



JANUARY



2025

FULL COMMISSION MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

4-H BUILDING - BIG ROOM
MURRAY CO. FAIRGROUNDS
3:30 P.M.



Southwest Regional Development Commission—Full Commission

* Board of Directors

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

SRDC Full Commission Membership

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

SRDC Board of Director Membership

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

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



SRDC
FULL COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, January 9, 2025
3:30 pm

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

AGENDA

#	<u>Time</u>		<u>Page</u>
1	3:30	Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance	
2	3:31	Introductions	
3	3:35	Additions to and Approval of Agenda Action Needed: Approve Agenda	
4	3:37	Commissioner Appointment: Jackson Co. Commissioner Action Needed: Approve Jackson Co. Commissioner	
5	3:40	Consent Agenda Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 14, 2024, FC Meeting Minutes • December 12, 2024, BOD Meeting Minutes • November Receipts & Expenditures Report • Solid Waste Regional Plan Amendment • Worthington Economic Development Corporation • MN Housing Finance Agency allocation request • Explore SW MN Contract Action Needed: Approve of Consent Agenda Items	5-11 12-15 16-19 20 21-24 25-29 30-32
6	3:44	Finance Reports — <i>Treasurer Anderson & Finance Director Nelson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurer’s Report, including bank accounts & investments • Administrative Report through November 2024 Action Needed: Approval of Treasurer’s Report Action Needed: Approval of Administrative Report	H-1 33
7	4:00	Budget & Personnel Committee Report — <i>Committee Chair Anderson & Finance Director Nelson</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget revision • By-law change to move the annual meeting date Action Needed: Approve Committee Recommendations	34
8	4:05	Legislative Report – <i>Chair Miron Carney / Executive Director Trusty</i>	
9	4:10	Deep Dive – <i>Cheryl Glaeser – Strategic Plan</i>	

		<u>Committee & Staff Reports</u>	
10	4:40	Economic Development Report — <i>Deputy Director Weis</i>	35-36
11	4:45	Revolving Loan Funds Report — <i>Committee Chair Byrnes & Deputy Director Weis</i>	37-38
12	4:50	Community Development Report — <i>Development Planners Walker, Bucklin, Webb</i>	39-40
13	4:55	Transportation Report — <i>Committee Chair VanDeVere & Development Planners Walker & Webb</i>	41
14	5:00	Executive Director’s Report — <i>Executive Director Trusty</i>	42
15	5:10	Chairman’s Report — <i>Chairman Langseth</i>	
16	5:15	Reports from SRDC Commissioners Representing Local Units of Government & Public Interest Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dennis Welgraven, Murray Co. Commissioners • Steve Kellen, Nobles Co. Municipalities • Jeff Moen, Lincoln Co. Townships 	
17	5:30	Unfinished Business	
18	5:30	New Business	
19	5:30	Other Issues	
20	5:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcements • SRDC Office is closed Monday, January 20th in observance of Martin Luther King Day • SRDC Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, February 13 at 3:30 pm at the SRDC Office • SRDC Office closed February 17th in observation of President’s Day • SRDC Full Commission Meeting: Thursday, March 13, 2025 • Commissioner vacancies: Murray County Township, Pipestone County Township, Lower Sioux, Cultural Diversity, Lyon Co. Townships, Lincoln Co. Municipalities, Rock Co. Municipalities, and School Board Rep. 	
21	5:35	Adjourn	



MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Paul Langseth, Commissioners Rick Anderson, JoEllen Benson, Leah Bittner, Kristie Blankenship, Bob Byrnes, Miron Carney, Pam Cooreman, Lori Grant, Donna Gravley, Mark Haberman, Eric Hartman, Steve Kellen, Dennis Klingbile, Ron Kottke, Tiffany Lesmeister-Knott, Jeff Moen, Craig Rubis, Stephen Schnieder, Sherri Thompson, Mic VanDeVere, Bob Van Hee, Rick VonHoldt, Dennis Welgraven, and Beth Wilms

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Carrie Bendix (excused), Dan Delaney, Kieth Elbers (excused), Chris Hollingsworth, Scott McClure (excused), Bob Paplow, Jenny Quade, David Sturrock, and Justine Wettschreck

GUESTS PRESENT: Owen Todd, Redwood Falls City Engineer

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS/APPROVAL

Additions to the agenda included: Appointment of a Secretary to complete the term of Keith Elbers (January 1-July 10); Under Contracts added the EE-RLF PACE for approval; and added Commissioner Recognition for those going off the Commission on December 31, 2024.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Carney and seconded by Commissioner VonHoldt to approve the agenda with additions. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner VonHoldt and seconded by Commissioner Carney to approve the September Receipts and Expenditures, the September 12, 2024 Full Commission Meeting Minutes, the October 10, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes and the City of Hills Contract Extension. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

Chair Langseth presented the following appointment to fill out the remainder of the terms for Secretary from January 1 to July 10, 2025:

Acting Secretary-nominee Eric Hartman

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Langseth and seconded by Commissioner Thompson to approve Eric Hartman as Acting Secretary. Upon vote taken: Ayes-24, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONTRACTS

Deputy Director Weis presented the contract with the State of MN for EE-RLF PACE funding.

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

FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer Anderson referred Commissioners to the Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2024, showing bank accounts and fund designations. He noted there is a CD coming due November 15. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Schnieder to approve treasurer report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-25, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Finance Director Nelson went over the Administrative Report through September 30, 2024. There were no questions.

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

FUNCTIONAL CLASS CHANGE

Transportation Planner Webb reviewed the request for Functional Class changes in the City of Redwood Falls. Redwood Falls City Engineer, Owen Todd, answered some questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Byrnes and seconded by Commissioner Cooreman to approve the functional class change as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-24, Nays-1. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

A. Economic Development Report

Deputy Director Weis reported that the City of Adrian received funding from EDA for their grant application for an electric substation under the Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance NOFO. Grant amount was in the amount of \$1,629,450. Commissioner Kellen from the City of Adrian read a letter from the city praising the work Weis did on the application and thanked her.

An application was submitted to the Economic Development Administration for a Public Works & Economic Adjustment Assistance grant for the City of Lambertton for water source improvements. This grant is still awaiting investment committee review.

The City of Jeffers received \$30,000 from the Taylor Corporation Foundation towards an updated pumper truck for their fire department.

The SRDC has funding to assist cities and counties under 15,000 population in implementing strategies to reduce energy use. There is no match requirement. Grants are maxed at \$20,000 and can include efforts for resiliency plans, energy audits, engineering studies, etc.

Economic Development Specialist Murphy gave an update on the Regional Food Business Centers grant activities. Outreach has been happening. Staff helped a meat processor apply for the MDA Meat, Poultry, Egg and Milk Processing (MPEM) grant. A grocery store closed in a small town and staff is working with the meat locker in town to possibly expand into that building and provide some groceries. United Community Action is looking at turning the old bowling alley in Worthington into a food shelf and office space.

Murphy gave an update on the SW MN Meat Processor Workforce Development Initiative. There are currently three individuals participating in the on-the-job training option.

B. Revolving Loan Fund Report

Committee Chair Byrnes reported that there is approximately \$360,000 in the traditional RLF fund and approximately \$348,000 in the CRLF fund. Staff has been working on servicing issues with several loans.

Work continues with the contracted RLFs. A new loan closed for Falcon Development Corporation on November 1. Staff will be contracted to the Worthington Regional Economic Development Corporation to do RLF services.

PACE

Deputy Director Weis reported there are approximately \$71,000 in ARRA funds and approximately \$84,700 in SEP funds. Some of these funds are committed just not disbursed yet. There is an application for a Nobles County business going to

committee. The \$300,000 in EE-RLF PACE funds will be needed to help fund all applications approved plus the one going to committee.

C. Community Development Report

The Rural Minnesota Energy Board met on September 23. They voted to follow their current lobbyist to his new firm. The next meeting will be November 25. A representative from National Grid Alliance will speak about the 12 projects they have going on next year in the RMEB area.

Development Planner Bucklin reviewed the CERTs Seed Grant applications. The project by Erika Gilsdorf where she interviewed people and put together storytelling videos is complete and can be viewed at www.whatfuelsyouusa.com.

Bucklin talked about The PhotoVoltaics Supporting Cultural and Community EcoSystem Services (PV-SUCCESS) project that is a collaboration between CERTs, Great Plains Institute (GPI) and Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association (MTERA). Staff from each organization 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.

Conversations are being held with the Department of Commerce about helping farmers with energy conservation with CERTs.

The 3-day CERTs retreat went well. The first day participants reflected on the year and the accomplishments made. Day 2 was a day for goal setting. Six focus areas were agreed on. They were community energy ambassadors, solar for all, homes and rebates, PV-SUCCESS, workforce development and utility innovation. Day 3 focused on internal work around communications.

Deadline for applications for Round 2 of the RSDP Empowering Small MN Communities deadline is November 15. The City of Currie was a grant recipient in the last round.

The final research report on solar panel types and set-up methods was completed by the engineering students at the University of Minnesota for food trucks. They are now looking for a food truck to work with to install batteries and panel options.

