



# October

## **BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, October 10, 2024  
3:30 p.m. - SRDC Board Room





## Southwest Regional Development Commission

### Commissioner

Rick Anderson  
 Bob Byrnes  
 Miron Carney  
 Keith Elbers  
 Donna Gravley  
 Mark Haberman  
 Eric Hartman  
 Chris Hollingsworth  
 Dennis Klingbile  
 Paul Langseth  
 Bob Van Hee  
 Rick VonHoldt  
 Dennis Welgraven

### Representing

Lyon County SRDC Treasurer  
 City of Marshall  
 Murray County, Immediate Past Chair  
 Rock County, SRDC Secretary  
 Cottonwood County  
 Jackson County  
 Region 8 School Boards  
 Pipestone County  
 Lincoln County  
 Nobles County, SRDC Chair  
 Redwood County  
 City of Worthington  
 Murray County, 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.



## Promoting Growth & Opportunities for Southwest MN

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



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



Thursday, October 10, 2024  
3:30 pm

2401 Broadway Ave  
Slayton, MN 56172

**AGENDA**

<b>#</b>	<b>Time</b>		<b>Page</b>
1	3:30	<b>Call to Order &amp; Pledge of Allegiance</b>	
2	3:31	<b>Introductions</b>	
3	3:35	<b>Additions to and Approval of Agenda</b> <b>Action Needed: Approve Agenda</b>	
4	3:40	<b>Consent Agenda Items</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• August Receipts &amp; Expenditures</li> </ul> <b>Action Needed: Approve of Consent Agenda Items</b>	4-7
6	3:44	<b>Finance Reports</b> — <i>Treasurer Anderson &amp; Finance Director Nelson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treasurer’s Report, including bank accounts &amp; investments</li> <li>• Administrative Report through August 2024</li> </ul> <b>Action Needed: Approval of Treasurer’s Report</b> <b>Action Needed: Approval of Administrative Report</b>	H-1 8
7	3:50	<b>Legislative Report</b> – <i>Chair Miron Carney / Executive Director Trusty</i>	
	4:00	<b>Deep Dive: Regional Trail Plan</b> – <i>Planners Webb and Buckling, and Community Development Director Walker</i>	
8	4:15	<b>Executive Director’s Report</b> — <i>Executive Director Trusty</i>	21
9	4:20	<b>Chairman’s Report</b> — <i>Chairman Langseth</i>	
10	4:25	<b>Unfinished Business</b>	
11	4:30	<b>New Business</b>	
12	4:30	<b>Other Issues</b>	
13		<b>Announcements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SRDC Full Commission Meeting: Thursday, November 14, 2024 At Slayton Pizza Ranch</li> <li>• Commissioner vacancies: Murray County Townships, Pipestone County Township, Lower Sioux, and Cultural Diversity</li> </ul>	
14	4:35	<b>Adjourn</b> ***Written Planner Reports are located on pages 19 through 20 of the meeting packet. For questions or additional information regarding report information, please contact staff.***	

### Southwest Regional Development Commission

Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register

From 8/1/2024 Through 8/31/2024

Session ID	Check ...	Document...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amount	Effective Date
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Nadya N. Bucklin	Employee: BucklinN; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	1,941.70	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	1,690.90	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	816.63	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	47.00	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	1,672.71	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	1,447.31	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	18.32	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Melissa Nelson	Employee: MansonM; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	1,867.05	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Kimberly Murphy	Employee: MurphyK; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	1,690.10	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	1,576.16	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	115.33	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	65.90	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Jayne I. Trusty	Employee: TrustyJ; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	3,469.43	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Jason L. Walker	Employee: WalkerJ; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	2,598.98	8/8/2024
PRS080824	08082...	8/8/2024	Christopher S. Webb	Employee: WebbC; Pay Date: 8/8/2024	1,811.21	8/8/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Nadya N. Bucklin	Employee: BucklinN; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	2,127.14	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	1,769.12	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	787.57	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	1,672.71	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	1,438.15	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	27.48	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Melissa Nelson	Employee: MansonM; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	1,867.05	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Kimberly Murphy	Employee: MurphyK; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	1,690.10	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	1,599.03	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	87.87	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	76.90	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Jayne I. Trusty	Employee: TrustyJ; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	3,218.35	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Jason L. Walker	Employee: WalkerJ; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	2,692.78	8/22/2024
PRS082224	08222...	8/22/2024	Christopher S. Webb	Employee: WebbC; Pay Date: 8/22/2024	1,720.09	8/22/2024
CD081524 W...	5	8/25/2024		Wex Admin Fees July 2024	22.00	8/25/2024
APS080524	60734	8/5/2024	Abila	Abila Multiple Clouds 8/26/24 to 9/25/24	813.77	8/5/2024
APS080524	60735	8/5/2024	Bluepeak	Bluepeak 7/24/24 - 8/23/24 + paper stmt charge	61.49	8/5/2024
APS080524	60735	8/5/2024	Bluepeak	Bluepeak 7/24/24 - 8/23/24 + paper stmt charge	61.50	8/5/2024
APS080524	60736	8/5/2024	City of Slayton	City of Slayton 6/20/24 to 7/25/24	22.08	8/5/2024
APS080524	60736	8/5/2024	City of Slayton	City of Slayton 6/20/24 to 7/25/24	23.92	8/5/2024
APS080524	60737	8/5/2024	Culligan Water Conditioning	Culligan: 8 water, 7 salt, cooler rent	110.80	8/5/2024
APS080524	60737	8/5/2024	Culligan Water Conditioning	Culligan: 8 water, 7 salt, cooler rent	44.10	8/5/2024
APS080524	60738	8/5/2024	David R. Samuelson	Dave Samuelson - Mowing: July 2024	72.00	8/5/2024



