



SRDC

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Building
STRONGER
COMMUNITIES

CREATING
BRIGHTER
FUTURES

ANNUAL MEETING



STRONGER
INFRASTRUCTURE



THRIVING
COMMUNITIES



SUSTAINABLE
GROWTH



ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITY



REGIONAL
PARTNERSHIPS



THURSDAY, JULY 9TH
AT 4:00 P.M.



HERITAGE EVENT CENTER
TAUNTON, MN



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

www.swrdc.org

Southwest Regional Development Commission—Full Commission

* Board of Directors

Commissioner	Representing
Rick Anderson	Lyon County Commissioners, SRDC Treasurer*
Kent Bargfrede	Jackson County Commissioners
Carol Biren	Health and Human Services
Leah Bittner	Redwood County Municipalities
Kristie Blankenship	Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership
Scott Blom	Pipestone County Township
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
Tim Jones	SW Private Industry Council
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
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

SRDC
FULL COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, July 9, 2026
4:00 p.m.

Heritage Event Center
3621 County Highway 8, Taunton, MN

AGENDA

#	Time		Page
1	4:00	Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance	
2	4:05	Welcome—	
3	4:10	Introductions	
4	4:15	Additions to and Approval of Agenda Action Needed: Approve Agenda	
5	4:15	Resignation Approval Approve JoEllen Benson resignation – Rock Co. Township Rep Action Needed: Approval of JoEllen Benson Resignation	
6	4:20	Commissioner Appointment to the Board of Directors Approve Dennis Madison as the Rock Co. Representative Action Needed: Approval of Dennis Madison to board of directors	
7	4:25	Meeting Minutes ☐ May 7, 2026 FC Meeting Minutes ☐ June 11, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes Action Needed: Approval of Meeting Minutes Items	5-10 11-13
8	4:30	Finance Reports— <i>Treasurer Anderson & Finance Director Nelson</i> - May Receipts & Expenditures - Treasurer's Report, including bank accounts & investments Action Needed: Approval of Treasurer's Report - Administrative Report May 2026 Action Needed: Approval of Administrative Report	14-18 19 20
9		Project Review Skandia Wildlife Management Area Stream and Wetland Restoration -- <i>Planner Webb</i>	21
10	4:35	Guest Speaker – <i>Kim Nagle – Author and Business Coach</i> - Introduction --<i>Chairman Langseth</i> - Presentation - Q & A	22

11		Legislative Reports — <i>Committee Chair Carney</i> Legislative Comments: Region 8 Area Legislators and Legislative Staff attending the meeting will be introduced and will have an opportunity to provide comments on the 2026 Legislative Session	
12	5:20	2026 Project of the Year Award — <i>Chairman Langseth</i> • Little Explorers Child Care Center Presentation of award to Jamie Gillund	23
13	5:30	Executive Director's Address — <i>Executive Director Trusty</i>	
14	5:40	Chairman's Address – <i>Chairman Langseth</i>	
15	5:45	Election of Officers — <i>Chairman Langseth</i> • Secretary, 1-year term • Treasurer, 1-year term Action Needed: Elect Officers	
16	5:55	SRDC FY2026 Highlights	24-32
17	5:55	Announcements • No August Meeting – September full commission will be in Cottonwood County – Location TBD • Commissioner vacancies: Murray County and Rock County Townships, School Board Rep, Lower Sioux, and Cultural Diversity. • Closed Monday, September 7 th in honor of Labor Day	
17	5:55	Adjournment Followed by supper catered by Country House Catering, Lake Benton	



MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Paul Langseth, Commissioners Rick Anderson, Carrie Bendix, JoEllen Benson, Carol Biren, Leah Bittner, Bob Byrnes, Miron Carney, Pam Cooreman, Lori Grant, Donna Gravley, Mark Haberman, Rod Hamilton, Eric Hartman, Tim Jones, Ron Kottke, Tiffany Lesmeister-Knott, Dennis Madison, Jenny Quade, Craig Rubis, Mic VanDeVere, Rick Von Holdt and Dennis Welgraven

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Kent Bargfrede, Kristie Blankenship (excused), Scott Blom (excused), Dan Delaney, Chris Hollingsworth, Lyndon Johnson, Steve Kellen (excused), Jeff Moen (excused), Bob Paplow, David Sturrock, Sherri Thompson and Bob Van Hee (excused)

GUESTS PRESENT: Chris & Amanda Knoll

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Jay Trusty, Nadya Bucklin, Sheila Crowley, 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

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Quade to approve the agenda as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-22, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENT

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Byrnes to approve the appointment of Tim Jones as the representative for SW MN Private Industry Council on the Commission. Upon vote taken: Ayes-22, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

- M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Welgraven and seconded by Commissioner Hartman to approve March revenue and expenditures report, March 12, 2026 full commission minutes, April 9, 2026 board of directors meeting minutes, the Lyon Co comprehensive plan amendment, EECBG grant for the City of Comfrey and the extension for the State Competitiveness grant. Upon vote taken: Ayes-22, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer Anderson referred Commissioners to the Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2026, showing bank accounts and fund designations. He noted a CD that is coming due at the end of May. There were no questions.

- M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner VanDeVere and seconded by Commissioner Madison to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-22, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Finance Director Nelson reviewed the Administrative Report through the end of March 2026. She pointed out some line items.

- M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Carney and seconded by Commissioner Cooreman to approve the Administrative Report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-22, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

RESULTS OF FY2027 PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Langseth reported that the Public Hearing on the SRDC's FY2027 Budget was held before today's meeting with no comments being heard. Chairman Langseth requested Commissioner questions and comments on the FY2027 Budget. There were no questions or comments.

- M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Gravley and seconded by Commissioner Haberman to accept the Public Hearing Results as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-22, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

A. Budget & Personnel Committee Report

Treasurer Anderson referred Commissioners to the FY27 budget. Executive Director Trusty explained the FY27 work program.

- M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Welgraven to approve the FY27 budget and work program as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-22, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

B. Legislative Committee Report

Committee Chair Carney re-capped the legislative session to date. There are 4 days left of the session. Republican Senate District 21 candidate Chris Knoll was present and gave comment on the session.

C. Deep Dive

Executive Director Trusty gave a deep dive into the work plan.

D. Economic Development Report

Executive Director Trusty noted that the CEDS cornerstone meetings have been held and information gathered. In September a housing forum will be held with the SW MN Housing Partnership. The CEDS is due December 31, 2026. Commissioner Hamilton gave a shoutout to Economic Development Specialist Murphy and her work with the cornerstone meetings.

The EDA Disaster NOFO has been released. Staff continue to work with the City of Adrian on their EDA grant. An additional \$25,000 has been requested under the EECBG grant to support two pending applications.

E. Revolving Loan Fund Report

The RLF fund has approximately \$428,600 and CRLF has approximately \$371,000 available to lend out. Committee Chair Byrnes reported there are 2 loans approved that have not closed yet for a total of \$160,000 and 2 loans that closed in April for a total of \$160,000.

PACE

ARRA has approximately \$119,000, SEP has approximately \$59,600 and EE RLF has approximately \$79,500 available to lend out. There have been 4 PACE applications started. Energy audits are scheduled for the week of May 11 for several businesses in our region.

F. Community Development Report

The Rural MN Energy Board (RMEB) will meet June 1, 2026 with Nathan Meyer from Climate Adaption Partnership and Val Stori from Great Plains Institute presenting. A \$100,000 contract for work with Green Ammonia was received. Community Development Director Walker will attend a conference on Green Ammonia in June in Morris.

Work under the Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) is moving forward. A solar developer is being sought for this project.