D. Transportation Report

Development Planner Webb attended the National Safe Routes to School Conference in Fort Collins, Colorado on October 22-24. Attendees shared and developed strategies for strengthening Safe Routes to School programs in our communities. Webb participated in a mobile workshop bike tour through Fort Collins and Colorado State University to show the benefits of safe, accessible routes.

MN River Area Agency on Aging in Cottonwood County was successful in getting a grant through MnDOT. The grant will help them form a community-based committee to

work through a 10-week course with a MnDOT consultant on a plan on how to increase transportation options for senior citizens.

E. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Trusty along with Walker and Bucklin had a call with the National Renewable Energy Laboratories regarding the distribution of wind-putting it where it can be used locally on a smaller scale than utility grid wind.

Work on the Solid Waste Plan continues with staff receiving the last two items needed. The next meeting with the Solid Waste Administrators will be November 15 in Redwood Falls.

CERTs Executive Directors met and one major discussion was the bottleneck happening with all the new programs being rolled out.

Trusty, Walker and Webb met with City of Marshall staff about possibly doing a Parks Plan.

F. Chairman's Report

Chairman Langseth reported there are a lot of conferences coming up (counties, townships, schools, etc.). The township association quorum issue has not been resolved so no business can be conducted at their conference.

There are a lot of program opportunities for our area and Langseth encouraged everyone to take advantage of the expertise of SRDC staff.

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

A. Redwood County Commissioners

Commissioner Van Hee reported on activities in Redwood County. Some of the things he highlighted were that himself and County Commissioner Wakefield were reelected and that they would have a new County Commissioner in Corey Theis. There is a new development located on the east end of Redwood Falls with the first houses being sold and one spec home sold.

There is a new grade school next to the old school in Redwood Falls. A new school in Lamberton for the Red Rock Central School District. The Redwood Falls cross country teams did well at state with the boys finishing in first place and the girls in second place.

The sheriff's department is down three deputies. The department also received body cameras.

The county has met with Xcel Energy. There has been a housing study done for Redwood County.

ARPA funds were used for water and septic system upgrades, expansion at Plum Creek Park along with infrastructure upgrades at the park.

There is a wastewater project in Walnut Grove. The City of Lambertton is working on a daycare project.

B. Lyon County Municipalities

Commissioner Cooreman reported on municipalities in Lyon County.

The City of Cottonwood has some infrastructure projects and received a \$350,000 grant for updates at the lake.

The City of Minneota said their Lyon Street project is finishing up. The owners of the daycare facility in Ghent are looking at building a daycare in Minneota. The only restaurant in town is up for sale.

The City of Balaton received a donation from the Legion for town and community center updates along with purchasing an AED machine. The community foundation and the legion purchased turnout gear for the fire department. The former nursing home building needs upgrading to be turned into apartments.

In the City of Lynd, they have a road project going on.

There was a fire in the abandoned elevator in the City of Russell that appears to be arson. They have a multi-million-dollar infrastructure project and replaced the bridge to the park.

Tracy has 4 new houses going up-1 private, 2 being built by United Community Action Partnership and 1 being built by the school's building trades class along with the county. City officials are working with Bollig Engineering to develop 30 additional lots. Money was raised by the City Park board for 2 new play structures in Central Park. Construction is happening on four new hangars at the airport.

C. Southwest Mn Housing Partnership (SWMHP)

Commissioner Blankenship gave an overview of what the SWMHP does and who they serve.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Langseth adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kathy Schreiber, Administrative Specialist.

Reviewed by:

Approved by:

Eric Hartman
SRDC Secretary

Paul Langseth
SRDC Chairman



MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Paul Langseth, Commissioners Rick Anderson, Miron Carney, Keith Elbers, Donna Gravley, Mark Haberman, Eric Hartman, Dennis Klingbile, Bob Van Hee, Rick VonHoldt and Dennis Welgraven

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Bob Byrnes (excused) and Chris Hollingsworth

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Paul Langseth called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/APPROVAL

Added Contracts to the agenda.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Van Hee and seconded by Commissioner Hartman to approve the updated agenda. Upon vote taken: Ayes-11, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Gravley and seconded by Commissioner Klingbile to approve the October Receipts and Expenditures, the A.C.E. of SW MN and Friends of the Casey Jones State Trail contracts and the CERTs contract amendment. Upon vote taken: Ayes-11, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

CONTRACTS

Deputy Director Weis presented the contract with the City of Adrian and Executive Director Trusty presented the contract with the Southwest Solid Waste Commission.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Welgraven and seconded by Commissioner Elbers to approve the City of Adrian and Southwest Solid Waste Commission contracts. Upon vote taken: Ayes-11, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer Anderson referred Commissioners to the Treasurer's Report as of November 30, 2024, showing bank accounts and fund designations. He noted there are two CD coming due December 13. Both CDs will renew at 4.16%. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Van Hee and seconded by Commissioner Carney to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-11, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

Finance Director Nelson reviewed the Administrative Report through October 31, 2024. There were no questions.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Hartman and seconded by Commissioner Klingbale to approve the Administrative Report as presented. Upon vote taken: Ayes-11, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

A. Budget & Personnel Committee Report

It was recommended by the B & P Committee for the Board of Directors to present the Budget Revision to the Full Commission in January for approval.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Kottke and seconded by Commissioner Von Holdt to approve taking the Budget Revision to the Full Commission in January for approval. Upon vote taken: Ayes-11, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

It was recommended by the B & P Committee to increase the billable rate for the Executive Director, the Deputy Director, the Finance Director and the Accounting Specialist.

M/S/P Motion made by Commissioner Gravley and seconded by Commissioner Von Holdt to approve the increase in the billable rate for the Executive Director, the Deputy Director, the Finance Director and the Accounting Specialist. Upon vote taken: Ayes-11, Nays-0. Motion Carried.

B. Audit Committee

Finance Director Nelson gave an update on the FY2022 Audit. The Audit has been completed and sent out. There were only a couple of minor findings. Auditors have begun working on the FY2023 Audit. They will be working hard on the FY2023 audit but will have to put it on hold once tax season starts.

was not a bonding bill last session that will be the primary focus this session, and other issues will probably not be given consideration. The committee will meet on January 30, 2025. Greater MN Partnership (GMP) and Coalition of Great MN Cities (CGMC) Day on the Hill will be February 12, 2025. Carney thanked Commissioner Elbers for his dedication to the Legislative Committee these past years.

D. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Trusty reported on his attendance at the Association of MN Counties (AMC) conference. There were over 550 attendees and over 100 vendors. MN Association of Development Organizations (MADO) had a booth there. Planners Bucklin and Webb along with SWHHS staff Luke Ewald and Jackson County Commissioner Phil Nasby presented a breakout session on the Regional Trails Plan.

Staff spent an afternoon at Trusty's wife's bakery making and eating some sweet treats. The 2025 staff committees have been set.

MADO Directors met in Hutchinson on December 5 & 6. Directors met with the SW Initiative Foundation and the McKnight Foundation. The discussion with McKnight focused on using a grant to work on Strategic Planning for MADO. McKnight is also looking at partnering with the RDCs to provide more services in rural areas.

There will be a Solid Waste meeting on January 3, 2025, to complete the Solid Waste Plan for submittal. Trusty will be working on finishing the draft plan before that meeting.

Discussion was held with the B&P committee around moving the SRDC Annual Meeting to a different month. Trusty will survey the commissioners regarding this with more information to come at the January Full Commission meeting.

E. Chairman's Report

Chairman Langseth reported there is a Township Association meeting next weekend. No business will happen as there will not be a quorum. They are still having internal issues in this association. He then praised staff for their work, citing how competent and consistent they are and how well they communicate with each other and the agencies they serve.

After serving nine years on the SRDC, Commissioner Elbers attended his last meeting. Chair Langseth presented Elbers with a Certificate of Appreciation. Elbers praised the staff and was very appreciated for all their help and all he learned while serving.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

OTHER ISSUES

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Paul Langseth referred Commissioners to the announcements included on the agenda along with the calendar of next year's meeting dates.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Langseth adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kathy Schreiber, Administrative Specialist.