**Southwest Regional Development Commission**

Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register

From 8/1/2024 Through 8/31/2024

Session ID	Check ...	Document...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amount	Effective Date
APS080524	60738	8/5/2024	David R. Samuelson	Dave Samuelson - Mowing: July 2024	108.00	8/5/2024
APS080524	60739	8/5/2024	Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith &...	Fryberger: Mar - June 2024	7,750.00	8/5/2024
APS080524	60740	8/5/2024	Grants Management Systems ...	Monthly license, warranty, service & support	100.00	8/5/2024
APS080524	60740	8/5/2024	Grants Management Systems ...	Monthly license, warranty, service & support	40.00	8/5/2024
APS080524	60741	8/5/2024	Northwest Gas	NW Gas 6/21/24 to 7/22/24	6.93	8/5/2024
APS080524	60741	8/5/2024	Northwest Gas	NW Gas 6/21/24 to 7/22/24	10.39	8/5/2024
APS080524	60742	8/5/2024	One Office Solution	Meter reading 6/25/24 to 7/20/25; deskpad calendars, paper	300.55	8/5/2024
APS080524	60743	8/5/2024	Quill Corporation	HP 555 black toner	178.19	8/5/2024
APS080524	60744	8/5/2024	Slayton EDA	EDA Lease August 2024	4,848.63	8/5/2024
APS080524	60745	8/5/2024	SRDC	PACE Outreach Mar/April 2024	3,750.00	8/5/2024
APS080524	60746	8/5/2024	SRDC	RMEB Mar - June 2024	6,050.85	8/5/2024
APS080524 HL	60747	8/5/2024	Heron Lake Mini Mart and Cat...	Annual Mtg catering July 2024	828.28	8/5/2024
APS081524	60748	8/15/2024	Chandler Co-Op	Chandler Coop July 2024	50.00	8/15/2024
APS081524	60749	8/15/2024	Farm Merchantile, Inc.	Farm Merchantile: Vesta Rwd Falls PACE ARRA loan disb	1,439.78	8/15/2024
APS081524	60750	8/15/2024	Frontier Communications	Frontier (RingCentral) 8/10/24 to 9/9/24	471.74	8/15/2024
APS081524	60750	8/15/2024	Frontier Communications	Frontier (RingCentral) 8/10/24 to 9/9/24	876.08	8/15/2024
APS081524	60751	8/15/2024	Frontier Communications	Frontier 8/4/24 to 9/3/24	313.19	8/15/2024
APS081524	60751	8/15/2024	Frontier Communications	Frontier 8/4/24 to 9/3/24	581.65	8/15/2024
APS081524	60752	8/15/2024	NCPERS Group Life Ins.	NCPERS Sept 2024	48.00	8/15/2024
APS081524	60753	8/15/2024	Schaap Sanitation	Schaap 8/1/24 to 8/31/24	30.51	8/15/2024
APS081524	60753	8/15/2024	Schaap Sanitation	Schaap 8/1/24 to 8/31/24	45.76	8/15/2024
APS081524	60754	8/15/2024	SRDC	Explore SW MN Finance hours July 2024	80.00	8/15/2024
APS081524	60755	8/15/2024	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank closing date 8/1/24	2,822.25	8/15/2024
APS081524	60755	8/15/2024	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank closing date 8/1/24	10.00	8/15/2024
APS081524	60755	8/15/2024	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank closing date 8/1/24	20.00	8/15/2024
APS081524	60755	8/15/2024	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank closing date 8/1/24	20.00	8/15/2024
APS081524	60756	8/15/2024	The Computer Man, Inc.	50/50 SWMHP phone assistance; Kathy Adobe, Jodi printer	187.50	8/15/2024
APS081524	60756	8/15/2024	The Computer Man, Inc.	50/50 SWMHP phone assistance; Kathy Adobe, Jodi printer	125.00	8/15/2024
APS081524	60756	8/15/2024	The Computer Man, Inc.	50/50 SWMHP: Power outage assistance x2	93.75	8/15/2024
APS081524	60756	8/15/2024	The Computer Man, Inc.	50/50 SWMHP: Power outage assistance x2	93.75	8/15/2024
APS081524	60757	8/15/2024	Verizon Wireless	Verizon 7/2/24 to 8/1/24	41.06	8/15/2024
APS081524	60758	8/15/2024	XCEL Energy	Xcel 7/6/24 to 8/4/24	235.76	8/15/2024
APS081524	60758	8/15/2024	XCEL Energy	Xcel 7/6/24 to 8/4/24	353.64	8/15/2024
APS082824	60759	8/28/2024	Abila	Abila Multiple Clouds 9/26/24 to 10/25/24	813.78	8/28/2024

