

**MINUTES**  
**Region Nine Development Commission**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**April 13, 2005**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair James Broich called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. at the Nichols Office Building in Mankato.

**II. ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Leo Bauer, Eldo Brandenburg, James Broich, Jerry Hawbaker, Fred Juni, Dwayne Krenz, Alvis More, Roger Oldfather, Bob Roesler, James Stangler

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeff Kagermeier

OTHERS PRESENT: Reggie Edwards, Linda Giersdorf, Bob Klanderud, Cheryl Weston

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

James Stangler moved to approve the February 9, 2005 minutes as presented. Eldo Brandenburg seconded. Motion carried.

**IV. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT**

Leo Bauer moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented. James Stangler seconded. Motion carried.

**V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chair James Broich mentioned meetings he participated in the past month. They included a Minnesota Regional Development Organizations (MRDO) meeting in St. Paul where legislative issues were discussed; he attended an Area Transportation Partnership meeting in Mankato that focused on projects and the funding formula; he also attended a R9 Strategic Planning meeting. On April 9 Chair Broich traveled to Washington, D.C. to attend the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) conference. While there he and Executive Director, Reggie Edwards, visited with five congressmen and / or staff regarding R9 issues. The Chair presented issues / projects that were in the NADO 2005 Legislative Policies and Priorities document. Priorities included community and economic development; Homeland Security Planning and Preparedness and transportation.

## **VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director, Reggie Edwards, presented his monthly report. Highlighted was traveling to Washington, D.C. with Chairman Broich to attend the National Association of Development Organization (NADO) annual conference. They participated in learning sessions and visited with Congressional representatives and / or staff. The Congressmen were supportive of key issues that included community and economic development, transportation, homeland security / emergency management, transit, aging, agriculture and Telehealth.

Also highlighted: R9 Legislative Committee – The legislative agenda items continue to be monitored. Language has been drafted and authored on legislative issues passed by RNDC. Strategic Planning Committee – Commissioner Bob Roesler has taken over the chair position for the Strategic Planning Committee that was formerly held by former Commissioner, Janet Froslan. Staff Transition – After careful consideration and assessment, Wes Judkins, has been relieved of his duties with RNDC. Actions taken came after extensive discussion among members of the R9 Budget / Personnel Committee. Linda Wallace, who had taken over finance duties for Susan Jaeger has resigned. A replacement will be sought to fill the position. Troy Bonkowske has been hired as a community and economic development coordinator and will be present for approval at the May meeting. Saludando Salud – Positive conversations have taken place between Gustavus Adolphus College and RNDC regarding possible location of Saludando Salud programming at their facility.

Edwards gave an update on the Region Nine Area, Inc. RNDC continues to write grants through RNAI. RNAI member, Roger Oldfather, noted the need to solicit committed members and also that no per diems are available to members. Edwards said he would solicit members at the next R9 Commission meeting.

## **VII. PROGRAM REPORTS**

### **A. Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging**

Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging executive director, Linda Giersdorf, said staff hosted regional White House Conference on Aging forums in North Mankato, Montevideo, Marshall and Willmar. The purpose of the forums was to gather information on Social Security reform and consumer directed care and to forward recommendations to the national White House Conference.

Giersdorf said that she and grant/contract manager, Rhonda Hiller Fjeldberg, are working on the first quarterly report for the 27 county area. Giersdorf invited Commissioners to the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Learning is for Life conference May 6.

Giersdorf said there is an MNRAAA Joint Powers Board retreat scheduled April 14 in the city of Belview where issues and relationships will be discussed. April 18 there is a Joint Powers Board meeting in Redwood Falls.

Giersdorf presented the MNRAAA Funding Priorities Task Force recommendations that the four advisory councils on aging developed for 2006. After explaining each of the recommendations, James Stangler moved approval to present them to the MNRAAA Joint Powers Board. Bob Roesler seconded. Motion carried.

#### **B. R9 Small Business Development Center**

Small Business Development Center director, Bob Klanderud, said that the R9 SBDC is hosting a Small Business Resource Fair April 27 at Rasmussen College. It will have providers of services to existing small businesses and people thinking of starting a business. There will be 15 seminars that will be held throughout the day. A brochure was distributed.

#### **VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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James J. Broich, Chairman

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Roger Oldfather, Secretary