Reviewed by:

Approved by:

Eric Hartman
SRDC Secretary

Paul Langseth
SRDC Chairman

Southwest Regional Development Commission

Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register

From 11/1/2024 Through 11/30/2024

Session ID	Check ...	Document...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amount	Effective Date
CD111324 W...	10	11/25/2024		Oct 2024 Wex Fees	22.00	11/26/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Nadya N. Bucklin	Employee: BucklinN; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	2,131.98	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	2,456.59	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	230.07	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	1,672.71	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	1,447.31	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	18.32	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Melissa Nelson	Employee: MansonM; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	1,867.05	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Kimberly Murphy	Employee: MurphyK; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	1,752.45	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	1,651.02	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	82.37	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	71.40	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Jayne I. Trusty	Employee: TrustyJ; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	4,035.09	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Jason L. Walker	Employee: WalkerJ; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	2,598.98	11/14/2024
PRS111424	11142...	11/14/2024	Christopher S. Webb	Employee: WebbC; Pay Date: 11/14/2024	1,900.99	11/14/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Craig Rubis	Craig Rubis 11/14/24 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Craig Rubis	Craig Rubis 11/14/24 Meeting	67.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Robert H. Van Hee	Bob VanHee 11/14/24 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Robert H. Van Hee	Bob VanHee 11/14/24 Meeting	93.80	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Ronald Kottke	Ronald Kottke 11/14/24 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Ronald Kottke	Ronald Kottke 11/14/24 Meeting	36.18	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Stephen P. Schnieder	Stephen Schnieder 11/14/24 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Stephen P. Schnieder	Stephen Schnieder 11/14/24 Meeting	42.88	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Steven A Kellen	Steven Kellen 11/14/24 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Steven A Kellen	Steven Kellen 11/14/24 Meeting	46.90	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Eric A. Hartman	Eric Hartman 9/12/24 to 11/14/24 Meetings	150.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Eric A. Hartman	Eric Hartman 9/12/24 to 11/14/24 Meetings	172.86	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Jeffrey Moen	Jeff Moen 11/14/24 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Jeffrey Moen	Jeff Moen 11/14/24 Meeting	48.91	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	JoEllen M. Benson	JoEllen Benson 11/14/24 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	JoEllen M. Benson	JoEllen Benson 11/14/24 Meeting	75.04	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Mark A Haberman	Mark Haberman 11/14/24	50.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Mark A Haberman	Mark Haberman 11/14/24	43.55	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Michael L. VanDeVere	Mic VanDeVere 9/12/24 to 11/14/24 Meetings	150.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Michael L. VanDeVere	Mic VanDeVere 9/12/24 to 11/14/24 Meetings	222.44	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Pamela J. Stimpert Cooreman	Pamela Stimpert Cooreman 7/11/24 to 11/14/24 Meetings	150.00	11/26/2024

Southwest Regional Development Commission
 Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register
 From 11/1/2024 Through 11/30/2024

Session ID	Check ...	Document...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amount	Effective Date
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Pamela J. Stimpert Cooreman	Pamela Stimpert Cooreman 7/11/24 to 11/14/24 Meetings	173.53	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Richard Anderson	Rick Anderson 11/14/24 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Richard Anderson	Rick Anderson 11/14/24 Meeting	30.82	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Robert J. Byrnes	Robert Byrnes 11/14/24 + 11/20/24 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Robert J. Byrnes	Robert Byrnes 11/14/24 + 11/20/24 Meeting	42.88	11/26/2024
APS112624 ...	11262...	11/26/2024	Robert J. Byrnes	Robert Byrnes 11/14/24 + 11/20/24 Meeting	50.00	11/26/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Nadya N. Bucklin	Employee: BucklinN; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	2,041.40	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	1,878.49	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	693.09	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Robin R. Weis	Employee: WeisR; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	5.48	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Sheila F. Crowley	Employee: CrowleyS; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	1,672.71	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	1,451.90	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Jodi L. Klein	Employee: KleinJ; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	13.74	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Melissa Nelson	Employee: MansonM; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	1,867.05	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Kimberly Murphy	Employee: MurphyK; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	1,751.78	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	1,636.52	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	77.41	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Kathleen M. Schreiber	Employee: SchreiberK; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	55.28	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Jayne I. Trusty	Employee: TrustyJ; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	3,218.35	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Jason L. Walker	Employee: WalkerJ; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	2,598.99	11/27/2024
PRS112724	11272...	11/27/2024	Christopher S. Webb	Employee: WebbC; Pay Date: 11/28/2024	1,779.77	11/27/2024
APS110624	60853	11/6/2024	City of Slayton	City of Slayton 9/23/24 to 10/22/24	22.08	11/6/2024
APS110624	60853	11/6/2024	City of Slayton	City of Slayton 9/23/24 to 10/22/24	23.92	11/6/2024
APS110624	60854	11/6/2024	Culligan Water Conditioning	4 bottles water, 2 bags salt, cooler rental	54.80	11/6/2024
APS110624	60854	11/6/2024	Culligan Water Conditioning	4 bottles water, 2 bags salt, cooler rental	12.60	11/6/2024
APS110624	60855	11/6/2024	Jackson County Pilot	Jackson Co Pilot 1 year subscription	85.00	11/6/2024
APS110624	60856	11/6/2024	Murray County Christmas Fund	Murray Co Xmas Project	1,150.00	11/6/2024
APS110624	60857	11/6/2024	One Office Solution	Meter reading 9/25/24 to 10/18/24, copy paper	439.04	11/6/2024
APS110624	60858	11/6/2024	Pizza Ranch #7801	Reissue lost ck: Dessert/coffee for Full Commission 3/14/24	64.08	11/6/2024
APS110624	60859	11/6/2024	Slayton EDA	EDA Lease Nov 2024	4,848.63	11/6/2024
APS110624	60860	11/6/2024	SRDC	Explore SW Oct 2024	40.00	11/6/2024
APS110624	60861	11/6/2024	State of Minnesota	Debt Service 2024 Principal/Interest Payment	10,000.00	11/6/2024
APS110624	60862	11/6/2024	Wheel - Herald	Ad: Snow removal bid	22.96	11/6/2024
APS110624	60862	11/6/2024	Wheel - Herald	Ad: Snow removal bid	34.44	11/6/2024
APS110624	60863	11/6/2024	XCEL Energy	Xcel Energy 10/2/24 - 11/1/24	168.28	11/6/2024
APS110624	60863	11/6/2024	XCEL Energy	Xcel Energy 10/2/24 - 11/1/24	252.42	11/6/2024

Southwest Regional Development Commission

Check/Voucher Register - Board Check Register

From 11/1/2024 Through 11/30/2024

Session ID	Check ...	Document...	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Amount	Effective Date
APS111324	60864	11/13/2024	B&H Petroleum Equipment Co.	Falcon Loan Disb: Heron Lake Mini Mart	9,839.40	11/13/2024
APS111324	60865	11/13/2024	Chandler Co-Op	Chandler Coop Oct 2024	34.81	11/13/2024
APS111324	60866	11/13/2024	Grants Management Systems ...	Monthly license, warranty, service and support	100.00	11/13/2024
APS111324	60866	11/13/2024	Grants Management Systems ...	Monthly license, warranty, service and support	40.00	11/13/2024
APS111324	60867	11/13/2024	NCPEFS Group Life Ins.	NCPEFS Dec 2024 & Oct+Nov for Kim	96.00	11/13/2024
APS111324	60868	11/13/2024	Schaap Sanitation	Schaap 11/1/24 to 11/30/24	30.51	11/13/2024
APS111324	60868	11/13/2024	Schaap Sanitation	Schaap 11/1/24 to 11/30/24	45.76	11/13/2024
APS111324	60869	11/13/2024	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Closing date 11/1/24	9,657.85	11/13/2024
APS111324	60869	11/13/2024	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Closing date 11/1/24	60.00	11/13/2024
APS111324	60869	11/13/2024	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Closing date 11/1/24	80.00	11/13/2024
APS111324	60869	11/13/2024	TCM Bank NA	TCM Bank Closing date 11/1/24	10.00	11/13/2024
APS111324	60870	11/13/2024	Verizon Wireless	Verizon 10/2/24 to 11/1/24 data coverage	101.06	11/13/2024
APS112124	60871	11/21/2024	Adrian Auto Service, LLC	CRIF Loan Disbursement: Adrian Auto	100,000.00	11/21/2024
APS112124	60872	11/21/2024	Association of Minnesota Coun...	2024 Strategic Playground reg - Chris; 11/13/24 and 10/31/24	460.00	11/21/2024
APS112124	60873	11/21/2024	Cottonwood County Recorder	Notary Renewal - Robin	20.00	11/21/2024
APS112124	60874	11/21/2024	David R. Samuelson	Trim bushes, pick up leaves Oct+Nov 2024	88.00	11/21/2024
APS112124	60874	11/21/2024	David R. Samuelson	Trim bushes, pick up leaves Oct+Nov 2024	132.00	11/21/2024
APS112124	60875	11/21/2024	Fleet Services Division	Monthly Lease rent 10/1/24 to 10/31/24	151.23	11/21/2024
APS112124	60876	11/21/2024	Frontier Communications	Frontier 5078360034 11/10/24 to 12/09/24	480.29	11/21/2024
APS112124	60876	11/21/2024	Frontier Communications	Frontier 5078360034 11/10/24 to 12/09/24	891.96	11/21/2024
APS112124	60877	11/21/2024	Kinner & Company Ltd	June 30, 2022 Audit Fin. Stmt's, Audit Under Uniform Guidance	10,000.00	11/21/2024
APS112124	60878	11/21/2024	Marilyn Samuelson	Janitorial services Nov 2024	328.00	11/21/2024
APS112124	60878	11/21/2024	Marilyn Samuelson	Janitorial services Nov 2024	472.00	11/21/2024
APS112124	60879	11/21/2024	Murray County Christmas Fund	Murray Co Xmas Project	1,350.00	11/21/2024
APS112124	60880	11/21/2024	NADO	NADO Membership Renewal 2025	3,000.00	11/21/2024
APS112124	60881	11/21/2024	Quill Corporation	Green copy paper, yellow toner	236.41	11/21/2024
CD111324 B...	BCBS12	11/20/2024		BCBS Dec 2024	11,372.16	11/20/2024
Report Total					211,072.77	



Southwest Regional Development Commission

Cottonwood • Jackson • Lincoln • Lyon • Murray • Nobles • Pipestone • Redwood • Rock

Contract Amendment:

This is an Amendment to extend the Southwest Regional Solid Waste Plan contract to June 30, 2025. The extension would not result in excess Compensation due, that is beyond the Projected amount.