### Southwest Regional Development Commission

Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register

From 8/1/2024 Through 8/31/2024

Session ID	Check ...	Document...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amount	Effective Date
APS082824	60760	8/28/2024	Achieve TFC, LLC	Strategic Planning 2024	3,272.86	8/28/2024
APS082824	60761	8/28/2024	AFLAC	Aflac August 2024	450.24	8/28/2024
APS082824	60762	8/28/2024	Bluepeak	Bluepeak 8/24/24 to 9/23/24 + paper stmt charge	61.50	8/28/2024
APS082824	60762	8/28/2024	Bluepeak	Bluepeak 8/24/24 to 9/23/24 + paper stmt charge	63.70	8/28/2024
APS082824	60763	8/28/2024	Citizen Publishing Co. (Cotton...	Citizen Publish (Cottonwood Co Citizen) subscription renewal	60.00	8/28/2024
APS082824	60764	8/28/2024	Grant Harms Films	Grant Harms Films: Remainder due; Trails video	2,500.00	8/28/2024
APS082824	60765	8/28/2024	Lowe's Sheet Metal Inc.	Lowes Sheet Metal - Langseth Lodge PACE SEP	10,323.79	8/28/2024
APS082824	60766	8/28/2024	Marilyn Samuelson	Marilyn Samuelson August 2024 Janitorial	328.00	8/28/2024
APS082824	60766	8/28/2024	Marilyn Samuelson	Marilyn Samuelson August 2024 Janitorial	472.00	8/28/2024
APS082824	60767	8/28/2024	Nobles County Auditor/Treasurer	Langseth Lodge: PACE SEP loan fees; mortg filing fee	46.00	8/28/2024
APV090524	60767	8/28/2024	Nobles County Auditor/Treasurer	Langseth Lodge: PACE SEP loan fees; mortg filing fee	(46.00)	8/28/2024
APS082824	60768	8/28/2024	Nobles County Recorder	Langseth Lodge: PACE SEP loan fees; mortg recording fee	25.08	8/28/2024
APV09052024	60768	8/28/2024	Nobles County Recorder	Langseth Lodge: PACE SEP loan fees; mortg recording fee	(25.08)	8/28/2024
APS082824	60769	8/28/2024	Quill Corporation	Ink for Robin's printer	89.08	8/28/2024
APS082824	60770	8/28/2024	S&S, Inc.	Refund: CRLF Loan Agreement Balance - S&S, Inc.	70.50	8/28/2024
APS082824	60771	8/28/2024	SRDC	Leftover from Investors Choice deposit, deposit into Savings	7,148.42	8/28/2024
APS082824	60772	8/28/2024	The Computer Man, Inc.	Upgrade SonicWall firewall firmware, enable new auto update	62.50	8/28/2024
APS082824	60772	8/28/2024	The Computer Man, Inc.	Upgrade SonicWall firewall firmware, enable new auto update	62.50	8/28/2024
APS082824	60773	8/28/2024	Walker Electric LLC	Walker Electric disb.-Langseth Lodge PACE SEP	578.73	8/28/2024
CD081324 B...	BCBS 9	8/20/2024		BCBS Sept 2024	11,752.90	8/20/2024
Report Total					112,856.47	





# Southwest Regional Development Commission

## Month End August 2024 Fiscal Year 2025

YTD Comparison % of Budget 16.67

Revenues	FY25 Budget				Year to Date	Under / Over Budget	% of Overall Budget	Explanation/Comments
	July	August	September	July - September				
Taxes	465,617	1,325.51	0.00	1,325.51	464,291.49	0.3%	When current taxes received, payments primarily received in Dec and Jun	
Contract for Services	447,803	203,188.55	12,540.16	215,728.71	232,074.29	48.2%	Based on activity earned to date. We rec'd all of the R9 McKnight money up front.	
MnDOT-Regional	75,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	75,000.00	0.0%	Based on Billings Yearly amt is \$75000	
Economic Development Adm	105,119	2,594.11	3,553.67	6,147.78	98,971.22	5.8%	Grant Earned (Federal share)	
EDA Trails Grant	53,000	11,957.47	11,649.72	23,607.19	29,392.81	44.5%	Based on activity earned to date. (Federal share)	
RLF Admin (Covid & Regular)	60,000	7,713.33	7,024.71	14,738.04	45,261.96	24.6%	Based on activity earned to date.	
Commerce - State Comp Grant	179,000	5,236.75	11,923.81	17,160.56	161,839.44	9.6%	\$290,000 over 2 yrs 4 mths, est. start March 2024, est. to use in FY24 \$40,000	
CERTs Funds	66,660	0.00	0.00	0.00	66,660.00	0.0%	Based on activity earned to date - main Certs (not subprojects), includes seed grants (additional funds for seed grants, which equals more time)	
PACE loan orig/int/misc	6,800	537.00	220.11	757.11	6,042.89	11.1%	Loan int/loan orig fee mostly received in Dec and June (code 4656/4321)	
USDA Food Grant	60,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	60,000.00	0.0%	Based on Billings (800 hours at \$75/hr for the year)	
Interest & Miscellaneous	19,184	1,293.22	4,875.77	6,168.99	13,015.01	32.2%	Bank int/loan orig fee **Bank interest is coming in higher than estimated and includes CD interest**	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>1,538,183</b>	<b>233,845.94</b>	<b>51,787.95</b>	<b>285,633.89</b>	<b>1,252,549.11</b>	<b>18.6%</b>	<b>33,864</b>	
<b>Expenditures</b>								
Committee Expenses	30,300	2,146.94	995.28	3,142.22	27,157.78	10.4%	Includes Board Retreat & Orientation, added Annual Mtg	
Salaries & Fringe	1,039,626	68,958.94	73,590.69	142,549.63	897,076.37	13.7%	Includes FY25 Salaries/Fringe (including 8% increase of Health Insurance/H.S.A)	
Travel	45,000	2,231.17	3,463.66	5,694.83	39,305.17	12.7%	Staff Travel	
Office Space Costs	44,194	777.43	705.07	1,482.50	42,711.50	3.4%	Utilities	
Postage (on hand, not including Hsg Reimb)	5,349	9.99	9.99	19.98	5,329.02	0.4%		
Communications	9,219	1,391.55	1,965.73	3,357.28	5,861.72	36.4%		
Printing/Publication	20,504	148.00	9.18	157.18	20,346.82	0.8%		
Insurance	5,917	2,568.81	22.08	2,590.89	3,326.11	43.8%	Insurance dividend/Building Insurance	
Supplies	17,000	449.81	3,657.20	4,107.01	12,892.99	24.2%	August includes our Strategic Plan	
Program Supply (Trails EDA)		0.00	19.27	19.27	-19.27	#DIV/0!	Reimbursed by Trails EDA	
Program Supply (City of Hills)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	#DIV/0!	Reimbursed by Hills Strategic Plan	
Computer	46,000	813.77	1,256.53	2,070.30	43,929.70	4.5%	Quoted price for FY25 audit - Kinner & Co. + estimated amt for FY22/FY23 Audits	
Audits	41,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	41,000.00	0.0%		
Consultant/Contracted Services/Legal	3,025	0.00	80.00	80.00	2,945.00	2.6%		
Dues/Memberships & Other	7,200	14.25	0.00	14.25	7,185.75	0.2%	Includes MAD0 Coordination (\$2000 per region)	
Financing Fees & Expenses	5,500	0.00	72.75	72.75	5,427.25	1.3%		
Equipment/Building Updates	10,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.0%		
PACE loan interest paid	508	0.00	0.00	0.00	508.00	0.0%	Paid in December and June **an amt will be in January 2024**	
Debt Service:Prin. & Int.	11,635	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,635.00	0.0%	Paid in December	
Building Lease Principal Pymt	23,183	1,883.26	1,891.97	3,775.23	19,407.77	16.3%	Our portion of lease pymt	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>1,365,160</b>	<b>81,393.92</b>	<b>87,739.40</b>	<b>169,133.32</b>	<b>1,196,026.68</b>	<b>12.4%</b>		
<b>Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b>173,023</b>	<b>152,452.02</b>	<b>-35,951.45</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>116,500.57</b>			