Planner Webb presented the Zoning Ordinance Update to the City of Jasper at their meeting on May 12, 2026. The Nobles County Comprehensive Plan is about half done. Work group meetings continue on this plan. The Marshall Master Parks plan is about

80% done. Visual park improvement plans are being worked on and will be presented to the community this fall.

Planner Bucklin is working on outreach for the electric school bus grant program. The grant could be used to purchase electric buses, re-power current buses, or install charging stations. Another round of funding for solar on public buildings has been announced. To be eligible for these grants the project must be located in an Xcel Energy territory.

RSDP staff collected energy use data for the Tacos Coahuila food truck. The UofM extension staff will evaluate the information to see if the current battery can be used with a solar panel to operate this truck.

Five applications for the region were submitted to the Empowering Small MN Communities with applications being reviewed the end of May.

Bucklin, Walker and Weis attended the CERTs Community Gathering in Waite Park in March. Discussion focused on building community-based clean energy in Minnesota.

G. Transportation Report

ATP 7 will meet June 12 and ATP 8 will meet June 26 to discuss long range planning. Safe Routes to School planning and infrastructure grants will be open this year. MnDOT has updated their cost participation policy to cap local project match at .8% of the jurisdiction's adjusted net tax capacity.

H. Executive Director's Report

Greg Bucher, attorney with Stoneberg, Giles & Stroup will be the SRDC's new general counsel now that attorney Ben VanderKooi has retired. Work continues on building ownership as the final payment will be made in June, 2026.

SRDC board retreat was held April 8-9 and the MADO all state staff retreat was held April 29-May 1.

I. Communications Report

Bucklin, Communications Specialist Crowley and Murphy attended the Writing with Purpose workshop. Time was spent with great speakers on the fundamentals of strong writing.

J. Chairman's Report

Chair Langseth gave an update on the SRDC annual meeting on July 9th. The awards committee decided on Little Explorer's Daycare Center in Ghent for the project of the year. Nominating committee will determine who will run for Treasurer and Secretary. Langseth encouraged commissioners to attend the bus tour as well as the annual meeting.

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

A. Lyon County Commissioners

Commissioner Anderson gave an update on Lyon County. Some highlights included that work continues on their budget and they are looking at cuts to balance the budget. Garvin Park received their fourth legacy grant for updates to the camping area. Discussion on C&D waste and what to do with it. There is a regional landfill meeting coming up. Lyon County is operating a pilot project to test evaporator technology for landfill leachate, aiming to address "forever chemicals" (PFAS). Curly-leaf pondweed has been found in a lake in Lyon County now, so treatment options are being explored.

B. Cottonwood County Municipalities

Commissioner Quade gave an update on the cities in Cottonwood County. Highlights included: Westbrook-their town celebration will be June 24-28. They put a new liner in their pool and enlarged the pool deck. Grants are being sought for their Phase 2 sewer project. Storden-unveiled a new Town and Country Days logo for their celebration on July 25. Their 125th celebration will be in 2028. New fiber optic has been laid in town. Jeffers-their town celebration will be July 10-12. The grant they applied for to refurbish the water tower was not funded so they continue to look for more help. Their firehall update grant application has advanced passed the first round. Bingham Lake-New houses and business expansions have been happening. Ash trees are being taken down in the city park. Mountain Lake-a 12-unit apartment complex is being built along with a new hotel and ambulance garage/fire hall. There are lots for sale in the Lakeview Estates addition. Windom-the city is reviewing 3 proposals to buy their fiber internet/ phone infrastructure. A new daycare with 73 spots is set to open in September. The EDA has in-home childcare grants and loans available for retention and startup daycares. Flooding caused damage to the city pool, they are waiting for word from FEMA on help in replacing it. A half percent sales tax will be on the November ballot. If passed that money will help fund a new pool and construct flood mitigation and a picnic shelter in Island Park. There are lots for single-family housing available. Electric meters have been updated in the city. Kastle Kingdom Park was torn down for safety reasons, so they are trying to raise \$600,000 to replace it.

C. Jackson County Townships

Commissioner Kottke gave an update on Jackson County Townships. Some highlights included: parts of Jackson County are in the Geronimo Power area that Geronimo is working on building up. Aging infrastructure is an issue. There is concern over the major costs of maintaining the roads during construction. The Jackson County engineer is working with Geronimo regarding road conditions before and after the construction. There is hope that production tax will help the townships' budgets.

D. Public Interest Group - Economic Development

Commissioner Hamilton gave an update on economic development. He was grateful for Weis coordinating the ED Pros meetings again. There is a lot of good information shared at these meetings. He encouraged all economic development staff to attend these meetings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Langseth adjourned the meeting at 5:15 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, Miron Carney, Donna Gravley, Mark Haberman, Eric Hartman, Mic VanDeVere, and Dennis Welgraven

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners JoEllen Benson (excused), Bob Byrnes (excused), Chris Hollingsworth (excused), Bob VanHee (excused) and Rick Von Holdt (excused)

GUESTS PRESENT: Jeff Moen, SRDC Full Commission member

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS/APPROVAL

Letter to MnDOT was added under the Legislative report.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Gravley and seconded by Commissioner Carney to approve the updated agenda. Upon vote taken: Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner VanDeVere and seconded by Commissioner Hartman to approve the April Receipts and Expenditures report. Upon vote taken: Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer Anderson referred Commissioners to the Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2026, showing bank accounts and fund designations. Anderson advised the CD that came due on May 30, 2026 has been renewed for 1 year. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Welgraven to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Executive Director Trusty reviewed the Administrative Report through the end of April 2026. He pointed out some line items. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Carney and seconded by Commissioner VanDeVere to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Anderson reviewed the FY27 Depositories Designations. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Hartman to approve the FY27 Depositories Designations. Upon vote taken: Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Anderson reviewed the FY27 Fund Balance Designations. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner VanDeVere to approve the FY27 Fund Balance Designations. Upon vote taken: Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Executive Director Trusy reviewed the FY27 Indirect Cost Report. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Gravley and seconded by Commissioner Haberman to approve the FY27 Indirect Cost Report. Upon vote taken: Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

A. Legislative Committee Report

Committee Chair Carney gave a summary of the legislative session. Some highlights were the passing of a \$1.24 billion capital investment bill and an omnibus tax bill passed with some federal tax uniformity. A bonding bill was passed with big ticket infrastructure projects, temporary cut to the vehicle tax and tab cost to the 2022 rates.

Trusty presented a letter to the Commissioner of MnDOT requesting an increase in funding for RDOs.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Carney to approve the letter to MnDOT as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-8, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

B. Deep Dive

Economic Development Specialist Murphy gave a deep dive on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document that is due to EDA by December 31, 2026.

C. Executive Director's Report

Trusty attended a meeting with the Federal Reserve bank at their offices. Discussion focused on housing, daycare and data centers.

Some staff will be participating in CPR/First Aid training.

MADO Executive Directors met with transit staff regarding RDCs doing transit plans for MnDOT. They have done this in the past and that was extra revenue for RDCs. MnDOT is looking at having 1 consultant do all the plans. They also discussed the CEDS report due at the end of the year.

The final items needing updated in the Southwest Solid Waste Plan have been done. Next step is review and public comment.