IN WITNESS, THEREOF, THE Commission has caused this contract to be duly executed on its behalf and the Southwest Regional Solid Waste Commission has caused the same to be duly executed on its behalf.

**SOUTHWEST REGIONAL
SOLID WASTE COMMISSION**

**SOUTHWEST REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

Authorized Official

Authorized Official

Attested By

Attested By

Date _____

Date _____

AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES
Between
WORTHINGTON REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (WREDC)
For FORWARD WORTHINGTON
And the
SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (SRDC)

Agreement for Service

- A. This agreement between the WREDC for FORWARD WORTHINGTON and the SRDC is entered into for the purpose of utilizing the expertise of the Staff of the SRDC for administrative services of new loans of the WREDC Revolving Loan Fund in cooperation with the WREDC staff. Services provided by the SRDC to the WREDC include, but are not limited to:
- a. Put together loan packets for WREDC (Forward Worthington) committee review.
 - b. Draft loan documents for WREDC (Forward Worthington) approved loans, as requested, in preparation for loan closing. WREDC is responsible for legal review of documents.
 - c. Assist with loan closings and post-closing details as requested.
- B. The work activities specified above will begin November 27, 2024, and continue through December 31, 2025.
- C. **Independent Contractor Status.** The SRDC is to be and shall remain an independent contractor with respect to any and all work performed under this Contract. It is agreed that nothing herein contained is intended or should be construed in any manner as creating or establishing the relationship of co-partners between the parties hereto or as constituting SRDC as the agent, representative, or employee of the WREDC for any purpose or in any manner whatsoever. SRDC acknowledges and agrees that SRDC is not entitled to receive any of the benefits received by WREDC employees and is not eligible for workers' or unemployment compensation benefits under the WREDC. SRDC also acknowledges and agrees that no withholding or deduction for state or federal income taxes, FICA, FUTA, or otherwise, will be made from the payment due SRDC and that it is SRDC's sole obligation to comply with the applicable provisions of all federal and state tax laws.

- D. Indemnification. SRDC shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the WREDC, its officers and employees against any and all liability, loss, costs, damages, expenses, claims or actions, including attorney's fees which the WREDC, its officers or employees may herein sustain, incur or be required to pay, arising out of or by reason of any act or omission of SRDC, its agents, servants or employees, in the execution, performance, or failure to adequately perform.
- E. Likewise, the WREDC agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the SRDC against any legal actions that arise on behalf of the WREDC, its agents, servants or employees while engaged in the performance of the Contract or brought by any entity whatsoever arising out of decisions made by the WREDC or claimed to be arising out of the performance of WREDC under this agreement for services.
- F. Insurance. General Terms. In order to protect itself and to protect the WREDC under the indemnity provision set forth above SRDC shall, at SRDC's expense, procure and maintain policies of insurance covering the term of this Contract, as set forth below:

General Liability: \$1,500,000 per occurrence
Public Employees Liability: \$1,500,000 per occurrence
Employee Dishonesty/Faithful Performance Blanket Bond \$50,000
Workers Comp: \$500,000 each employee accident or disease; \$1,500,000 each accident or disease
Auto: Bodily Injury and Property Damage \$1,500,000 per occurrence limit

I. Budget and Payment Schedule

- A. The WREDC (Forward Worthington) shall pay for the services of the Southwest Regional Development SRDC at a cost of \$100/hour for Professional Staff administrative services and \$60/hour for Supporting Staff services.
- B. The WREDC will, in addition to the hourly rate, also reimburse the SRDC for travel, meals, and lodging at the applicable IRS rate. However, where possible the SRDC will conduct WREDC Revolving Loan Fund business at a time when other normal RDC business is done within the WREDC, thereby keeping mileage and meal expenses to a minimum.
- C. The SRDC will submit a monthly request for payment for the number of hours worked and reimbursable costs.

II. Cancellation

This contract may be canceled by the SRDC or the WREDC at any time with or without cause, upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party. In the event of

such a cancellation, the SRDC will be entitled to payment for work or services already performed. Upon cancellation, there will be no claims for damages due to the withdrawal of either party.

III. Assignment

The SRDC shall neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this contract without prior written consent of the WREDC.

IV. Proprietary Information

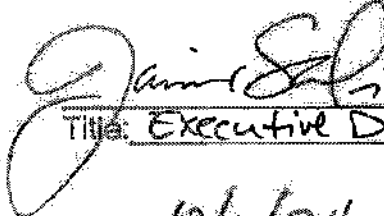
No proprietary data or services of the SRDC will be required for completion of this contract.

V. Amendments, Extensions, or Revisions

Any amendments, extensions, or revisions to this Contract shall be in writing and shall be executed by the same parties who executed the original contract or their successors in office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this agreement on the ____ day of _____.

WORTHINGTON REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION for FORWARD WORTHINGTON


Title: Executive Director

Title: _____

Date: 12/17/24

Date: _____

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Executive Director

Chair

Date: _____

Date: _____



Southwest Regional Development Commission

Cottonwood • Jackson • Lincoln • Lyon • Murray • Nobles • Pipestone • Redwood • Rock

January 9, 2025

Greg Krenz
Program Manager
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency
400 Wabasha Street, Suite 400, Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Greg,

The Southwest Regional Development Commission is requesting the following allocation of MCPP mortgage resources for the nine counties in the region:

Cottonwood	10%	Nobles	17%
Jackson	9%	Pipestone	8%
Lincoln	5%	Redwood	13%
Lyon	22%	Rock	8%
Murray	8%		

These percentages are based on the number of households in each county as a percentage of total households in the region according to the 2023 State Demographer's Office Estimates published in August of 2024. Please let me know if you need any further information from us.

Sincerely,

Jayme I. Trusty
Executive Director

2401 Broadway Avenue, Suite 1, Slayton, MN 56172 • 507-836-8547
srdc@swrdc.org • www.swrdc.org

**MINNESOTA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY
MINNESOTA CITY PARTICIPATION PROGRAM**

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
COMMITMENT AGREEMENT**

THIS APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT (this "Agreement") is between Southwest Regional Development Commission with its office at 2401 Broadway Avenue, Slayton, MN 56176 Minnesota Housing Finance Agency ("Minnesota Housing"), with its office at 400 Wabasha Street North, Suite 400, St. Paul, MN 55102.

RECITALS:

A. Minnesota Housing, under the provisions of Minn. Stat. §474A.061, Subd. 2a is authorized to issue qualified mortgage bonds, as that term is used in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), on behalf of the City, and it will issue bonds for that purpose (the "Bonds").

B. The City applying to participate is a Minnesota city, county, city or county housing and redevelopment authority, economic development authority, port authority or a consortium of local government units, as defined by Minnesota Statutes §474A.061, Subd. 2a(c).

C. Minnesota Housing has implemented Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Minnesota City Participation Program (the "Program") and will use the proceeds from the issuance of the Bonds to fund the Program.

D. The City has requested and received a set-aside of funds from the Program.

E. The City wishes to obtain a commitment by Minnesota Housing to direct Minnesota Housing's designated Master Servicer (the "Master Servicer") to purchase mortgage notes ("Mortgages") that will be originated by a lender or lenders that meet Minnesota Housing requirements for participation in programs funded by qualified mortgage bonds (collectively, the "Lender").

F. Mortgages that the Master Servicer purchases pursuant to the commitment requested by the City must only be for residences located within a geographic area to be established and designated by the City.

G. Minnesota Housing is willing to issue a commitment agreeing to purchase Mortgage-Backed Securities backed by Mortgages that are (i) originated by the Lender; (ii) purchased by the Master Servicer; (iii) in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Program, and the Start Up Procedural Manual to be supplied by Minnesota Housing (the "Procedural Manual"), the provisions of which are hereby incorporated by reference into this Agreement as if set forth in full herein; and (iv) made to borrowers with adjusted incomes not exceeding the greater of 80 percent of statewide or area median income as calculated by Minnesota Housing.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the covenants contained in this Agreement, Minnesota Housing and the City agree as follows:

1. **City Requirements.** All Mortgages submitted to Minnesota Housing for purchase under the Program must comply with all of the requirements of the Program, the Start Up Procedural Manual and this Agreement.

2. **Commitment and Commitment Amount.** The City, which applied in January 2025 for a commitment, hereby requests that Minnesota Housing cause its Master Servicer to purchase Mortgages that have been originated by the Lender and meet the requirements of, and are made in accordance with the provisions of, this Agreement, the Program, and the Procedural Manual. Minnesota Housing, by accepting this Agreement, commits to the purchase of those Mortgages in the aggregate principal amount (the "Commitment Amount") to be determined and allocated

by Minnesota Housing in accordance with Minnesota Statutes §474A.061, Subd. 2a(d), and provided to the City.