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

OCTOBER 2024

CEDS | EDA PLANNING

## COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)

Our current CEDS can be found at <http://www.swrdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/CEDS-2022-2027.pdf>. CEDS in MN across the EDA (Economic Development Administration) Economic Development Districts (EDDs) follow the format of the Minnesota Association of Development Organizations (MADO) DevelopMN. The latest DevelopMN can be found at <http://www.mnado.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/DevelopMN-1.pdf>. Every five years, EDA requires an updated CEDS for the region. Our next CEDS is due on 12/31/2026. There are new reporting requirements which combine the annual CEDS report and the planning grant progress performance report. This combined report is due annually on October 30.

## Southwest Minnesota Youth Committee-

The committee meets quarterly to gather members who support career and technical education programs, and to educate students and parents about local career and training opportunities. Their last meeting was on August 8, and they will meet again on November 7.

## Southwest Regional Transportation Coordinating Council (RTCC):

The group had their last meeting on June 27 and the date for their next meeting is yet to be determined. SRDC is responsible for representing economic development on the council. There is a roundtable discussion with Senator Tina Smith on October 2 in Marshall focusing on rural transit.

**Friends in the Field:** The group last met on July 10 with a focus on clean energy. Our next meeting is October 9th 10am-noon via Zoom. Our topic is Education and Engagement for the new 2030 US Census.



## EDA PLANNING

EDA Investment Opportunities: Priorities can be found at Investment Priorities | U.S. Economic Development Administration ([eda.gov](http://eda.gov)). Priorities for economic development include Equity, Recovery and Resilience, Workforce Development, Manufacturing, Technology-Based Economic Development, Environmentally Sustainable Development, and Exports and Foreign Direct Investment. You can find EDA funding opportunities at All Funding Opportunities | U.S. Economic Development Administration ([eda.gov](http://eda.gov)). Currently, there are no funds for EDA disaster projects.

SRDC assisted the City of Adrian on their grant submission to EDA for an electric substation under the public works and economic adjustment assistance NOFO. The requested grant award was 50% of the project cost (\$3,258,900) or \$1,629,450. The grant was submitted 5/3/2024. Things look very promising for this application. We are awaiting the SHPO response that was submitted 7/2/24.

SRDC also assisted the City of Lamberton on submitting a PWEAA (Public Works & Economic Adjustment Assistance) application for water source improvement project. The requested grant award is 50% of their project cost (\$1,554,000) or \$777,000. The city of Lamberton qualifies under the distress criteria on Per Capita Income and Other: Current Disaster Declaration.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

OCTOBER 2024

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

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program is a program designed to assist small communities (this includes cities or counties under 15,000 in population) in implementing strategies to reduce energy use, to reduce fossil fuel emissions, and to improve energy efficiency. This funding, with no match requirement, applies to all cities in our region and the counties of Cottonwood, Jackson, Lincoln, Murray, Pipestone, and Rock. SRDC received \$99,959.78 of which 10% is allocated for project administration. Grants to eligible communities are maxed at \$20,000 with a focus on planning efforts. Planning efforts could include resiliency plans, energy audits, engineering studies, etc. If possible, there should be emphasis on disadvantaged communities.



This month there was a conversation with a county regarding a solar study on their highway shop and a municipality in need of lift station electricity improvements which could result in an EDA grant that includes engineering. Details were also shared with the municipality regarding the MPDA Implementation Grant for Wastewater Resilience.

**Career Expo:** The 2024 Career Expo was September 24 at SMSU in Marshall and September 25 at Minnesota West in Worthington. SRDC participates annually in the Career Expo by facilitating the "Career is Right." Over 2,000 students learned about jobs that are available right here in SW MN.



# REVOLVING LOAN FUND (RLF) REPORT

OCTOBER 2024

COVID-19 RLF | TRADITIONAL RLF | CONTRACTED RLF

## RLF

The committee consists of five members and meets as needed. The committee covers both the COVID-19 RLF and Traditional RLF. The committee last met on July 22.