D. Chairman's Report

The data center in Nobles County has been defeated. Townships are back meeting now that planting is complete.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Langseth adjourned the meeting at 4:45 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 5/1/2026 Through 5/31/2026

Session ID	Check...	Docume...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amo...	Effective Date
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Nadya N. Bucklin	Employee: BucklinN; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	2,062.90	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	2,474.48	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	445.29	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	1,746.07	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	1,439.03	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	13.65	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	4.58	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Kimberly Murphy	Employee: MurphyK; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	1,777.94	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Melissa Nelson	Employee: NelsonM; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	2,554.91	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	1,569.80	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	161.76	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	66.93	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Jayne I. Trusty	Employee: TrustyJ; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	3,138.38	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Jason L. Walker	Employee: WalkerJ; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	2,532.86	5/14/2026
PRS051426	05142...	5/14/2026	Christopher S. Webb	Employee: WebbC; Pay Date: 5/14/2026	2,161.71	5/14/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	JoEllen M. Benson	JoEllen Benson 5/14/26 Meeting	62.35	5/26/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	JoEllen M. Benson	JoEllen Benson 5/14/26 Meeting	50.00	5/26/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	JoEllen M. Benson	Employee: BucklinN; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	2,106.38	5/28/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Nadya N. Bucklin	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	2,177.67	5/28/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	502.54	5/28/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Robin R. Weis	Mark Haberman 5/14/26 Meeting	50.00	5/26/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Mark A Haberman	Mark Haberman 5/14/26 Meeting	29.00	5/26/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Mark A Haberman	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	1,680.56	5/28/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	65.47	5/28/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Sheila F. Crowley	Pamela Cooreman 3/12/26 Meeting	50.00	5/26/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Pamela J. Stimpert Cooreman	Pamela Cooreman 3/12/26 Meeting	42.78	5/26/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Pamela J. Stimpert Cooreman	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	1,448.10	5/28/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	9.12	5/28/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Jodi L. Klein	Paul Langseth 5/14/26 Meeting	50.00	5/26/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Paul Langseth	Paul Langseth 5/14/26 Meeting	8.70	5/26/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Paul Langseth	Employee: MurphyK; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	1,777.94	5/28/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Kimberly Murphy	Rick Anderson 5/14/26 Meeting	76.85	5/26/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Richard Anderson	Rick Anderson 5/14/26 Meeting	50.00	5/26/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Richard Anderson	Employee: NelsonM; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	2,379.80	5/28/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Melissa Nelson	Employee: NelsonM; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	91.35	5/26/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Robert J. Byrnes	Robert Byrnes 5/14/26 Meeting	50.00	5/26/2026
AP052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Robert J. Byrnes	Robert Byrnes 5/14/26 Meeting	1,639.91	5/28/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	94.81	5/28/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 5/28/2026		

Southwest Regional Development Commission

Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register

From 5/1/2026 Through 5/31/2026

Session ID	Check...	Docume...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amo...	Effective Date
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	50.20	5/28/2026
APS052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Ronald Kottke	Ronald Kottke 5/14/26 Meeting	59.45	5/26/2026
APS052626	05282...	5/26/2026	Ronald Kottke	Ronald Kottke 5/14/26 Meeting	50.00	5/26/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Jayne I. Trusty	Employee: TrustyJ; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	3,138.38	5/28/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Jason L. Walker	Employee: WalkerJ; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	2,532.84	5/28/2026
PRS052826	05282...	5/28/2026	Christopher S. Webb	Employee: WebbC; Pay Date: 5/28/2026	1,973.21	5/28/2026
APS050726	61527	5/7/2026	Above the Fold	Above the Fold: Public Hearing Notice	28.76	5/7/2026
APS050726	61528	5/7/2026	Citizen Publishing Co. (Cotton...	Fiscal Year 2027 Notice	43.60	5/7/2026
APS050726	61529	5/7/2026	City of Slayton	City of Slayton 3/27/26 to 4/27/26	63.45	5/7/2026
APS050726	61529	5/7/2026	City of Slayton	City of Slayton 3/27/26 to 4/27/26	58.55	5/7/2026
APS050726	61530	5/7/2026	Column Software PBC	Rwd Gazette & The Globe: Public hearing notices	96.32	5/7/2026
APS050726	61531	5/7/2026	Culligan Water Conditioning	9 bottles water, 2 bags salt; cooler rental	100.70	5/7/2026
APS050726	61531	5/7/2026	Culligan Water Conditioning	9 bottles water, 2 bags salt; cooler rental	13.20	5/7/2026
APS050726	61532	5/7/2026	Forum Communications Com...	Explore: Tourism digital dglobe.com April 2026	2,000.00	5/7/2026
APS050726	61533	5/7/2026	Grants Management Systems...	Monthly lic, warr, service & support; EDA annual support	145.00	5/7/2026
APS050726	61533	5/7/2026	Grants Management Systems...	Monthly lic, warr, service & support; EDA annual support	40.00	5/7/2026
APS050726	61534	5/7/2026	Jason Nielsen	Jason Nielsen 4/7/26 RLF Mtg	50.00	5/7/2026
APS050726	61535	5/7/2026	Livewire Printing Company	Livewire Public Hearing Notice	51.44	5/7/2026
APS050726	61536	5/7/2026	Northwest Gas	NW Gas 3/20/26 to 4/22/26	147.99	5/7/2026
APS050726	61536	5/7/2026	Northwest Gas	NW Gas 3/20/26 to 4/22/26	98.70	5/7/2026
APS050726	61537	5/7/2026	One Office Solution	Meter reading	226.41	5/7/2026
APS050726	61538	5/7/2026	Pipestone Publishing Compan...	Pipestone Publishing sub to 4.14.27	72.00	5/7/2026
APS050726	61539	5/7/2026	Redwood County Recorder	RLF: Manthei satis of mtg, rel rents; G3 satis of mtg	138.00	5/7/2026
APS050726	61540	5/7/2026	Schaap Sanitation	Schaap 5/1/26 - 5/31/26	44.99	5/7/2026
APS050726	61540	5/7/2026	Schaap Sanitation	Schaap 5/1/26 - 5/31/26	30.00	5/7/2026
APS050726	61541	5/7/2026	Sheila Crowley	Sheila Crowley: Reimb for ChatGPT subscription x2 mos	100.00	5/7/2026
APS050726	61542	5/7/2026	Slayton EDA	EDA Lease May 2026	4,382.61	5/7/2026
APS050726	61543	5/7/2026	SRDC	Falcon Expenses - Feb - Apr 2026	626.25	5/7/2026
APS050726	61544	5/7/2026	The Computer Man, Inc.	Veeam Data Cloud Microsoft 365 per user monthly - April (10)	26.30	5/7/2026
APS050726	61545	5/7/2026	Tollefson Publishing	Rock Co Star Herald: Public Hearing Notice	63.00	5/7/2026
APS050726	61546	5/7/2026	Wheel - Herald	Wheel Herald Public Hearing Notice April 2026	28.75	5/7/2026
APS050726	61547	5/7/2026	Woodstock Communications	May 1 - May 31, 2026	74.98	5/7/2026
APS050726	61547	5/7/2026	Woodstock Communications	May 1 - May 31, 2026	74.97	5/7/2026