The Master Servicer will only purchase Mortgages pursuant to this Agreement securing property that, and borrowers who, satisfy the requirements and provisions of this Agreement, the Program, and the Procedural Manual. The City acknowledges that the commitment is effective upon the approval thereof by Minnesota Housing and the delivery of a copy of this Agreement by Minnesota Housing to the City.

3. **Lender Qualifications.** Lenders must meet Minnesota Housing requirements for participation in programs funded by qualified mortgage bonds.

4. **Commitment Term.** The term of this Agreement and the City's participation in the Program (the "Commitment Term") will commence on January 16, 2025 and shall continue through November 30, 2025. This Agreement, and the City's participation in the Program, will automatically terminate, without the need for any action by either party hereto, at the end of the Commitment Term.

5. **Set-Aside Term.** The Commitment Amount will be set-aside and held by Minnesota Housing for the sole use by the City for a period of time to be established by Minnesota Housing, in its sole option and discretion, provided, however, that time period will not be less than six months (the "Set-Aside Term") commencing on a date to be selected and specified by Minnesota Housing. Minnesota Housing will notify the City in writing of the date on which the Set-Aside Term commences.

Any portion of the Commitment Amount not reserved for the purchase of qualifying Mortgages as of the end of the Set-Aside Term shall be canceled and returned to Minnesota Housing for redistribution under the Program. In addition, any portion of the Commitment Amount reserved for Mortgages that are not delivered to the Master Servicer for purchase within the time period delineated in the Procedural Manual for that purchase, will be canceled and Minnesota Housing will redistribute that amount under the Program. Minnesota Housing may make any funds available to the Program at the end of the Commitment Term for mortgage loans that are eligible to be financed with proceeds of the Bonds.

6. **Commitment Fees.** There is no commitment fee payable by the City for the commitment by Minnesota Housing to the purchase by the Master Servicer of qualifying Mortgages.

7. **Purchase Price.** The purchase price of each Mortgage to be purchased by the Master Servicer pursuant to this Agreement will be as set forth in the requirements of the Procedural Manual and posted on Minnesota Housing's website.

8. **Mortgage Terms.** The terms and conditions for all Mortgages, including but not limited to the interest rate, will be set from time to time by Minnesota Housing, at its sole option and discretion, and communicated to the Lender in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Procedural Manual.

9. **Area Limitation.** Minnesota Housing, pursuant to this Agreement, is required to purchase only those Mortgages that are for residences located within a geographic area to be established and designated by the City.

10. **Servicing.** The servicing of Mortgages shall be the sole responsibility of the Master Servicer or one or more other entities that Minnesota Housing may designate in its sole discretion.

11. **Contract Documents.** The purchase by the Master Servicer of each Mortgage pursuant to Minnesota Housing's commitment is a contract consisting of this Agreement and the provisions and requirements contained in the Procedural Manual, with all amendments and supplements thereto in effect as of the date of Minnesota Housing's acceptance of this Agreement.

12. **Paragraph Captions and Program Headings.** The captions and headings of the paragraphs of this Agreement are for convenience only and will not be used to interpret or define the provisions thereof.

13. **Applicable Law.** This Agreement is made and entered into in the State of Minnesota, and all questions relating to the validity, construction, performance and enforcement hereof will be governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota.

14. **Agreement Conditional Upon Minnesota Housing Approval.** This Agreement will be a binding obligation of Minnesota Housing upon its execution by Minnesota Housing and delivery of a copy of the same to the City; provided, however, Minnesota Housing may, in its sole option and discretion, any time on or after January 16, 2025 revoke such obligation and terminate this Agreement if the City has not fully executed and returned a fully executed original hereof to Minnesota Housing. That revocation and termination will be accomplished and evidenced by Minnesota Housing notifying the City thereof by way of a “Certified Letter - Return Receipt Requested” addressed and delivered to the City. Upon revocation and termination this Agreement will be null and void and of no force or effect.

15. **Issuance of Bonds.** The City hereby authorizes Minnesota Housing to issue, on behalf of the City, qualified mortgage bonds, as that term is used in the Code, in an amount equal to the Commitment Amount, and Minnesota Housing agrees to issue those bonds if and when federal law authorizes and Minnesota Housing deems it is economically feasible to do so.

(THE REMAINING PORTION OF THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the City has executed this Agreement this 9th day of January, 2025.
(Month) (Year)

By: _____
(Signature of Authorized Officer)
Paul Langseth, SRDC Chair
(Name of Authorized Officer)

Minnesota Housing APPROVAL

Minnesota Housing hereby accepts the above Program Application-Commitment Agreement and approves and grants participation in the program.

MINNESOTA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

By: _____
Kayla Schuchman
Its: Assistant Commissioner, Single-Family Division

Signed this ____ day of _____, 2025

**SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
CONTRACT WITH
EXPLORE SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA
FOR
TECHNICAL SERVICES**

THIS CONTRACT for technical services is entered into this 1st day of January, 2025, by and between the Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRDC), and Explore Southwest Minnesota (CLIENT).

WITNESSED; In consideration of the mutual promises and covenants herein contained, the SRDC and CLIENT agree to the following terms and conditions:

The Term of this agreement commences January 1, 2025, and shall continue through December 31, 2025. The following work activities will be provided:

I. Financial Services will be provided to Explore SW MN as per the attached work activity list-including Explore SW MN responsibilities. (Exhibit A)

II. Payment for Services

A. Explore SW MN will make payment to the SRDC. Statements will be billed in conjunction with regular meetings of Explore SW MN.

B. The following rates apply for Calendar Year 2025 and are based on the activity to be performed as per Exhibits A.

i. Exhibit A - \$85.00

III. Hold Harmless

Explore SW MN agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the SRDC against any legal actions brought by any personal entity whatsoever arising out of or claimed to be arising out of the performance of either party under this agreement for services.

IV. Cancellation

This contract may be cancelled by Explore SW MN or SRDC at any time, with cause, upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party. In the event of such a cancellation, SRDC shall be entitled to payment, determined on a pro-rata basis, for work or services satisfactorily performed.

V. Assignment

SRDC shall neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this contract without prior written consent of Explore SW MN. SRDC reserves the right to utilize the most appropriate personnel and/or time availability of staff members to perform the stated activities.

VI. Amendments

Any amendments to this contract shall be in writing and shall be executed by the same parties who executed the original contract or their successors in office.

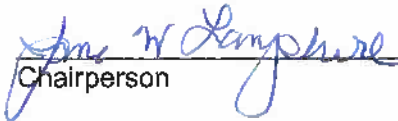
**SOUTHWEST REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

Chairperson

Executive Director

Date _____

**EXPLORE SOUTHWEST
MINNESOTA**


Chairperson


Board Member

Date 12-30-24

It should be noted that billable expenses will be limited to tasks not normal to the Overall Work Program of the SRDC.

EXHIBIT A — FINANCIAL SERVICES

- Maintain an accounting system with a separate fund code for Explore SW MN activities on a Calendar Year basis. All revenues and expenses will be included by separate project areas as set up to track activities of Explore SW MN.
- A financial status report will be provided to all regular meetings of Explore SW MN and other meetings as requested.
- Financial sections of any required grant/contract reports and updates will be prepared as needed.
- Requests of funds will be completed as instructed annually for county membership fees or as indicated in grant or contract agreements.
- A separate savings account will be maintained with transfers made to the general SRDC checking account as expenditures are paid on behalf of Explore SW MN.
- Prepare general financial administration assistance and/or referrals to agencies that can address concerns of Explore SW MN in relation to tax information, insurance, etc.
- Explore SW MN financial information will be included in the annual SRDC audit.

Explore SW MN Responsibilities

- Provide the SRDC with all approved expenditures and financial information necessary to properly account for Explore SW MN project funds in a timely manner.
- Keep all contract/grant information current with any grantor organizations and provide any necessary information in completing reports.
- Provide information to SRDC to request membership fees and any other funds.
- Pay the SRDC \$300 for inclusion of financial records in the annual fiscal year audit.