**Interest Rates:** EDA's guideline for minimum interest rate is 4% under prime, which equates to 4.5% currently, or 75% of prime (6.375%), whichever is less. SRDC RLF has been using 75% of the WSJ (Wall Street Journal) Prime Rate for recent loans, which adheres to regulations governing RLF awards.

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

## Funds Available for Lending

**Funds Available:** Funds on hand are in the approximate amount of Traditional RLF \$322,903.66 as of 8-31-24 and C-RLF \$245,212.55 as of 8-31-24. CRLF funds will remain federalized until seven years have passed. Reporting is required twice per year. Staff expect two applications soon, each for \$100,000, for committee consideration for projects in Lyon and Nobles County.

## Delinquent Loan

SRDC was summoned on August 19 as an interested named party as SRDC RLF (and Jackson County RLF) is a lender with similar collateral (business and real estate) as the primary lender. The purpose of our response, of which SRDC is working with an attorney (jointly with Jackson County RLF) to confirm collateral positions. The business is up for sale with a listing price of \$995,000. The business closed in mid-July. Our summons response is due September 30.

## Site Visits

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

## Contracted RLFs

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



**Jackson County RLF:** There are six active loans. Approximately \$160,000 is available for lending. One is in default and a summons letter was received August 19.

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

**Falcon Development Corporation (FDC):** Information on FDC can be found online at <https://www.swrdc.org/revolving-loan-funds/>. FDC is a local organization that focuses on improving economic development within a 30-mile radius of Heron Lake. The funds provided by FDC are not federalized, which means that Davis Bacon is not applicable to construction projects. The interest rates for these funds can now go as low as 75% of the prime rate. The FDC Board has a maximum of 7 members. The committee last met on September 10.

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



# PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (PACE) REPORT

OCTOBER 2024



## General Information:

PACE is available to property owners of small businesses, including agri-businesses and some non-profits based on usage. Please help spread the word about PACE to property owners looking to make improvements that lower their energy usage.

## Funds Available:

Funds are currently available in the approximate amount of PACE Arra \$121,637.45 as of 8-31-24 and PACE Sep \$84,895.48 as of 8-31-24. These amounts do not account for the applications that were considered, approved, and not fully closed, nor the one application for \$100,000 that is approved but waiting for a USDA REAP grant determination, and another \$100,000 application that is approved and was recently approved for a USDA REAP grant.

## C-PACE Statewide Discussions:

The MN Department of Commerce is working to expand commercial PACE programs in MN. The DOC included within their application non-competitive funds of \$300,000 to expand the financing capacity of the RMEB PACE program. DOC has indicated a delay.

## PACE Committee:

The committee meets as needed, often in conjunction with RMEB (Rural Minnesota Energy Board) meeting dates. Committee members are Metz, Wildermuth, Wachal, VanDeVere, and Paap. Interest rates for new projects are set at 3% under Prime, with a floor of 3%. The committee last met on July 10 and August 14.

**Energy Audits:** Energy assessments/audits are informational to property owners and may be the start to cost-saving energy improvements. MN DOC is working on increasing access to energy auditors. Contractor estimates and the energy assessment/audit are the two first steps to PACE financing. Two businesses, one in Jeffers and another in Heron Lake, are awaiting ReTAP dates for their in-person visits. There has been an increase in the number of recent referrals made to RETAP, MNTAP, CEE, EnergySmart, and USDA REAP.

## PACE Success Stories

A few recent success stories can be found at <https://www.swrdc.org/broadway-beauty-salon/> and <https://www.swrdc.org/tally-ho-koffee/>.

The PACE application that includes a checklist can be found at <http://rmeb.org/pace.htm>.

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





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

OCTOBER 2024

ENERGY | LAND USE, PLANNING & ZONING |  
SOLID WASTE & NATURAL RESOURCES | USDA REGIONAL FOOD BUSINESS CENTER

## ENERGY

Rural Minnesota Energy Board (RMEB): RMEB met on September 23, 2024, at 1:00 PM. They voted to change their lobbying firm from Fryberger to Larkin Hoffman Public Affairs to stay with Sam Richie as their lobbyist. Also of note, Xcel provided the update that the Brooking Line to Lyon County would be completed by mid-October and that they would be hosting meetings in October and November for feedback on the routes for the Minnesota Energy Connection line. The next meeting will be held on November 25.

### Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs):

Seed Grants: The projects funded include: three lighting upgrade projects – two in Slayton (at the library/senior center and in the 4-H building) and one in the Comfrey municipal building, a manufactured home building basics training project by Slipstream, an air-source heat pump feasibility assessments project by SWMHP, a home education and energy saving program by UCAP, and an energy efficiency video storytelling project by Erika Gilsdorf.

### Seed grants are for projects that:

- Help people learn about clean energy and get energized.
- Build community by engaging a variety of partners.
- Remove barriers, making clean energy more accessible for everyone.
- Are highly visible in the community and can be an example for other communities.

**Renewable Energy Presentation Video:** Director Walker recorded a new version of a presentation he gave on Renewable Energy in SW Minnesota for the Energy Ambassador toolkit. The presentation focuses on why wind and solar projects are concentrated in SW Minnesota, the economic incentives for their development, the need for transmission to solve the challenge of curtailment, and a projection for where the next wave of projects will occur.





## **USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Regional Food Business Center**

The USDA Regional Food Business Center has a goal to promote economic opportunities within their respective regions and establish a more diverse and resilient food system. The North Central Food Business Center (NCFBC) was established to serve Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota, with a grant of \$15 million over five years. The Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRDC) has been assigned to provide technical assistance in

our area, with an annual compensation of \$60,000.

### **North Central Regional Food Business Center:**

The Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRDC) is committed to seeking ideas and suggestions from various groups and individuals. To foster growth and development in the next four years, the North Central RFBC (Regional Food Business Centers) Action Plan was created and drafted.