Southwest Regional Development Commission

Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register

From 5/1/2026 Through 5/31/2026

Session ID	Check...	Docume...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amo...	Effective Date
APS051426	61548	5/14/2026	Abila	Abila HR Module, HR setup, DEF file	648.50	5/14/2026
APS051426	61549	5/14/2026	Chandler Co-Op	Chandler Coop April 2026	39.25	5/14/2026
APS051426	61550	5/14/2026	Fleet Services Division	Monthly lease rent 4/1/26 - 4/30/26	773.10	5/14/2026
APS051426	61551	5/14/2026	Frontier Communications	Frontier 5078360034 5/10/26 to 6/9/26	893.85	5/14/2026
APS051426	61551	5/14/2026	Frontier Communications	Frontier 5078360034 5/10/26 to 6/9/26	481.31	5/14/2026
APS051426	61552	5/14/2026	NCPERS Group Life Ins.	NCPERS June 2026	64.00	5/14/2026
APS051426	61553	5/14/2026	Nobles County Auditor/Treas...	2026 PACE special assessment maint. fee	24.00	5/14/2026
APS051426	61554	5/14/2026	Slayton Electric, Inc.	Replace ballasts	116.51	5/14/2026
APS051426	61554	5/14/2026	Slayton Electric, Inc.	Replace ballasts	77.67	5/14/2026
APS051426	61555	5/14/2026	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Closing date 5/1/26	1,427.79	5/14/2026
APS051426	61555	5/14/2026	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Closing date 5/1/26	100.00	5/14/2026
APS051426	61555	5/14/2026	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Closing date 5/1/26	40.00	5/14/2026
APS051426	61555	5/14/2026	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Closing date 5/1/26	10.50	5/14/2026
APS051426	61556	5/14/2026	Verizon Wireless	Verizon 5/2/26 - 6/1/26	42.60	5/14/2026
APS051426	61557	5/14/2026	XCEL Energy	Xcel Energy 4/6/26 - 5/5/26	301.02	5/14/2026
APS051426	61557	5/14/2026	XCEL Energy	Xcel Energy 4/6/26 - 5/5/26	200.68	5/14/2026
APS052026	61558	5/20/2026	Andrew Wieneke & Michele ...	CRLF Loan Disb: Andrew & Michele Wieneke, AJ's Tree Service	150,000.00	5/20/2026
APS052026	61559	5/20/2026	H&S Sisters, LLC	Refund: RLF Loan Agreement Balance - H&S Sisters	220.50	5/20/2026
APS052826	61560	5/28/2026	Abila	Abila Multiple Clouds 6/26/25 to 7/25/25; HR Module	1,002.62	5/28/2026
APS052826	61561	5/28/2026	Boerboom Seed & Consulting	Boerboom Seed: Spring Lawn Application	88.67	5/28/2026
APS052826	61561	5/28/2026	Boerboom Seed & Consulting	Boerboom Seed: Spring Lawn Application	59.14	5/28/2026
APS052826	61562	5/28/2026	Central MN Jobs & Training S...	Meat Train & Retain	15,421.02	5/28/2026
APS052826	61563	5/28/2026	David R. Samuelson	Mowing May 2026	99.00	5/28/2026
APS052826	61563	5/28/2026	David R. Samuelson	Mowing May 2026	66.00	5/28/2026
APS052826	61564	5/28/2026	Marilyn Samuelson	Janitorial services May 2026	472.00	5/28/2026
APS052826	61564	5/28/2026	Marilyn Samuelson	Janitorial services May 2026	328.00	5/28/2026
APS052826	61565	5/28/2026	Quill Corporation	Black toner for 555, legal pads	615.66	5/28/2026
APS052826	61566	5/28/2026	Slayton Municipal Gas	Slayton Gas 4/22/26 to 5/19/26	55.48	5/28/2026
APS052826	61566	5/28/2026	Slayton Municipal Gas	Slayton Gas 4/22/26 to 5/19/26	36.98	5/28/2026
APS052826	61567	5/28/2026	Southwest Tour & Travel	Annual Meeting: SW Tour & Travel bus rental deposit	100.00	5/28/2026
APS052826	61568	5/28/2026	Southwest Minnesota Private ...	SW MN Meat Train & Retain	1,263.10	5/28/2026
CD052026 Aflac	Aflac ...	5/26/2026		Aflac May 2026	241.92	5/26/2026
CD052026 Aflac	Aflac ...	5/26/2026		Aflac May 2026	37.26	5/26/2026
CD052026 Aflac	Aflac ...	5/26/2026		Aflac May 2026	130.26	5/26/2026

Southwest Regional Development Commission
 Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register
 From 5/1/2026 Through 5/31/2026

Session ID	Check...	Docume...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amo...	Effective Date
CD051926 BCBS	BCBS..	5/20/2026	BlueCross Blue Shield of MN	BCBS June 2026	14,954.72	5/20/2026
CD051426 Wex	Wex4...	5/25/2026	Wex Health, Inc.	April 2026 Wex Fees	25.75	5/25/2026
Report Total					243,732.53	

**TREASURER'S REPORT
MONTH END June 30, 2026**

Bank Account Information

INVESTMENTS -General Fund

Bank	Amount	Due Date	APY Interest Rate
United Prairie Bank - Worthington	\$ 114,178.82	5/30/2027	3.81%
Minnwest Bank	100,000.00	02/21/27	3.50%
Currie State Bank-Currie (X8562)	126,473.79	09/02/26	3.90%
Currie State Bank-Currie (X0010)	107,343.11	08/26/26	3.90%
First Independent Bank/Intrafi (X8022 - X4763)	101,997.72	01/22/27	3.91%
First Independent Bank/Intrafi (X2281 - X4747)	101,997.72	01/22/27	3.91%
Magic Fund	100,013.49	11/27/26	4.55%

NOTE: We currently have extra security at Minnwest Bank-Slayton to allow deposits above FDIC limits

TOTAL INVESTMENTS	752,004.65
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ACCOUNTS-Dedicated and Undedicated Funds Program Accounts

		6/30/2026
Minnwest Bank South-Slayton	Checking	\$ 2,938.50
Minnwest Bank South-Slayton	Savings	490,572.01
Minnwest Bank South-Slayton	Savings-F & H	22,440.05
First Independent Bank-Russell	Savings	86,749.03
United Prairie Bank-Worthington	Savings	61,155.58
Jackson Federal S&L (Worthington Federal S&L)	Savings	85,459.81
TOTAL CASH ACCOUNTS	\$	749,314.98

Committed to: Employee Transition Designation	(8,625.70)
Committed to: Acquisition of Capital Assets-Equipment	(70,000.00)
Committed to: Acquisition of Capital Assets-Building	(274,279.29)
Committed to: Unemployment Claims	(83,859.63)
TOTAL DEDICATED FUNDS	\$ (436,764.62)

	6/30/2026	6/30/2025
Total Investments	\$ 752,004.65	\$ 749,082.17
Total Cash Accounts	\$ 749,314.98	\$ 858,632.27
Total Dedicated Funds	\$ (436,764.62)	\$ (434,237.95)
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR CASHFLOW	\$ 1,064,555.01	\$ 1,173,476.49

SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNTS-NonAdministrative

EDA Planning Funds	\$ 51	
EDA Revolving Loan Funds-(business loans only)	457,141	
C-EDA Revolving Loan Funds-(business loans only)	207,502	
PACE Funds-EE-RLF	84,636	
PACE Funds-(loans only)	148,161	
PACE Funds-SEP-(loans only)	65,534	
PACE Funds-(Electric Companies-funds to pay off Counties & admin)	29,469	
PACE (County Funds used to pay down on REED loan) \$88,704	-	starting December 2026
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS	\$ 992,496	