Southwest Regional Development Commission

Month End November 2024 Fiscal Year 2025

YTD Comparison % of Budget 41.67

Revenues	FY25 Budget					Year to Date	Under / Over Budget	% of Overall Budget	Explanation/Comments
	July - September	October	November	December	October - December				
Taxes	465,617	1,325.51	10,868.17	40,681.78	51,549.95	52,875.46	412,741.54	11.4%	When current taxes received, payments primarily received in Dec and Jun
Contract for Services	256,528	42,953.48	22,906.93	19,697.18	42,604.11	85,557.59	170,970.41	33.4%	Based on activity earned to date.
R9-McKnight	191,275	191,275.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	191,275.00	0.00	100.0%	We received all of the R9 McKnight money up front, in July 2024.
MnDOT-Regional	75,000	37,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	37,500.00	37,500.00	50.0%	Based on Billings Yearly amt is \$75000
Economic Development Adm	105,119	9,822.68	10,303.06	5,964.79	16,267.85	26,090.53	79,028.47	24.8%	Grant Earned (Federal share)
EDA Trails Grant	58,291	58,291.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	58,291.08	0.00	100.0%	Based on activity earned to date. (Federal share) Done Sept 2024
RLF Admin (Covid & Regular)	60,000	20,775.64	6,675.12	4,817.56	11,492.68	32,268.32	27,731.68	53.8%	Based on activity earned to date.
Commerce - State Comp Grant	179,000	28,772.15	13,671.05	9,457.37	23,128.42	51,900.57	127,099.43	29.0%	\$290,000 over 2 yrs 4 mths, est. start March 2024, est. to use in FY24 \$40,000
CERTs Funds	66,660	4,284.01	9,426.05	9,891.90	19,317.95	23,601.96	43,058.04	35.4%	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	757.11	217.24	1,881.97	2,099.21	2,856.32	3,943.68	42.0%	Loan int/loan orig fee mostly received in Dec and June (code 46564321)
USDA Food Grant	60,000	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00	45,000.00	25.0%	Based on Billings (800 hours at \$75/hr for the year)
Interest & Miscellaneous	19,184	11,706.52	1,107.71	878.52	1,986.23	13,692.75	5,491.25	71.4%	Bank int/loan orig fee **Bank Interest is coming in higher than estimated and includes CD Interest**
Total Revenues	1,543,474	422,463.18	75,175.33	93,271.07	168,446.40	590,909.58	952,564.50	38.3%	
Expenditures									
Committee Expenses	30,300	4,790.44	1,412.04	1,723.26	3,135.30	7,925.74	22,374.26	26.2%	Includes Board Retreat & Orientation, added Annual Mtg
Salaries & Fringe	1,039,626	223,789.33	117,035.94	78,933.25	195,969.19	419,758.52	619,867.48	40.4%	Includes FY25 Salaries/Fringe (including 8% increase of Health Insurance/H.S.A)
Travel	45,000	12,667.31	4,159.43	11,789.96	15,949.39	28,616.70	16,383.30	63.6%	Staff Travel
Office Space Costs	44,194	2,166.86	748.17	692.55	1,440.72	3,607.58	40,586.42	8.2%	Utilities
Postage (on hand, not including Hsg Reimb)	5,349	29.97	1,009.99	1,009.99	2,019.98	2,049.95	3,299.05	38.3%	We sent out the EDA Trails booklets, so had to get more postage in November. EDA Trails did reimburse us for most, we had to estimate because of the timing of the Contract ending and books showing up.
Communications	9,219	3,936.66	582.54	642.83	1,225.37	5,162.03	4,056.97	56.0%	
Printing/Publication	20,504	1,851.13	526.13	1,524.04	2,050.17	3,901.30	16,602.70	19.0%	Insurance dividend/Building Insurance
Insurance	5,917	2,615.85	24.41	22.08	46.49	2,662.34	3,254.66	45.0%	August includes our Strategic Plan, this also includes our part of MADO
Supplies	17,000	4,748.71	5,679.79	367.89	6,047.68	10,796.39	6,203.61	63.5%	Reimbursed by Trails EDA
Program Supply (Trails EDA)	11,418	11,418.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,418.27	0.00	100.0%	
Computer	46,000	3,883.06	1,162.76	912.77	2,075.63	5,958.59	40,041.41	13.0%	Quoted price for FY25 audit - Kinner & Co. + estimated amt for FY22/FY23 Audits
Audits	41,000	14,884.00	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	24,884.00	16,116.00	60.7%	
Consultant/Contracted Services/Legal	3,025	80.00	40.00	0.00	40.00	120.00	2,905.00	4.0%	
Dues/Memberships & Other	7,200	14.25	1,000.00	3,000.00	4,000.00	4,014.25	3,185.75	55.8%	Includes MADO Coordination (\$2000 per region)
Financing Fees & Expenses	5,500	72.75	83.75	49.50	133.25	206.00	5,294.00	3.7%	
Equipment/Building Updates	10,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.0%	
PACE loan interest paid	508	0.00	0.00	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	0.00	0.00	11,635.00	0.0%	Paid in December
Building Lease Principal Pymt	23,183	5,675.96	1,909.53	1,918.37	3,827.90	9,503.86	13,679.14	41.0%	Our portion of lease pymt
Total Expenditures	1,376,578	292,624.55	135,374.48	112,586.49	247,960.97	540,565.52	835,992.75	39.3%	
Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	166,896	129,838.63	-60,199.15	-19,315.42	-79,514.57	50,324			



Southwest Regional Development Commission

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Revenues	FY2025 Budget	FY2025 Revised Budget	BUDGET DIFFERENCE	EXPLANATION
Tax Levy	465,617	465,617	-	3% levy increase with a delinquency allowance based on expected earnings of contracts-See sheet. We rec'd all of the R9 McKnight money up front. Removed Murray City Comp Plan. Added MDA - Meat Train & Retain, EECBG, Green Step and City of Tracy, City of Adrian Electric Substation
Current Contracts	216,830	464,053	247,223	Same
MN Department of Transportation	75,000	75,000	-	We had leftover money from previous FY
Economic Development Administration	70,000	\$105,119.00	35,119	Contract ends 9-30-24
EDA Trails grant	53,000	53,000	-	
RLF- both Covid and Regular	60,000	60,000	60,000	**It wasn't added into the initial FY25 Budget**
Commerce	179,000	179,000	-	\$290,000 over 2 yrs. 4 mths, est. start March 2024, est. to use in FY24 \$40,000
CERTS Funds	66,660	86,160	19,500	CERTS 24/25 is \$66,660 per FY, need additional \$19,500
PACE loan org/int/misc	6,800	6,800	-	\$60,000/year for 5 years. (800 hrs/yr at \$75/yr)
USDA Food Business Center Grant	60,000	60,000	-	
Interest Earned & Miscellaneous	19,184	19,184	-	
Building Reserves Used	-	31,850	31,850	Need to replace the roof and only a small amount will be paid by insurance (Quote is \$65,000, our portion is \$31,850 and SWMP's portion is \$33,150)
Total Revenues	1,212,091	1,605,783	393,692	
Expenditures	FY2025 Budget	FY2025 Revised Budget	BUDGET DIFFERENCE	EXPLANATION
Committee Expense	30,300	30,300	-	Includes Orientation and Annual Mtg
Salaries & Fringe	1,043,000	1,072,887	29,887	Includes FY25 Salaries/Fringe (including 16% increase of Health Insurance/H.S.A), changing Chris to Planner II (Grade 5 to Grade 6), moving Finance Director to same classification as Community Dev Director (Grade 7 to Grade 8)
Staff Travel	45,000	60,000	15,000	Staff Travel includes MADDO and Annual Mtg
Office Space	44,194	44,194	-	Utilities
Postage	5,349	5,349	-	10% Increase in anticipation of Postage going up
Communications	9,219	9,219	-	Includes additional \$200/mo for new phone system
Print/Publication/Marketing	20,504	20,504	-	Annual report completed in-house. Includes outreach items/mktg
Insurance	5,917	5,917	-	
Supplies-Mtg/Wkshp Expenses	17,000	17,000	-	
Computer	46,000	41,250	(4,750)	Software Subscriptions, Firewall, Maintenance and Setup, ACH Fees -Website Redesign & Web Maintenance + MIP renewal (increased by 7%) + removed 3 laptops and setup - using FY24 funds; Included 2 custom report quotes (total of \$500) for Teamkeeper that were requested by Supervisors
Audits	41,000	41,000	-	Quoted price for FY25 audit - Kinner & Co. + estimated amt for FY22/FY23 Audits
Consultant/Contracted Services/Legal	3,025	33,275	30,250	Based on past need & increased by 10%, also includes an amt for a Financial Procedure Review/Build and Cost Allocation review/create + 10%. In case rates are higher since quote.
Dues/Memberships & Other	7,200	7,200	-	Includes MADDO Coordination (\$2000 per region)
Financing Fees & Other	5,500	5,500	-	
Equipment/Building updates	10,000	10,000	-	
PAGE loan interest	508	508	-	
Debt Service-Principal & Interest	11,635	10,000	(1,635)	REED paydown per semi-annual schedule
Building Lease Principal Payment	23,183	23,183	(0)	Per schedule (The City of Wgtn is paid off, so removed their portion) Only owe State of MN \$10,000 per year through 2034.
Total Expenditures	1,368,535	1,437,286	68,751	
Overall Balance	(156,444)	168,497	324,941	
Anticipated Reserve Changes by Category				
Incr/(Decr) in Equipment Reserve	-	-	-	
Incr/(Decr) in Building Reserve	13,824	(31,850)	(45,674)	Need to replace the roof and only a small amount will be paid by insurance (Quote is \$65,000, our portion is \$31,850 and SWMP's portion is \$33,150)
Incr/(Decr) in Employee Transition Reserve	-	-	-	No planned use of reserves
Incr/(Decr) in PACE Adm for Interest	12,766	12,766	-	PACE as part of audit, using PACE interest & fees to support administration
Incr/(Decr) in Unrestricted Reserve	(129,854)	149,413	279,267	

Economic Development



CEDS | EDA PLANNING

EDA PLANNING

EDA Investment Opportunities: Priorities can be found at Investment Priorities | U.S. Economic Development Administration (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). Currently, there are no funds for EDA disaster projects.