Several businesses in our region applied for the USDA Business Builder Sub-Award grant but unfortunately, none of them were selected for an award.

Here is a snapshot of the first round of Business Builder Sub-awards (MN, ND, SD):

82 applicants

\$3.8 million dollars requested

15 projects funded (5 awards per state)

\$607,000 awarded

These grants support regional businesses and projects to facilitate their expansion and growth. The award amounts were \$35,000 (4 awards) and \$50,000 (1 award) per state. The grant funds have been allocated to strengthen and support food businesses in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

We are currently working to support two meat processors in our area to apply for the MDA Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) Value-Added Grant and the Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk Processing (MPEM) Grant. These programs provide funding for businesses to invest in equipment and physical improvement projects that support expanding production capacity, market diversification, and market access for their products.

### **Southwest Minnesota Meat Processor Workforce Development Initiative**

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has awarded \$250,000 to the Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRDC) to support the organization's Southwest Minnesota Meat Processor Workforce Development Initiative. Awarded through the MDA's Meat Processing Train & Retain Grant program, the one-time funding will assist small- to medium-sized meat and poultry processors with hiring, training, and retention of new employees.

Development Commission to tackle workforce development needs. CareerForce services will be provided through the Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council and Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services. Additionally, Ridgewater College and the University of Minnesota will contribute to addressing challenges in the meat and poultry processing sector.

The SRDC is eager to be part of this initiative, which aims to invest in 30 individuals by providing support for training gaps, both formal and on-the-job, offering unique retention strategies, and minimizing employment barriers.

The Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRDC) has partnered with the Mid-MN Development Commission and the Upper MN Valley Regional



**Community Development Director - Jason Walker at AMC**

**State Competitiveness Fund –  
Local Capacity Grant Progress:**

At the beginning of April, a team of SRDC staff began working on this project. We received a grant for \$290,000 to provide federal grant writing technical assistance for opportunities related to energy efficiency, renewable energy or climate resilience. The contract with Commerce ends June 30, 2026. Efforts thus far include:

- **Renew America’s Schools** prize competition from the Department of Energy – received notice that we were not awarded this prize.
- **Applied to EDA Public Works program** to obtain a new transformer for the City of Adrian. We were successful in receiving a 50/50 match of \$1.6 million for this project.
- **Presented to Association of Minnesota Counties** to a group of 200+ county commissioners and staff about how Regional Development Organizations and other technical assistance providers across the state can help with federal and state grants related to energy and resilience.
- **Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant:** In partnership with MnDOT, we rounded up letters of support for this application. We received notice that MnDOT received \$8 million! MnDOT will now create a sub-award process in which our supporters get bonus points if they provided a letter.

- **Good Jobs in Clean Energy Prize from DOE:** Staff reached out to Carrie Bendix at the Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council on August 9, 2024, to explore whether they would be interested in forming a coalition to apply for this prize. Bendix agreed that it was a good opportunity and began brainstorming project ideas and who would form the coalition which requires members from five stakeholder groups. We invited representatives from the following organizations to have an initial exploratory meeting on Friday, September 6, 2024.

1. Labor organizations – BlueGreen Alliance (BGA) and the Laborers’ International Union of North America (LIUNA):
2. Clean energy employers – Multiple solar/wind/HVAC installer options here
3. Community-based organizations – SW MN Private Industry Council
4. Public agencies – SRDC and/or relevant local units of government from Justice 40 communities
5. Education and workforce providers in a defined community. – Minnesota West Community College

- **Renewable Energy Siting through Technical Engagement (R-STEP):** We received notice that we did not receive this grant award.
- **Ellsworth EDA grant exploration:** Staff met with officials to discuss an application to the EDA for I&I and electrical upgrades to their lift station.





## GreenStep Cities

### GreenStep Cities

Luverne is interested in joining the GreenStep cities program.

GreenStep Cities is a voluntary and free challenge and assistance program for all Minnesota cities that supports and recognizes implementation of 29 sustainability best practices.

The best practices focus on cost savings, quality of life, and energy use reductions that encourage a culture of innovation. Cities that implement a minimum number of best practices within the five categories – buildings and lighting, land use, transportation, environmental management, and resilient economic and community development, will be recognized as Step Two and Step Three GreenStep cities. Each best practice can be implemented by completing one or more specific actions from a list of four to eight actions. A city's accomplishments are listed and recognized on the GreenStep website.

Visit [www.MnGreenStep.org](http://www.MnGreenStep.org) to learn more about this program, to see what cities have accomplished, and to understand how your city can participate.

**Participating cities in our region:** Marshall – Step 5, New Ulm – Step 2, Sherburn – Step 1, St. James – Step 3, and Vesta – Step 1. Interested cities: Luverne.



### RSDP Empowering Small MN Communities (ESMC) Round 2

The deadline for applications for Round 2 of ESMC is Nov. 15, and interested communities will be able to meet with RSDP staff to discuss options for their application, starting on Oct. 15. ESMC, is an RSDP run project, for small communities under 15000, prioritizing those under 5000. It provides small communities with U of MN extension resources to help them seek funding opportunities and identify local assets for help with infrastructure and revitalization projects. Currie was the last round's recipient from our region.



### World Mart

The final research report on solar panel types and set-up methods was completed by the engineering students at the University of Minnesota. SRDC Staff is currently helping RSDP staff with formulating a resource guide of the report, to share with other food truck vendors who may be interested in a similar project. The RSDP project staff will be looking to partner with another food truck to perform battery installation and look at solar panel installation options, as the World Mart food truck is no longer available for the project completion.