PACE Loan Funds
298,332

Account Title	May 2026 Actual	Total Budget - FY26 Revised Operating Budget	FY26 YTD Actual	Total Budget Variance - FY26 Operating Budget	% of Overall Budget	Explanation/Comments
Tax Revenue	29,380	471,544	226,125	245,419	91.67	YTD Comparison % of Budget
R9 McKnight (balance of what we rec'd upfront)	29,923	132,927	132,927		48.0%	When current taxes rec'd, pymts primarily rec'd in Dec and June
RLF Admin (Covid and Regular)	5,050	60,000	104,192	(0)	100.0%	Monthly amount is what was used of what we have
Contract Revenue	31,092	329,840	320,950	(44,192)	173.7%	
PACE Loan Orig/Misc	0	6,800	13,261	8,890	97.3%	Based on activity to date
Rental Revenue/Other Revenue	0	1,500	1,257	(6,461)	195.0%	Loan Orig fee mostly received in Dec & June (code 4321)
Bank Savings and CD Interest Revenue	5,546	68,340	44,730	243	83.8%	GL 4648, 4628
MnDOT Revenue	0	75,000	67,500	23,610	65.5%	GL 4651
Dept. Commerce Revenue.	8,359	222,790	180,024	7,500	90.0%	Based on Billings - Yearly amt is \$75000, bill 3 times a year, 1st one is in Dec
EDA Revenue	0	70,000	85,481	42,766	80.8%	Certs (Regular), EECBG and State Comp. Grant
PACE Loan Interest Received	2,332	12,766	20,520	(15,481)	122.1%	Federal Share - Sept amt is for April-June 2025. Have to request quarterly payments now
Total Revenue	111,683	1,451,507	1,196,967	254,539	160.7%	GL 4656, funds 70,72,73,75,76
					82.5%	
Salaries & Fringe	87,519	1,142,572	990,995	151,577	86.7%	Includes FY26 Salaries/Fringe (including 15% increase to Health Insurance/H.S.A.) also includes MN Pd Leave that starts Jan 2026
Travel	3,303	60,000	47,287	12,713	78.8%	Staff Travel
Committee Expenses	1,317	34,000	21,441	12,559	63.1%	Includes Board Retreat, Orientation & Annual Meeting
Postage Expenses	10	5,349	2,164	3,185	40.5%	not including housing reimbursement
Insurance	0	10,000	9,449	551	94.5%	Insurance Dividend/Our portion of Bldg Ins,Cyber Security Ins
Office Space Costs	979	15,000	9,827	5,173	65.5%	Utilities
Equipment/Building Updates	78	5,000	1,056	3,944	21.1%	
Communications	599	9,219	6,864	2,355	74.5%	
Printing/Publication	550	8,000	4,549	3,451	56.9%	Annual Report designed in house, sent out for printing, includes outreach items/mktg
Office Supply/Meeting Expense	622	8,000	3,839	4,161	48.0%	
Program Supply	0	0	2,330	(2,330)		Reimbursed by Contracts
Computer	1,876	56,000	32,004	23,996	57.2%	Includes 5 new laptops, setup and 1 docking station
Consultant/Contracted Services/Legal	0	24,013	14,210	9,803	59.2%	Part of the Wipfli Manual & Cost Alloc contract (was budgeted for FY25)
Audit	0	41,000	41,000	-	100.0%	Audits that may get done by Kinner & Co during FY26
Dues/Memberships/Other	0	5,000	4,085	915	81.7%	Includes MADO Coordination (\$2,000 per region)
Finance Fees & Exp	41	1,000	543	457	54.3%	Includes bank fees
Lease Payment	1,851	23,360	22,838	522	97.8%	Our portion of the principal payment
Debt Service-Principal/Interest	0	10,000	10,000	-	100.0%	Paid in December to the State of MN (Princ paid, but Int is internal tracking)
Total Expenses	98,744	1,457,513	1,224,480	233,033	84.0%	
Revenues over Expenses	12,939	(6,006)	(27,513)			

SRDC Commission Project Review

Agenda Item: 8

Meeting Date: July 9, 2026

Project Name: Skandia Wildlife Management Area Stream & Wetland Restoration Project

Location: Skandia Wildlife Management Area, Lake Sarah Township, Murray County, MN

EAW Date: June 17, 2026

Project Area: Approximately 28.5 acres

Project Overview

The Minnesota DNR proposes restoration of a historically channelized unnamed stream within the Skandia Wildlife Management Area (WMA). The project would reconstruct a more natural meandering stream channel, restore floodplain connectivity, create shallow wetland habitat, replace an existing culvert crossing, and establish native vegetation. The project is intended to occur entirely within DNR-owned WMA lands.

Existing Conditions

The site is located within the Skandia WMA and is surrounded primarily by agricultural land, prairie, and wetlands. The stream was previously straightened to support agricultural drainage. The downstream stream reach is listed as impaired for aquatic life, with impairments associated with nitrates, physical habitat, and altered hydrology. Lake Maria is the downstream receiving waterbody.

Anticipated Environmental Changes

The project would alter existing land cover within the restoration area by increasing aquatic and wetland habitats. According to the EAW:

Cover Type	Existing	Proposed
Rivers/Streams	0.88 acres	2.58 acres
Wetlands	0.00 acres	3.28 acres
Grassland/Brush	27.6 acres	22.64 acres

The EAW states that the project is expected to increase floodplain storage, reduce stream velocities, improve floodplain connectivity, and create additional habitat diversity.

The project includes erosion and sediment control measures, and native revegetation.

Date: July 2026

Planner: Chris Webb

Staff Time: 1 hour



SRDC

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

— Guest Speaker —

Kim Nagle

KEYNOTE SPEAKER • AUTHOR • BUSINESS COACH



A LIFE BUILT ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Known as The DAMN Plan® lady, Kim is a woman with a plan. Her life's work is evidence of her deep-seated love for all things entrepreneurial. She started her first business at 14 and has owned 6 businesses since.



BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

In 1997, she founded Upgrow Business International, working with rural, Native American, and diverse communities across the Midwest to start, grow, and sustain profitable nonprofits, particularly Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI). With her expert guidance, three Native Community Development Financial Institutions have been formed along with the SBA Minnesota Women's Business Center. She has raised over 100 million dollars to fund business incubators and business development programs in urban, rural, and tribal communities.



COACHING FOR PROFIT AND PURPOSE

In partnership with her daughter, Kim founded DAMN Plan Coaching LLP to promote profit thinking and building businesses we love AND make money – so that we can live life on our terms. As a result of working with Kim and DAMN Plan Coaching, over 300 clients have started profitable businesses they love.



AUTHOR. LEADER. GAME CHANGER.

Kim is the author of *The DAMN Plan® How To Find Freedom, Love, And Money In Your Business* and soon-to-be-released *Nonprofit Profitability™*. In her books, she presents lessons learned and core principles for success learned over 35 years of being in the trenches every day—doing the damn thing.

“ I believe that when we build businesses and nonprofits we love AND make money, we create freedom for ourselves and opportunity for others. ”

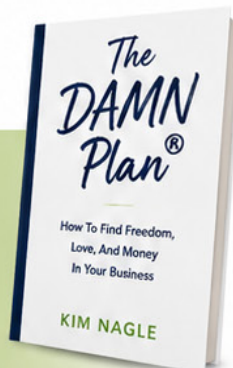
— Kim Nagle



The DAMN Plan®

D DETERMINED DECISIONS.
A ACT CONSISTENTLY.
M MIND YOUR BUSINESS.
N NO EXCUSES.

Because dreams don't fund themselves
– and **impact** doesn't happen by accident.



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The DAMN Plan®
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In Your Business

Coming Soon!
Nonprofit Profitability™





SRDC
SOUTHWEST REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

**Little
Explorers**
CHILD CARE CENTER LLC



PROJECT OF THE YEAR

Little Explorers Child Care Center, Ghent

Highlights a project that demonstrates how community development extends far beyond buildings and infrastructure—it's about supporting families, strengthening the workforce, and investing in the future.



A PASSION THAT STARTED YOUNG

Little Explorers Child Care Center was founded by Jamie Gillund, whose passion for working with children began at a very young age. After earning a degree in Early Childhood Education from Southwest Minnesota State University and working in a child care setting during college, Jamie opened an in-home daycare in Ghent. For 17 years, she cared for children and built trusted relationships with families throughout the region.



ANSWERING A GROWING NEED

As southwest Minnesota's child care shortage became more severe, Jamie recognized a growing need. Families were calling daily seeking care, but her in-home program was already at capacity. In 2020, she and her husband, Kurt, decided to take a leap of faith and build a child care center from the ground up. Together, they designed the facility Jamie had always envisioned—a safe, welcoming space where children could learn, grow, and thrive.