SRDC also assisted the City of Lambertton 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 Lambertton qualifies under the distress criteria on Per Capita Income and Other: Current Disaster Declaration. Unfortunately, this application was not funded.

Staff met with the Open to Progress committee in Luverne on 11/22/24 with several programs provided as possibilities.

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.

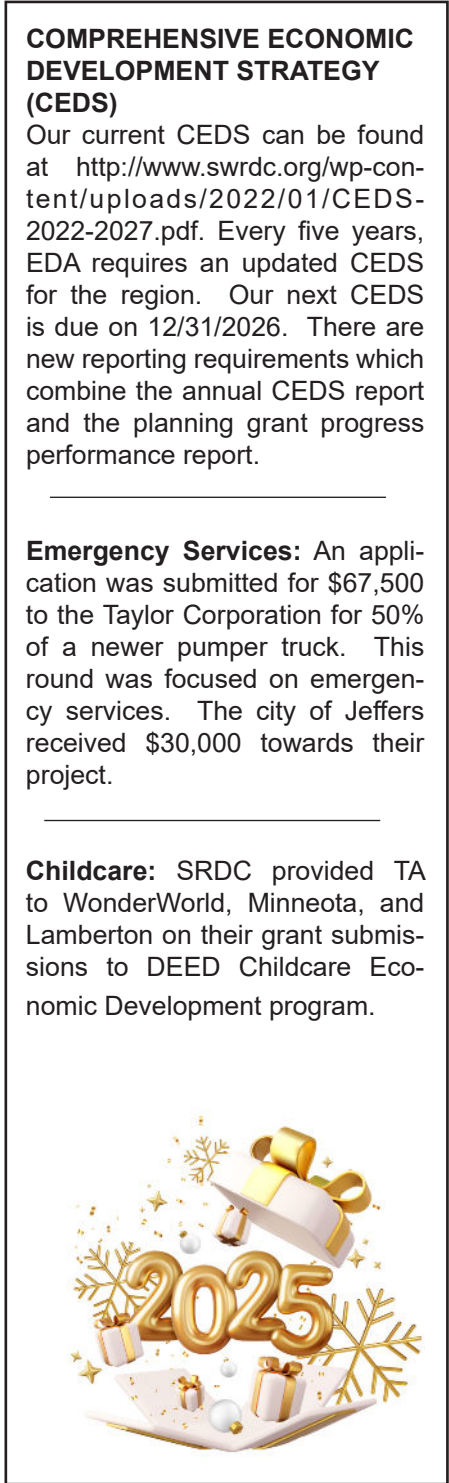
Outreach materials went out to cities and counties under 15,000 in population. The application is being finalized for distribution and discussion purposes. The CEDS committee will be reviewing EECBG applications as they come in. Several project ideas have been discussed with the MN Department of Commerce with decisions expected by month end.

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)

Our current CEDS can be found at <http://www.swrdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/CEDS-2022-2027.pdf>. Every five years, EDA requires an updated CEDS for the region. Our next CEDS is due on 12/31/2026. There are new reporting requirements which combine the annual CEDS report and the planning grant progress performance report.

Emergency Services: An application was submitted for \$67,500 to the Taylor Corporation for 50% of a newer pumper truck. This round was focused on emergency services. The city of Jeffers received \$30,000 towards their project.

Childcare: SRDC provided TA to WonderWorld, Minneota, and Lambertton on their grant submissions to DEED Childcare Economic Development program.



Economic Development



USDA (United States Department of Agriculture)

Regional Food Business Center

The USDA Regional Food Business Center is focused on promoting economic opportunities within its regions and creating 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 allocated over five years. The Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRDC) is responsible for providing technical assistance to constituents in its nine-county service area.

North Central Regional Food Business Center:

The Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRDC) is dedicated to gathering ideas and suggestions from diverse groups and individuals. To promote growth and development over the next four years, the SRDC is operating according to the NCFBC action plan. Our ongoing efforts aim to support and strengthen businesses and projects, facilitating their expansion and growth.

This fall, we worked with Egans Market, Adrian, MN on a successful Minnesota Department of Agriculture’s Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk Processing (MPEM) Grant application. Egans Market received an award in the amount of \$11,378.00. This award will cover 50% of their flooring project. The floors at Egans Market are approximately 45 years old and are worn and deteriorating. The USDA required the replacement. New flooring will help ease the burden on several fronts by enhancing sanitation efficiency, supporting contamination control protocols, and helping promote safe personnel conditions.

The SRDC is currently working to assist several businesses in Southwest Minnesota apply for the MDA Good Food Access Program Equipment and Physical Improvement Grant. This grant will assist grocery stores and small food retailers make physical improvements and purchase equipment to stimulate sales of affordable nutritious, and culturally appropriate foods. Applications are due to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture by January 16, 2025.

Southwest Minnesota Meat Processor Workforce Development Initiative

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has allocated \$250,000 to the Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRDC) to support its Southwest Minnesota Meat Processor Workforce Development Initiative. This funding, provided through the MDA’s Meat Processing Train & Retain Grant program, will assist small- to medium-sized meat and poultry processors in hiring, training, and retaining new employees.

The Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRDC) has teamed up with the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission and the Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission to address workforce development needs. CareerForce services will be offered through the Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council and Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services. Additionally, Ridgewater College and the University of Minnesota will help tackle challenges in the meat and poultry processing sector.

The SRDC is proud to participate in this initiative, which aims to invest in 30 individuals by addressing training gaps through both formal and on-the-job support. This program will also offer unique retention strategies and work to minimize employment barriers. Currently, four individuals have engaged in the on-the-job training option, and the first round of formal training is set to begin with spring semester starting on January 13, 2025.



Revolving Loan Fund



RLF

The committee consists of five members and meets as needed. The committee covers both the COVID-19 RLF and Traditional RLF. The committee meets as needed. The committee last met on 11/20/24.

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

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

Funds Available for Lending

Funds Available: Funds on hand are the following; Traditional RLF of \$398,437 (as of 12-17-24) and CRLF of \$279,636.78 (as of 12-13-24). CRLF funds will remain federalized until seven years have passed. Reporting is required twice per year. A loan in the amount of \$100,000 closed for an auto repair and towing business in Nobles County on 11/26/24.

Site Visits

Site visits are required every three years; however, they are done more often as the need arises. Annual business taxes are now being gathered for files. Site visits are combined with communication audits and interviews for story-telling. Success stories can now be found at <https://www.swrdc.org/regional-spotlight/>.

Contracted RLFs

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

Jackson County RLF: There are six active loans. Approximately \$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 currently has 5 members. The committee last met on November 14.

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.

P.A.C.E. REPORT



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 \$98,742 (as of 12-17-24) and PACE SEP \$76,428.51 (as of 12-18-24). 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. The latest loan was approved for a Nobles County business for an energy efficiency project up to \$91,500. The committee last met on November 1.

Due to limited funds, staff have been in conversations with lenders about participation lending. On 11/7/2024, staff met with MN Department of Commerce and a leader in participation lending. Staff met with a lending institution on 12/3/24 to discuss details.

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. These funds are now available.

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%.

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. 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/regional-spotlight/>

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.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Funding Opportunities for Businesses and Entrepreneurs

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

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





2401 Broadway Ave
Slayton, MN
507-836-8547

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT



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

Goals:

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

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

DWSMA (Drinking Water Supply Management Area) Project

Supporting solar development within local drinking water protection areas. A \$498,000 Energy Future Grant from the U.S. Department of Energy will allow the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to evaluate the benefits of using solar energy to help provide renewable power while also providing economically viable and environmentally sustainable land use options in southwest Minnesota, where nitrate levels in drinking water has been an ongoing concern.

The grant will fund engineering feasibility studies that will examine energy, environmental, and financial opportunities and barriers for solar energy development in and near four community public water systems in southwest Minnesota.

The land in these Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMAS) has been used primarily for agricultural purposes, which poses a risk of nitrate contamination to the groundwater. Shifting this land use by installing solar energy in DWSMAS can reduce threats to groundwater and health risks for consumers by reducing the pathways for nitrate contamination, while protecting landowner economic returns and ownership.

Over the next year, MDH will develop innovative solar energy plans for the rural communities in partnership with the Great Plains Institute and a project team including local community organizations. CERTs will be one of the technical consultants.

PV-SUCCESS
 CERTs staff are currently planning outreach for Lyon County – including surveys, interviews, and workshops. The Lyon County portion of this project will help inform the PV-Success research project, as well as contribute to the Sustainability chapter of the Lyon County Comprehensive Plan.