## PV-SUCCESS

The PhotoVoltaics Supporting Cultural and Community EcoSystem Services (PV-SUCCESS) project is a collaboration between CERTs, GPI (Great Plains Institute), and MTERA (Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association). For the duration of the project, staff from each of these organizations will work closely with stakeholders in communities that have, or will have, large-scale solar siting projects. PV-SUCCESS will focus on providing communities with more information about solar, specifically stackable benefits for solar sites that go beyond energy generation. Habitat creation, improvement in water quality, pollinator habitat, improved soil health, and carbon sequestration are just some examples that communities can focus on at their solar site. The project staff will speak with the communities affected by solar siting and hear their priorities and concerns, paying special attention to cultural and community priorities and values.

### **Staff will conduct field research and modeling and engage communities to create a decision-making framework and supporting tools to:**

- Fill gaps in scientific record on solar-specific opportunities and risks to provision of physical, biological, and chemical ecosystem services.
- Directly engage potential framework users in shaping the research, the form of the ecosystem services tool,

and implementation pathways.

- Examine ecosystem priorities across different types of host communities: tribal, underserved, energy transition, rural, and urban.

- Recognize the critical role of providing cultural services that overcome permitting barriers and explore mitigation opportunities that allow projects to proceed.

## Land Use, Planning & Zoning

City of Hills, Strategic Plan: Planner Webb presented the final draft of the City of Hills Strategic Plan to their City Council on Monday, June 10. Planner Webb has finished the update on the city's zoning ordinance. The next step is for the city's attorney to review the document and then the city can implement the new ordinance.

Lyon County, Comprehensive Plan: The Lyon County Comp Plan Steering Committee held its latest meeting on Tuesday, August 20 in Marshall. Planner Webb and Planner Walker led the meeting as a Chapter Workshop, specifically on Chapter 3: Economic Development. 12 meeting participants created goals and objectives for the Plan's chapter which will be finalized and incorporated into the final draft of the plan. 3 Town Hall Meetings are scheduled for Oct. 28 and 29 in Marshall, Balaton, and Cottonwood.

Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota One Watershed, One Plan: Planner Webb is representing the SRDC on the Advisory Committee for the Cottonwood-Middle MN One Watershed Plan. The final draft of the One Watershed Plan was reviewed and approved by

the Advisory Committee. A copy of the current draft plan is available at <https://rcrca.com/cw-mm-1w1p-planning-grant>. The Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Policy Committee, including the counties and Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) of Brown, Cottonwood, Lyon, Redwood, and Murray, the City of Springfield, the Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area (RCRCA) and Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects (Area II), is holding a Public Hearing at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at the Springfield Area Community Center at 33 S Cass Ave, Springfield, MN 56087. The Public Hearing will be in regard to the draft Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

Redwood River One Watershed, One Plan: Planner Webb is representing the SRDC on the Advisory Committee for the Redwood River One Watershed, One Plan. The first meeting on the advisory committee will be on Monday, August 14th from 10 am – 2 pm at the Lyon County Government Center.



### **Solid Waste Regional Plan:**

All counties in Minnesota must submit a solid waste plan to receive SCORE funds and apply for additional grants from the MPCA. Doing this as a 12-county Joint Powers Agreement decreases individual county costs, helps pull together resources, and arranges materials exchange for counties in the Southwest Minnesota Solid Waste Commission.

Several issues and topics will be addressed in the plan. This includes support for 100% SCORE funding to counties for Solid Waste and Recycling activities, staff constraints on individual counties, Construction and Demolitions landfill capacity and the need for financial support from the state, and the education of the public and policymakers on the importance of sanitation services as a foundation for public health.

The Solid Waste Administrators (SWA) met on September 13, 2024. Work continues to write the new 10-year Solid Waste Regional Plan. The final Solid Waste Regional plan is due December 4, 2024.

## **TRANSPORTATION REPORT**

OCTOBER 2024

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

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### **TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

The TAC met on Monday, July 29 at 1:00 PM in the SRDC Board Room. Planners from District 7 & District 8 presented their district's CHIP (Road/Bridge Projects in 2029-2034).

### **AREAS TRANSPORTATION PARTNERSHIPS (ATP)**

ATP 7 will hold its next meeting on Friday, October 11th at 10 AM in Mankato.

ATP 8 will hold its next meeting on Friday, October 4 at 10 AM in Willmar.

### **TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

Portable Counter Borrowing Program: MnDOT provides portable counters to partner agencies like cities, counties, MPOs, RDCs, and active transportation advocacy groups. These counters help to collect essential data on pedestrian traffic that can be used for various purposes such as planning projects, applying for funding, and more. The counters are available through each MnDOT District Office and can be reserved online. For more information, please visit <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/bike-ped-counting/borrow.html>.

Moving Greater Minnesota Forward Planning Grant: MNRAAA in Cottonwood County successfully applied for this planning grant through MnDOT. Their community-based committee will be working through a 10-week course with a MnDOT consultant to plan out how to increase transportation options for seniors traveling to and from medical appointments and other similar transportation needs. This is a Phase 1 Planning Grant. Phase 2 includes applying for funding to carry out plans created in Phase 1. More information at the link below:

<https://www.dot.state.mn.us/shared-mobility/moving-forward-phase1.html>



# Safe Routes to School



## ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION & SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS)

### SRTS Boost Grants

A grant to support communities with existing plans or other comprehensive SRTS approaches to promote non-infrastructure projects for schools to keep walking and bicycling to school safe, easy, and fun for students.

### Timeline:

Solicitation Opens: October 1, 2024;  
Deadline: January 17, 2025;  
Award Notification: March 2025;  
Project Duration: July 2025 – June 30, 2026

### Planning Assistance Grants

Grants to schools and communities to develop comprehensive SRTS plans. Plans are completed by regional development organizations or a statewide SRTS consultant.