A VITAL RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES

Little Explorers officially opened its doors in October 2021 and quickly became an essential community resource. Today, the center serves families from across the region, with many parents commuting from Marshall and surrounding communities each day. Despite employing approximately 20 staff members and operating multiple classrooms, the demand for child care continues to exceed capacity, with a waiting list of dozens of children.



FOCUSED ON CHILDREN. COMMITTED TO FAMILIES.

At Little Explorers, the focus is on play-based learning, strong routines, and meaningful relationships. The center's curriculum helps prepare children for kindergarten while creating a nurturing environment where they feel safe, supported, and encouraged to explore the world around them. Jamie's goal has always been simple: provide high-quality care while helping families remain active in the workforce.



A PARTNERSHIP THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

The project was made possible through a partnership between State Bank of Taunton and the Southwest Regional Development Commission's Revolving Loan Fund program. SRDC financing helped bridge the gap needed to complete the project and bring this much-needed service to the region. Jamie credits the partnership and the seamless loan process as important factors in turning her dream into reality.



CHILD CARE IS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Today, Little Explorers stands as an example of how child care is economic development. Without reliable child care, parents cannot work, businesses struggle to find employees, and communities find it harder to grow. By helping create additional child care capacity, this project supports families, employers, and the long-term vitality of southwest Minnesota.



“

Our mission is to provide a safe, nurturing environment where children learn, grow, and thrive—while giving families the support they need to work, dream, and build a better future.

— Jamie Gillund
Owner, Little Explorers Child Care Center



THE STORY CONTINUES TO GROW

Little Explorers is currently completing a second child care center in Minnesota, scheduled to open later this summer.

Through Jamie's vision and dedication, even more families will have access to the quality child care they need, helping strengthen communities throughout the region for years to come.



Investing in Local Businesses. Building Stronger Communities.

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



SRDC

**SOUTHWEST REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**



FY26 YEAR IN REVIEW

Connecting Communities. Strengthening Lives. Building the Future.

As we reflect on the past fiscal year, SRDC remains committed to supporting our region through planning, collaboration, and innovative solutions. Together with our partners, communities, and stakeholders, we are building stronger economies, connected infrastructure, and healthier places to live, work, and play.



OUR REGION. OUR IMPACT.



9 COUNTIES
Working Together



80 CITIES
Stronger Together



162 TOWNSHIPS
Built on Partnership



32 SCHOOL DISTRICTS
Investing in Our Future



ONE REGION
Endless Possibilities

FY26 YEAR IN HIGHLIGHTS



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Supported businesses, communities, and industries through lending programs, grant funding, and strategic partnerships.



ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY

Advanced clean energy initiatives, energy planning, and sustainability projects to strengthen our communities and protect natural resources.



COMMUNITY PLANNING & LAND USE

Provided planning assistance and zoning support to help communities grow responsibly and preserve quality of life.



TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

Promoted safer, more connected communities through transportation planning, trails, and infrastructure improvements.



SOLID WASTE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Continued regional collaboration on solid waste planning, recycling, and responsible resource management.



WORKFORCE & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Invested in workforce readiness and youth initiatives to build a strong, skilled, and adaptable future workforce.



COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIPS

Strengthened relationships with local, state, and federal partners to leverage resources and maximize community impact.



OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Engaged residents, businesses, and leaders through events, surveys, and communication to ensure local voices are heard.



GRANT & FUNDING SUCCESS

Secured and managed funding that creates opportunities and drives meaningful investments across the region.



RECOGNITION & ACHIEVEMENTS

Celebrated milestones, awards, and the dedication of our staff, partners, and communities.



Our mission is to improve, promote, and develop our region through services and leadership.



Investing in Local Businesses. Building Stronger Communities.

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



2401 Broadway Ave., Slayton, MN 56172



507-836-8547



www.swrdc.org



SRDC Southwest Regional Development Commission



CEDS AND EDA PLANNING



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

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program provides funding opportunities for planning efforts designed to assist small communities in:

- Reducing energy use
- Lowering fossil fuel emissions
- Improving overall energy efficiency

Eligible applicants include cities and counties with populations under 15,000. There is no local match requirement for participation.

Eligible Communities

Eligible entities within the SRDC region include:

- All cities within the region
- The counties of:
 - Cottonwood
 - Jackson
 - Lincoln
 - Murray
 - Pipestone
 - Rock

SRDC Funding Allocation

SRDC was awarded \$99,959.78 through the EECBG program, with 10% allocated toward project administration.

- Maximum grant amount per community: \$20,000

Eligible Planning Activities

Potential planning efforts may include:

- Resiliency plans
- Energy audits
- Engineering studies
- Energy efficiency and conservation planning initiatives

Approved Projects

The CEDS Committee has approved projects involving:

- City of Slayton
- City of Hadley
- Rock County
- City of Pipestone
- City of Comfrey

In addition, SRDC has requested an additional \$25,000 in funding to support two applicants that have not yet submitted final applications.



ED PROS

Also started again over this past year was ED PROS. The group quit meeting during Covid but now has been started again.

The group of economic development professionals last met on May 4 at 1 p.m. to network and share information.



These gatherings are for anyone in our region with an interest in economic development.



The group will next meet on August 3 at 1 p.m.



EDA DISASTER NOFO

The EDA Disaster Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) has been released and EDA is currently reviewing applications. Projects can be funded at up to an 80% grant rate.

Eligible applicants include units of government, high education institutions, and other qualifying entities located within counties covered under FEMA disaster declarations including potential projects:

- **Minnesota West Community and Technical College** – equipment and facility upgrades
- **City of Windom** – infrastructure improvements within the 10th Street Corridor of Commerce
- **City of Jackson** – industrial park expansion



INDUSTRIAL PARK STRATEGIC PLANNING – REDWOOD FALLS

SRDC continues to assist the City of Redwood Falls through its EDA-funded planning initiative focused on future industrial park development and business expansion opportunities.

Recent Activities

- Assisted with preparation for the March 31 working session.
- Facilitated discussions with city council and staff.
- Developed and distributed a survey targeting existing light manufacturing businesses.

Next Steps

- Meet with DEED staff on June 1 to discuss project progress and future direction.



Thoughtful planning and strategic partnerships today build stronger, more resilient communities tomorrow.



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Building Stronger Communities.*

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FOOD SYSTEMS & AGRICULTURE

Strengthening Southwest Minnesota's Food Economy



SRDC

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



MEAT PROCESSOR WORKFORCE INITIATIVE

- ✓ \$250,000 MDA Grant
- ✓ 7 OJT participants
- ✓ 4 hires at Happy Halal Meats
- ✓ Partnership with Ridgewater College



BULK MILK DISPENSER INITIATIVE

- ✓ Exploring pilot schools
- ✓ Reducing packaging waste
- ✓ Improving sustainability



GOOD FOOD ACCESS GRANTS

BOLT'S GROCERY
LAKE BENTON

\$70,120 AWARD

Replacing outdated meat & dairy cases with larger, energy efficient models.



IVANHOE SUPERMARKET

IVANHOE, MN

\$70,000 AWARD

Replacing produce & meat refrigeration displays to ensure food quality & consistent storage.



HERON LAKE MINI MART

Refrigeration improvements and energy efficiency upgrades



SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA GROWERS' CONNECTION

Developing a regional network of local producers



SUPPORTING LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS

FROM FARM TO TABLE



LOCAL FARMS



STRONG COMMUNITIES



HEALTHY FOOD



SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



TOGETHER WE GROW



SRDC

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



RLF PROGRAM YEAR IN REVIEW

A YEAR OF INVESTMENT, GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY

SRDC's Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) programs continue to provide capital and support to businesses across Southwest Minnesota. Through strategic lending, strong partnerships, and improved processes, we're helping local businesses grow and communities thrive.