RSDP Idea Briefs
 RSDP is accepting idea brief proposals for projects that can improve sustainability in communities. The project should address a community-identified need or opportunity related to one or more of RSDP’s focus areas: sustainable agriculture and food systems, clean energy, natural resources, and resilient communities. It should expand community collaborations and support environmental, social, and economic sustainability for public purpose or benefit. Priority is for projects that are from, led by, or that include meaningful participation of historically underrepresented communities. Ideas can be submitted directly on the RSDP website. The deadline to submit an idea brief is Thursday, February 14.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT



ENERGY
LAND USE, PLANNING & ZONING
SOLID WASTE
NATURAL RESOURCES

Land Use, Planning & Zoning

Lyon County, Comprehensive Plan: The Lyon County Comp Plan Steering Committee will be meeting on the second Tuesday of the month starting in January to focus on a chapter a month. The upcoming schedule is as follows: January-Develop a Vision Statement, February-Land Use Chapter, March-Housing Chapter, April-Transportation Chapter.

Lyon County, Camden Regional Trail Master Plan: Planner Webb will host 2 more community open houses in Tyler and Tracy in conjunction with Lyon County Staff on January 22. The bulk of the writing of the Master Plan will occur in February and March.

Redwood River One Watershed, One Plan: Planner Webb is representing the SRDC on the Advisory Committee for the Redwood River One Watershed, One Plan.

Solid Waste & Natural Resources

Solid Waste Commission:

The Southwest Solid Waste Commission met on November 25, 2024. Billy Pollema from Zahn Tech joined the meeting to present about their business in Lennox, SD. Zahn Tech receives 10,000 tons of garbage (every grade of plastic, fiberglass, rubber, and metal) and transforms that waste into reusable, organic, construction grade products like fenceposts. The Solid Waste Administrator group has been discussing ways the counties can collaborate to transport plastics to Zahn Tech’s site in Lennox, SD.

During the meeting, the attendees continued to discuss the upcoming construction and demolition rule changes proposed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2025.

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 November 15, 2024. During this meeting, the group toured the Redwood/Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority facility in Redwood County, with a particular focus on the new waste sorter. They are in the process of drafting a new 10-year Solid Waste Regional Plan. This plan will be submitted to the Southwest Solid Waste Commission for review at the meeting on January 27, 2025.

TRANSPORTATION REPORT

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
ATPs
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE & SRTS

AREAS TRANSPORTATION PARTNERSHIPS (ATP)

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

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

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION & SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS)

SRTS 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:

Deadline: January 17, 2025;
Award Notification: March 2025;
Project Duration: July 2025 – June 30, 2026

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:

Deadline: January 17, 2025;
Award Notification: March 2025;
Project Duration: July 2025 – June 30, 2026

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

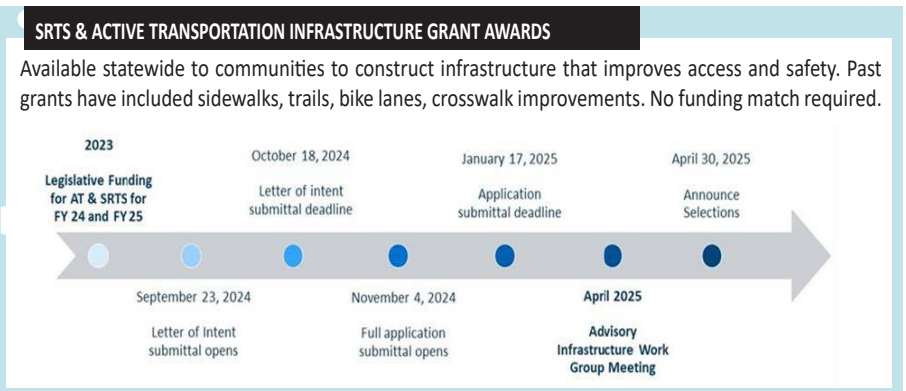
National Summer Transportation Institute: Planner Webb has been working with staff at MN West to gauge interest in applying through MnDOT’s Office of Civil Rights to host a NSTI summer camp in Worthington. MN West Staff and other local stakeholders are creating an advisory committee to meet quarterly with the goal of applying to host a summer camp in 2026.

MnDOT State Rail Plan: Panner Webb is the RDO representative on the State Rail Plan Technical Advisory Committee. The State Rail Plan is a mode-specific plan that builds on the Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan and provides direction for the role Minnesota’s freight and passenger railroads will play in achieving the overall vision. The goal is for the Final Draft of the State Rail Plan to be submitted in Spring, 2025. More information is available here: <https://talk.dot.state.mn.us/state-rail-plan>

National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure program (NEVI): Provides funds to states to build a convenient, affordable, reliable, and equitable fast charging network for EVs across the United States. This grant program provides up to 90% of the funding to purchase and install fast chargers. Private businesses within 1 mile from an interstate exit in Luverne, Worthington, or Jackson are eligible to apply. More information available here: <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/nevi/>

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>



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



December began with some good news, the FY 2022 Audit Report came in and the SRDC got an unqualified opinion, which is the best that you can do. There were some minor findings, mostly around segregation of duties which we will always struggle with due to the size of our staff.

The first week of December also included the quarterly meeting of the MADO Executive Directors. Mid-Minnesota was the host and the meeting was held at the Southwest Initiative Foundation in Hutchinson. The highlight of the meeting was an in-person with Sasha-Rose Phillips from the McKnight Foundation. As you recall, we received funding from McKnight to assist in grant writing opportunities that aren't covered by the SCF funding. As a group, MADO also received funding to work on getting better organized/possibly more formalized as a state group. The discussion with Sasha-Rose centered on how the program was coming and just touching base with the RDCs to see if there was anything else they needed help with.

The next week was the annual Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Conference. MADO has traditionally had a booth at the conference in the vendor fair. The SRDC began having a booth when former Redwood County Commissioner Gene Short was the SRDC Chair as well as the President of AMC. As MADO came together and the RDOs started doing more things together it became a MADO booth, but I remained in charge of making the arrangements. Sheila did a super job updating the MADO banner this year as it was getting pretty outdated, (Senator Franken and Governor Dayton were in a couple of the pictures). There were 100 vendors at AMC this year and I believe over 600 registered attendees. It is always a good opportunity to spend some time with County Commissioners from the region that don't sit on the Commission and to meet other Commissioners who are active in their RDCs. Chris and Nadya gave a presentation at the conference on the regional trails plan that was very well received.

I took some time off around Christmas to go out west to see the kids.

I worked from home most of the rest of the time around

the holidays as I was completing the writing of the regional solid waste plan. The plan is to have the finished draft plan to the Solid Waste Commission for review at their meeting at the end of January. The Solid Waste Administrators are meeting on January 3rd in Pipestone. There are a couple of pieces of information I am waiting on until after the holidays as a few of the administrators have been off for the holidays.

Jason and I are meeting with some folks from McKinstry over Zoom so that they can get a better feel for how we work in the renewable energy space. I ran into an old contact from the MN Department of Commerce at AMC who now works for McKinstry and they are interested in expanding their work in southwest Minnesota.

**PROMOTING
ECONOMIC
STABILITY
AND
GROWTH**

The SRDC is here to help promote a stable and diverse economic base through business technical assistance and support

SRDC
SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

2401 Broadway Ave
Slayton, MN
507-836-8547

Board Recognition

Board Chairman,
Paul Langseth,
presented
Dennis Klingbile a
certificate recognizing
his 9 years of service on
the SRDC board at the
November
full commission
meeting

Reconition also goes to
Scott McClure for his 1
year of service



Board Chairman,
Paul Langseth,
presented
Stephen Schnieder
a certificate recognizing
his 3.5 years of service
on the SRDC board at
the November
full commission
meeting

Board Chairman,
Paul Langseth,
presented
Keith Elbers a certificate
recognizing his 9 years
of service on the SRDC
board at the December
board
meeting





**CALENDAR YEAR 2025
BOARD & FULL COMMISSION
MEETING DATES & TIMES**

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

FULL COMMISSION

Thursday, January 9, 2025
Slayton (4-H Building – large room)

Thursday, March 13, 2025
3:30 p.m.
Slayton (Location TBD)

Thursday, May 8, 2025
3:30 p.m.
Rock County (Location TBD)

SRDC Annual Meeting

Thursday, July 10, 2025
4:00 p.m.
(Location TBD)

Thursday, September 11, 2025
3:30 p.m.
Redwood County (Location TBD)

Thursday, November 13, 2025
3:30 p.m.
Slayton (Location TBD)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, February 13, 2025
3:30 p.m.
SRDC Offices, Slayton

Thursday, April 10, 2025
3:30 p.m.
SRDC Offices, Slayton

Thursday, June 12, 2025
3:30 p.m.
SRDC Offices, Slayton

No August Meeting

Thursday, October 9, 2025
3:30 p.m.
SRDC Offices, Slayton

Thursday, December 11, 2025
3:30 p.m.
SRDC Offices, Slayton

PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE & LEADERSHIP

The SRDC listens and connects to help find resources needed to address concerns. Together, we can channel progressive collaboration between cities, counties, and townships so that shared knowledge can be used to help the region prepare for a future where people and businesses thrive



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
- DevelopMN
- Revolving Loan Funds
- Technical Assistance


COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Planning Services
- Initiatives & Collaboration

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

- Active Living & Trails Planning
- Human Services Transit
- Coordination Planning
- Safe Routes to School

LEARN MORE

 507-836-8547

www.swrdc.org 



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