### Timeline:

Solicitation Opens: October 1, 2024;  
Deadline: January 17, 2025;  
Award Notification: March 2025;  
Project Duration: July 2025 – June 30, 2026

### **SRTS & Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Awards**

Available statewide to communities to construct infrastructure that improves access and safety. Past grants have included sidewalks, trails, bike lanes, crosswalk improvements. No funding match required.





**Transportation Alternative  
Infrastructure Grant (Federal)**

This 80%/20% funded grant covers construction costs to implement infrastructure improvements to make walking, biking, and rolling better and safer in your community.

More information will be available on applications in late September/early October on solicitations for TA eligible projects. Please contact Planner Webb for more information.

**Carbon Reduction & PROTECT Grant (Federal)**

City of Luverne was awarded \$180,000 in Federal PROTECT Grant Funds to complete storm sewer system improvements at TH75 & Estey St.

The CRP provides Minnesota with approximately \$21 million annually over five years to fund projects that reduce carbon emissions from surface transportation. Program funding is distributed across the state, with some funds allocated proportionally based on population. MnDOT Districts, Metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and area transportation partnerships (ATPs) select projects to receive CRP funding.

Areas that receive funding use a consistent set of criteria and scoring techniques to support prioritization and selection of projects. While the primary intent of the CRP is to advance projects that reduce carbon from the surface transportation sector, the Minnesota CRS also advances goals of equity, safety, transportation access and public health.

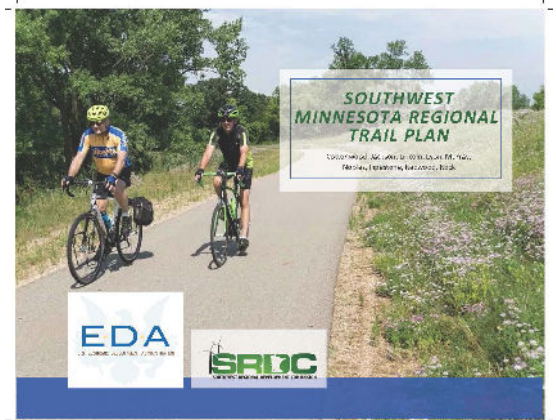
<b>Carbon Reduction Program</b>	MnDOT – ATP7	MnDOT – ATP8
FY 2027 Funding Targets:	\$580,000	\$460,000
FY 2028 Funding Targets:	\$520,00	\$480,000

**REGIONAL TRAILS PLANNING**

SRDC Staff are pleased to announce that the Final Draft of our Regional Trail Plan is completed! A printed copy was mailed out to all county commissioners. We have submitted it to our local stakeholder group for feedback before submitting it to Federal EDA. So many people from the region have contributed to this project, and we thank all of you for your involvement, big and small.

To ensure the plan does not just sit on shelves, we made a link on our website. Go to the our region, then regional trail tab at swrdc.org to read the plan, see video footage of trails in the region, and peruse links to trail groups and plans throughout southwest Minnesota. We will also continue to host regular stakeholder meetings through our MnDOT contract and will continue to reach out to communities about various active transportation grant opportunities.

Funding partners include Cottonwood, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, and Rock Counties, and the Cities of Wabasso, Lambertson, Walnut Grove, and Revere.





# Executive Director's Report

OCTOBER 2024

Work progresses apace on the Regional Solid Waste Plan. There continues to be somewhat of a disconnect between MPCA and the Counties both at the elected official and at the staff level. As an outside observer, the main point seems to be that MPCA is so siloed that they don't see the interaction of the various departments such as permitting and code enforcement as relevant to the solid waste plan, while the counties who actually deal with the reality of the waste stream view MPCA as a single agency and everything that affects the counties affects the plan. The Solid Waste Administrator Work Group and I met after the Solid Waste Commission meeting on the 23rd and fleshed out how we are going to report out the budgets in the plan for the various sections that require budgets. Solid Waste Administrator Chair Dustin Hauschild from Lincoln County and I presented at the Lyon County Landfill Advisory Board Annual Meeting on the 30th in Marshall on the top regional priorities identified in the plan.



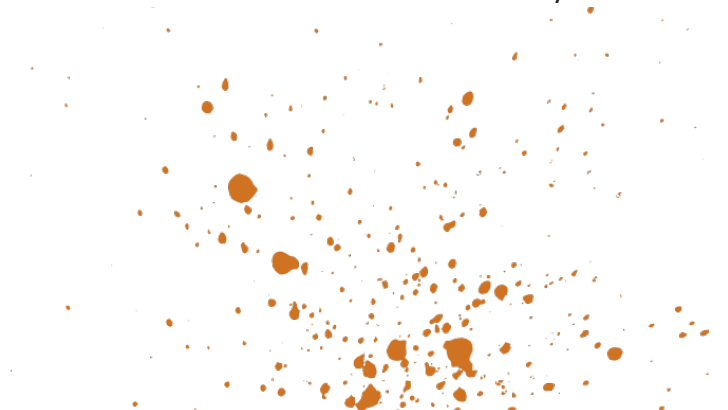
We had our monthly check in call for the LYFT (Launch Your Future Today) Advisory Committee. We have decided as a group that given how well attended last year's annual meeting was and the continued interest in the program that we would use this year's LYFT Annual Meeting as a Regional LYFT Conference.



Sheila and I continued working on the MADO All-Staff Retreat, we will give a report at the meeting on it as it is scheduled for October 2-4 in Waite Park at the Park Event Center.



Staff attended training on TeamKeeper, our new payroll/timekeeping software. The new software should integrate seamlessly into our existing financial system and automate payroll functions that were still being done on spreadsheets and manually entered into the system.





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