COMMITMENT TO LOCAL BUSINESSES



RLF COMMITTEE

Five-member committee that meets as needed to oversee both the Traditional RLF and COVID-19 RLF (C-RLF) programs.



INTEREST RATE

SRDC RLF projects are financed at 75% of prime, in compliance with federal RLF regulations.



APPLICATIONS

The fillable application (used for both programs) and the Requirements Checklist are available online:

[SRDC RLF Application](#)

TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE



Presta

**FINANCIAL
SOFTWARE**

Implementation of Presta is underway, replacing the outdated GMS system.

- ✓ As of the September 1 ACH cycle, all payments were successfully processed in Presta.
- ✓ Staff anticipate significant time savings through automation features.



APPLY ONLINE!

Applications can now be submitted through Presta at:

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

A YEAR IN SUMMARY



\$591,000 LENT OUT

• Nobles County	\$283,000
• Cottonwood County	\$145,000
• Pipestone County	\$40,000
• Redwood County	\$63,000
• Murray County	\$60,000



CRLF funds remain federalized until seven years have passed.



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BY THE NUMBERS



\$456,598.53

**TRADITIONAL RLF
FUNDS AVAILABLE**

(as of 6-17-26)



\$206,852.82

**COVID-19 RLF (C-RLF)
FUNDS AVAILABLE**

(as of 6-25-26)

SITE VISITS & STORYTELLING



Site visits are required every three years but are conducted more frequently as needed.



Visits include communication audits and interviews to capture success stories.



Read our client success stories and spotlights:

www.swrdc.org/spotlights

CONTRACTED RLFS SUPPORTED BY SRDC



**JACKSON
COUNTY RLF**

- Four active loans
- Approximately \$210,000 available for lending



**HERON LAKE
RLF (HLRLF)**

- Funded through CDBG
- Focus: economic development within a 20-mile radius of Heron Lake
- SRDC assists with GMS entry and amortization schedules as needed
- Funds are available for businesses with gap financing needs



**FALCON
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION (FDC)**

- Focus: economic development within a 30-mile radius of Heron Lake
- Funds are not federalized (Davis-Bacon does not apply to construction projects)
- Board has 6 members (7 maximum)
- Approximately \$10,000 available in lending capacity at this time

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P.A.C.E. PROGRAM

**FINANCING ENERGY SAVINGS.
BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES.**

The PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program provides low-cost financing to help small businesses, agri-businesses, and eligible non-profits invest in energy-saving improvements that reduce operating costs and strengthen our region.



GENERAL INFORMATION



PACE financing is available to small businesses, agri-businesses, and eligible non-profits to support energy-saving improvements. Please help spread the word to property owners interested in lowering their energy usage.



Current interest rate:
Prime – 3% (minimum 3%)



RMEB COUNTY PAYBACK
In 2020, 14 RMEB counties each contributed \$6,336 to reduce the interest burden of 3% financing through REED, enabling the PACE program to continue. Repayments to counties will begin December 2026.

ENERGY ASSESSMENTS & AUDITS



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

The Minnesota Department of Commerce (MN DOC) continues to expand access to certified energy auditors.

TYPICAL REFERRALS FOR ENERGY ASSESSMENTS INCLUDE:

- RETAP (Retiree Environmental Technical Assistance Program)
- MnTAP (Minnesota Technical Assistance Program)
- CEE (Center for Energy and Environment) EnergySmart



Contractor estimates and energy audits are the first two steps in the PACE financing process.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY & UPDATES



There are several PACE applications that have started their consideration request via our online platform, Presta.



There are also a number of businesses that are working with ReTAP and MnTAP on energy audits.



SRDC Staff were present in Lake Benton at Bolt's Lake Benton Grocery, per the request of Senator Klobuchar's staff, on May 7. The Senator received PACE information, project specific information, and a tour.



A few recent stories can be found on the SRDC website.



We can now receive PACE applications through an online platform at:
<https://app.letspresta.com/signup/32/91>

P.A.C.E. PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS



48 TOTAL LOANS
SINCE INCEPTION



9
LOANS PAID
IN FULL



39
ACTIVE
LOANS



5
NEW LOANS
IN 2025

New 2026 special tax assessments were filed prior to the year's start.

LOANS ISSUED IN 2025:

Jackson (3) • Freeborn (1) • Nobles (1)

FUNDS AVAILABLE

PACE ARRA	as of 6-30-26	\$148,101.40
PACE EE RLF	as of 6-30-26	\$84,610.38
PACE SEP	as of 6-29-26	\$65,512.13



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SRDC

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

FY26 YEAR IN REVIEW

SRDC continues to help communities across Southwest Minnesota build a resilient, sustainable future through collaboration, education, and innovative energy solutions.

OUR FOCUS



Clean
Energy



Environmental
Stewardship



Community
Resilience



Partnerships &
Collaboration

BIODIGESTER TOUR



On August 21, SRDC and CERTs hosted a Biodigester Tour with stops at the Agricultural Utilization Research Institute (AURI) Bioindustrial Innovation Center in Waseca and the Hometown BioEnergy Facility in Le Sueur.

Attendees included members of the SW CERTs Steering Committee, RSDP work group, RMEB, the Solid Waste Commission, and State representatives: Thomas Stenson (District 19B) and David Baer (District 16B).

Participants toured AURI's pilot-scale biodigester, researched payback at Hometown BioEnergy (gas project, blessed by a unit vote), and reviewed MnREtail's solar scale biomass facility, which converts local agricultural and food wastes into renewable electricity for the Minnesota Municipal Power Agency.

SOLAR FOR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE ON DWSMAs



SRDC assisted with community engagement in a scaled-down project focused on solar energy and drinking water management supply areas (DWSMAs).

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) are working with one or two communities in Southwest Minnesota to develop plans for solar projects that enhance rural water system resilience while addressing nitrate contamination.

Potential pilot sites include Adrian, Rock County, Lincoln, Pipestone Rural Water (Holland Well Field), and the Lindstrom Wellhead Protection Area in Murray County.



SRDC received **\$12,000** for this effort.

GREAT PLAINS INSTITUTE – CAROLYN FOUNDATION PROJECT



- SRDC subcontracted with GPI on a \$3,000 project (Aug 2025–Dec 2036) to identify high-priority community benefits from renewable energy development.
- SRDC engaged local stakeholders and participated in statewide PUC permitting process discussions.

PV SUCCESS WORKSHOPS



- As part of a McKnight-funded CERTs initiative, SRDC staff supported solar workshops in Houston and Nobles Counties.
- These workshops help communities and landowners understand the benefits and process of solar development.

MINNESOTA ENERGY INNOVATION SUMMIT



- SRDC staff attended the Minnesota Energy Innovation Summit at the McNamara Alumni Center on October 28.
- The event brought together industry leaders, experts, and innovators to explore emerging technologies and ideas shaping the future of energy and electrification in Minnesota.
- Sessions included federal and state policy, sector opportunities, and identified partnership priorities to help communities advance their clean energy goals.

COMMUNITY LISTENING TOUR



- SRDC continues to visit communities across the region on a listening tour to learn about high-priority local energy projects and connect leaders, funders and technical resources.
- The goal is to ensure local voices shape energy solutions that meet community needs and build long-term resilience.

POWERING TOMORROW: ENERGY PROJECT RESOURCE SUMMIT



- On October 28, Nadya Bucklin attended the Powering Tomorrow: Energy Project Resource Summit hosted by the Minnesota Department of Commerce at Theodore Wirth Park in Golden Valley.
- The event focused on partnerships and resources to support energy, health, and safety improvements in educational settings.
- Topics included energy efficiency, indoor air quality, public resources and technical assistance, electric school buses, and solar for schools.



