

**South Central Economic Development District
Thursday, March 25, 2010
Meeting Minutes**

The South Central Economic Development District exists to develop and promote a positive economic climate which supports regional growth.

6:30 PM Board of Directors Meeting @ The Station, Alma, Harlan County

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Jerrell Gerdes

Open Public Meeting: President Jerrell Gerdes indicated that a copy of the open meetings law was duly posted in the meeting room.

Roll Call

Adams	Dale Curtis	Buffalo	Lynn Rauner
Clay	Barb Barnett	Franklin	Jerrell Gerdes
Hall	Gary Quant	Hamilton	Clarence Trumble
Harlan	Steve Waring	Kearney	Robert Swanson
Merrick	Rex Weller	Nuckolls	Absent
Phelps	Theresa Puls	Webster	Absent
Private Business	Wayne Bell	Private Business	Stuart Wilsman
Private Business	Jim Gorman	At Large	Merrill Duntz
Stkhldr Org: UNK	Absent	Stkhldr Org: CCC	Bill Hitesman

Introductions: Sharon Hueftle, SCEDD Executive Director; Jodi Garrelts, SCEDD Office Manager; Lonny and Sally Hanna, Harlan County

Additions to Agenda/Agenda Approval: There were no agenda additions. Approved unanimously via a consent motion from President Jerrell Gerdes.

Minutes of January 28, 2010 Meeting: It was moved by Merrill Duntz and seconded by James Gorman to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2010 Meeting. Unanimous approval.

Financial Report:

The financial report as of February 28, 2010 was provided. Current balance of receivables as of March 25, 2010 is \$10,750. The report was accepted for filing for future audit.

Employee/Grant Reports:

Employee/Grant Reports were provided. Sharon Hueftle answered several questions about CDBG and NSP grants and added that the EDA Partnership Planning Grant has an extra \$10,000 for 2010.

Old Business:

Interlocal with SCEPTR for Disaster Coordinator:

No action taken. Old Business will remain for next agenda.

New Business:

Appointment of Board Member (s): It was moved by Clarence Trumble and seconded by Theresa Puls to elect Ross Taylor to the board as Stakeholder Representative. Unanimous approval via roll call vote.

Bid Letting for NSP 1, Holdrege Project:

President Gerdes opened and read the six bids received for demolishing six structures on Logan Street in Holdrege (refer to chart below). Ms. Hueftle explained the spec requirements and discussed the asbestos inspection and abatement that must happen prior to demolition. It was moved by Gary Quant and seconded by Wayne Bell to accept the lowest bidder (Blessing LLC), contingent upon receiving release of funds from NEDED anticipated the middle of April. Unanimous approval via roll call vote.

Contractor	Lump Sum	Date Received	Time and Date Opened
Blessing LLC Kearney, NE--Scott Blessing	\$24,800	3/24/2010	7pm 3/25/2010
Ostgren Construction Holdrege, NE--Dennis Ostgren	34,780	3/24/2010	7pm 3/25/2010
Dirt Works Kearney, NE--M.J. Shultz	38,900	3/24/2010	7pm 3/25/2010
Jerry Hill Construction, Inc. Kearney, NE--Jerry Hill	39,255	3/24/2010	7pm 3/25/2010
Samuelson Land Leveling, Inc. Holdrege, NE--Keith Samuelson	41,850	3/24/2010	7pm 3/25/2010
Myers Construction Inc. Broken Bow--Perry Myers	56,480	3/24/2010	7pm 3/25/2010

Board Member Reports: See below

Next Meeting: Red River Steakhouse and Lounge, Minden, Kearney County, Thursday, May 27, 2010

Adjourn Board Meeting: Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM

Board Member and Attendee Reports:

Franklin, Jerrell Gerdes reported to the council that the community of Franklin is losing the variety store.

TCBY, Wayne Bell reported to the council on a few projects. He reported that a hotel is going up by the interstate; the city has begun moving dirt for the new hospital; the turkey processing plant in Gibbon was purchased; a new technology park is opening in Kearney and looks to be a success; and TCBY sales are up!

Adams, Dale Curtis reported to the council that there are a couple of projects in early stages that he cannot discuss yet. He also reported that the city is working on a new sales tax; and the meat processing plant has been purchased. Dale also is encouraging all counties to support the State Fair being held in Hall County this year as it is a great thing for Central Nebraska.

Private Business, Jim Gorman reported to the council that there are a couple future projects in the works for Franklin.

Buffalo, Lynn Rauner reported to the council that the new jail will be opened in the next few weeks; the City Attorney is anxious for the move; and currently working on selling the Recovery Zone Bond (with 45% subsidized interest).

Harlan, Steve Waring reported to the council that two streets are being repaired in Alma along with fixing potholes; and upgrading their comprehensive plan.

Merrick, Rex Weller reported to the council the sad news that Covenant Doors laid off 30 people temporarily.

Harlan County, Lonny Hanna reported to the council that the courthouse is receiving a grant to pay for the installation of heating and air conditioning and that they may need an administrator.

Phelps, Theresa Puls reported to the council that the county will spend \$850,000 for resurfacing; the Farmers Market will be starting soon in Holdrege bringing people to town; Prairie Sports wants a new complex south of the country club; the funeral home that was to be renovated is now a big, new building; went to NACO last week and learned about LB 1079; and successfully encouraged senators to vote no on LB 1079.

MCC, Bill Hitesman reported to the council that Bubba Burger bought the meat processing plant in Hastings; Kitty's Roadhouse and Rivals just opened. For the Community College, the lawsuit with Metro has been settled; for the first time the school's dormitories are filled to full capacity for the fall semester; the fall applications have doubled since last year, and the previous year it had increased by 17%. Mr. Hitesman also reported that the remodel the Holdrege Center is in progress, cost of expansion is \$365,000; and a mobile solar

panel was purchased for education purposes.

At Large, Merrill Duntz reported to the council on the workshop held at Sandy Creek. Mr. Duntz praised the woodworking workshop at Sandy Creek hosted by Trailblazer RC&D and Dewalt; the workshop was a success with 26 attendees at the 3 hour event; the school was also given a new router; and Dale from CCC was an excellent teacher and many have requested another workshop.

Hamilton, Clarence Tremble reported to the council that the Aventine ethanol plant just came out of bankruptcy and will be making ethanol by the end of the year. Also, Mr. Tremble reported that the county roads are drying out.

Hall, Gary Quant reported to the council that the State Fair is moving forward; and former Mayor Vavricek is promoting Hall County Event Center.

Kearney, Bob Swanson reported to the council that the ethanol plant KAAPA ended the court battle with the county over a tax issue; the county must pay \$800,000. This will also affect CCC, Minden Public Schools, the NRD, and the City of Minden. The Cattleman's Ball will be held in northern Kearney County.

Clay, Barb Barnett reported to the council that farmers are doing well as fertilizing is starting; businesses are picking up as Clay is heavily an agricultural county. Ms. Barnett also reported on school transitions. Harvard has a new superintendent and 18 new students are expecting to attend Harvard instead of Sandy Creek; and this number does not include the superintendent's 5 children that will also be enrolled at Harvard.

Private Business, Stuart Wilsman reported to the council that the hike and bike trail in Franklin is still being worked on and runs a 3.5 loop around the town.