

Active Transportation Planning Grant

The Active Transportation Planning Grants support communities of all sizes in developing action plans with assistance from a consultant. These plans:

- **Analyze existing conditions**
- **Engage community members**
- **Identify infrastructure and network improvements**
- **Recommend policies and programs** to promote walking and bicycling

“An active transportation action plan can help your community become the best version of itself,” said Will Wlizlo, Active Transportation Coordinator at MnDOT. “Transportation networks that focus on walking and bicycling connect people with important places in their communities. Active transportation also improves local health outcomes, reduces pollution, spurs economic activity, and increases connections between neighbors.”

Application solicitation closes: **January**

Safe Routes to School – Marshall

Planner Webb is working to organize a Safe Routes to School Coalition in Marshall. Community partners include:

- Marshall School District
- Southwest Health and Human Services (SHIP)
- Lyon County 4-H

The coalition received a **\$1,500** grant from the Marshall Community Foundation and plans to pursue additional funding to support:

- **Programming**
- **Education initiatives**
- **New gear and supplies** for crossing guards



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

JANUARY 2026

Solid Waste Planning

Comments were received from the **Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)** in mid-December on the South-west Regional Solid Waste Plan. MPCA staff requested that the plan be updated to replace **2022 solid waste data with 2024 data**.

I met with MPCA staff on **December 30** to discuss the requested changes. The plan is to present the revised Solid Waste Plan to the **Solid Waste Commission for final approval at their January meeting**.

Minnesota Association of Development Organizations (MADO) Executive Directors Meeting

MADO Executive Directors met during the first week of December in Mankato, with **Region 9** serving as host.

- **Region 9 Executive Director** Nicole Griensewic has resigned.
- Deputy Director **Jessica Beyer** is serving as **Acting Director** until a successor is named.

The meeting agenda included:

- A discussion with the **MnDOT Commissioner** regarding increasing funding levels for RDC planning contracts
 - Legislative priorities for MADO, including:
 - Continuing to pursue increased MnDOT planning contract funding
 - Seeking access to state planning dollars for RDCs similar to funding secured by **CEDA**
 - A follow-up discussion with the **Minnesota Office of Long-Range Planning**

Region 8 (SRDC) will host the next MADO Executive Directors meeting.

Additionally, **Bob Voss**, Executive Director of **East Central RDC (Mora)**, will retire on **January 15, 2026**. Their commission continues the search for his replacement. A follow-up discussion with the Minnesota Office of Long-Range Planning

MADO Training

and Professional Development

The **MADO Training Series** has begun, starting with **Finance Training**, followed by the first cohort of **Leadership Training**.

- **Finance Training** attendees: Melissa and Jodi
- **Leadership Training** attendees: Jason and Robin

Survey results indicate both trainings were largely successful, with feedback suggesting the material may be better absorbed if delivered over a longer timeframe.

MADO is currently:

- Scheduling **Leadership Cohort #2**
- Exploring opportunities for **writing-focused training**

The **MADO All-Staff Retreat** is scheduled for **April 29 – May 1** in St. Cloud. Much of the training and retreat expenses are funded through a **McKnight Foundation grant**.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

JANUARY 2026

Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Annual Conference

I attended the **Association of Minnesota Counties Annual Conference** in **Bloomington** during the second week of December. As in past years, I assisted in staffing the **MADO booth** at the Vendor Fair.

The AMC Conference provides an important opportunity for RDCs to connect with **County Board members from across the state**, particularly those serving on RDC commissions. I have attended this conference since **Gene Short** served as both SRDC Chair and AMC President and have consistently found it valuable for relationship-building and initiating discussions that have led to SRDC projects.

Board Retreat Planning

We will be working to schedule the **SRDC Board Retreat** this coming spring. Traditionally held in the fall, this year's workload made fall scheduling challenging.

Thank you to **Commissioner Anderson** for the suggestion to focus the retreat on **SRDC's history**, including how the organization became involved in its current program areas and how existing practices evolved.

Legislative Activity

The **Legislative Committee** met in December prior to the Board meeting. Legislative priorities include:

- Supporting a **bonding bill** to assist local communities with infrastructure needs
- Supporting MADO's effort to increase funding for **MnDOT planning grants**.

Audit Update

The **FY 2024 audit** has been completed and approved. FY 2025 concluded on **June 30, 2025**, and SRDC is nearing full alignment with its audit cycle. Auditors anticipate SRDC will be fully caught up and returned to a normal audit schedule by **late summer 2026**.

Building Ownership Update

SRDC and the **Housing Partnership** are scheduled to take over ownership of the building in **June**. Staff are exploring the formation of an **LLC** to hold ownership of the property, with each organization holding an ownership share consistent with the original agreement.





Calendar Year
2026
BOARD & FULL COMMISSION
Meeting Dates & Times

**Meeting locations are tentative. Confirmed meeting locations will be announced prior to all Board of Directors and Full Commission Meetings. Location details will be updated via meeting notice and on the SRDC website (www.swrdc.org)*

FULL COMMISSION
Thursday, Jan. 8th, 2026
3:30 p.m.
Slayton (4-H Building)

Thursday, Mar. 12th, 2026
3:30 p.m.
Slayton (4-H Building)

Thursday, May 14th, 2026
3:30 p.m.
Nobles County

ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, July 9th, 2026
4:00 p.m.
(Location TBD)

Thursday, Sept. 10th, 2026
3:30 p.m.
Cottonwood County

Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026
3:30 p.m.
Slayton (4-H Building)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Thursday, February 12th, 2026
3:30 p.m.
SRDC Board Room

Thursday, April 9th, 2026
3:30 p.m.
SRDC Board Room

Thursday, June 11th, 2026
3:30 p.m.
SRDC Board Room

NO MEETING IN AUGUST

Thursday, Oct 8th, 2026
3:30 p.m.
SRDC Board Room

Thursday, Dec. 10th, 2026
3:30 p.m.
SRDC Board Room



**2401 Broadway Avenue, Suite 1
Slayton, MN 56172**

www.srdc.org