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COTTONWOOD



ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT



RURAL MN ENERGY BOARD (RMEB)

RMEB met on June 1. At this meeting, commissioners heard a presentation from Nathan Meyer, PhD, Associate Director & Extension Program Leader, Climate Adaptation Partnership, as well as Val Stori, Senior Policy Manager with the Great Plains Institute, who led a discussion about community benefits agreements for renewable energy projects as part of our work with R-STEP.

Representatives from NextEra Energy also presented on some of their latest projects, especially focused on large battery storage projects.



The Department of Commerce has confirmed another round of Solar on Public Building grants opened this past spring. Commerce has **\$625,000** available for Round 5: eligibility is limited to communities within Xcel Energy's territory.



RMEB also heard from Ted Smith, Vice President of Engineering and Operations at Sioux Valley Energy, and Brandon Lane, Economic Development and Community Relations Executive, who provided an overview of their organization and shared perspectives on current energy trends during their January meeting.

RMEB MEETING – NOVEMBER 24, 2025



Presentations included:

- Adam Tromblay (Nobles Cooperative) and Jordan Burmeister (Geronimo): Proposed 400–450 MW data center in Nobles County.
- Randy Fordice (Xcel Energy): Community meetings regarding a 765 kV transmission line from South Dakota through southern Minnesota into Wisconsin.



Commission members also shared updates on solid waste activities and developments occurring within their respective counties.



SOLID WASTE & NATURAL RESOURCES



The Southwest Solid Waste Commission met on January 26, 2026.

During the meeting, Jim Eidem of Barr Engineering Company presented findings from a study examining the occurrence and distribution of PFAS in groundwater at Minnesota landfills. The presentation provided insight into current research and monitoring efforts related to PFAS contamination.



SRDC Executive Director Jay Trusty presented the Executive Summary of the Southwest Minnesota Solid Waste Regional 10-Year Plan. The commission approved the plan, which will now be released for public comment.

Following the comment period, the plan will be submitted to the SRDC Board of Directors for approval and then forwarded to each county for final endorsement.



In December, SRDC staff completed an initial draft of an economic impact analysis for a proposed low-density, six-building data center scenario.

Following this draft, Geronimo requested evaluation of a high-density scenario with fewer buildings. The revised analysis was completed and published in early January.

The full report is available on the SRDC website:
<https://www.swrdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Geronimo-impact-layout.pdf>



SRDC continues to support communities across Southwest Minnesota in building a resilient, sustainable future through collaboration, education, and innovative energy solutions.



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LAND USE

SRDC staff continue to assist communities across Southwest Minnesota with land use planning, zoning, and strategic initiatives.



NOBLES COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Committee members are finishing up the final chapters for the Nobles County Comprehensive Plan, which is slated to be completed by the end of 2026.



CITY OF JASPER ZONING ORDINANCES

Staff completed updates to the City of Jasper zoning ordinances.



GERONIMO POWER ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

In January staff completed an Nobles County Economic Impact Analysis for Geronimo Power. The final report is available on the SRDC website.



MINNEOTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS PLAYGROUND FUNDRAISING

Staff prepared two grant applications to support Minneota Public Schools' playground fundraising campaign. Applications were submitted to Box Car Wind and Otter Tail Power Community Foundation.



LYON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN & COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCES

Staff completed the Lyon County Comprehensive Plan. Planner Web then worked with county staff to update the county zoning ordinances.



LYON COUNTY LANDFILL ADVISORY BOARD STRATEGIC PLANNING

Staff also facilitated a strategic planning session with the Lyon County Landfill Advisory Board to prioritize strategies and goals for future landfill planning and regional solid waste management.



TAUNTON STRATEGIC PLAN

Staff also completed a strategic plan for Taunton identifying four key goal areas: Beautification, roads and infrastructure, city services, and community events.



Through planning, collaboration, and thoughtful land use strategies, SRDC helps build stronger, more vibrant communities.



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TRANSPORTATION



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The SRDC's TAC hosted a meeting on Monday, July 14, 2025. The July TAC Meeting covered MnDOT District 7 & 8 Ten Year Capital Highway Investment Plan (CHIP) Plans. These plans outline MnDOT's expected road and bridge projects from 2026-2035. The committee also heard a short presentation from the University of Minnesota's Center for Transportation Studies on the topic of rural roads and how customized asphalt mixes can extend use cycles.



E-BIKE RENTAL PROGRAM AT END-O-LINE PARK IN CURRIE

Planner Webb worked with Murray County Staff and SWHHS SHIP Staff to facilitate a new e-bike rental program at End-O-Line County Park in Currie. Box Car Wind awarded \$4,000 to Murray County and SWHHS awarded \$4,500 to this project.



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.



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL



Lamberton/Red Rock Central Safe Routes To School Planning Assistance Grant:

SRDC Staff have completed the Lamberton/RRC Safe Routes to School Plan. Special thanks to SWHHS SHIP, Lamberton City Staff, and local residents and students that contributed to the plan. The completed plan can be viewed on the SRDC website.



Stop Arm Cameras Case Study

Planner Webb recently completed a research case study on the implementation of stop arm cameras installed on 30 school buses in Marshall, Minnesota. The study examined implementation considerations and outcomes related to school bus safety.



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.



Safe Streets for All Planning Grant

Planner Webb is working with Lincoln, Lyon, and Murray Counties on a proposal to develop countywide Safe Routes to School plans through the USDOT Safe Streets for All program. Traditionally, Safe Routes to School planning has focused on a single community at a time through state programs. This federal grant would allow SRDC to expand planning efforts to multiple communities simultaneously.

Proposed focus areas include:

- **Lincoln County:** Hendricks and Lake Benton
- **Lyon County:** Minneota and Cottonwood
- **Murray County:** Slayton and Fulda



SRDC is committed to safe, connected, and sustainable transportation options that strengthen our communities and improve quality of life across the region.



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Services at a Glance

The Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRDC) is proud to serve the counties of

- Cottonwood
- Jackson
- Lincoln
- Lyon
- Murray
- Nobles
- Pipestone
- Rock

To learn more,
visit: www.swrdc.org
or contact us at
507-836-8547

Our Services

- ✓ Grant Writing & Administration
- ✓ Land Use & Comprehensive Planning
- ✓ Energy Efficiency
- ✓ Clean Energy Initiatives
- ✓ Revolving & PACE Loans
- ✓ Transportation & Trail Planning
- ✓ Sustainability
- ✓ Community Engagement
- ✓ Technical Assistance for Infrastructure Projects



2401 Broadway Ave
Slayton, MN 56172

Whether helping a small grocer secure funds, drafting comprehensive plans, or launching innovative energy strategies - the SRDC works hand in hand with local leaders to build a vibrant, resilient Southwest Minnesota

Happy Birthday!

★ JULY 4TH ★

Wishing a very
Happy Birthday
to **Chris Webb!**

★

Thank you for your dedication
to transportation and the
communities we serve.
Have a fantastic day!



Chris Webb
Transportation Planner

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Happy Birthday!

★ JULY 30TH ★

Wishing a very
Happy Birthday
to **Nadya Bucklin!**

★

Thank you for your dedication
to community and economic
development and the
communities we serve.
Have a fantastic day!



Nadya Bucklin
Development Planner

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Happy Birthday & Happy Work Anniversary!

★ AUGUST 10TH ★ & ★ AUGUST 7TH ★

Happy Birthday! 25th Work Anniversary!

CELEBRATING

25 Years

OF LEADERSHIP,
DEDICATION &
SERVICE!

★

Thank you, Jay, for your vision, leadership and
commitment to strengthening our region and
the communities we serve.
We appreciate you!



Jay Trusty
★ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ★



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