



REGION NINE



**DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION**

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.



3 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 310, Mankato, Minnesota

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 7, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. | Region Nine Development Commission

AGENDA

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Action</u>
I. Call to Order	4:30		
II. Roll Call – <i>Secretary Sturm</i>			
III. Approval of Agenda		1	Action
IV. Approval of August 10, 2022 Minutes		2	Action
V. Treasurer's Report – <i>Treasurer Dranttel</i>		7	Action
VI. Presentation – IJJA Opportunities – <i>Kellye Rose, MN Department of Commerce</i>	4:40		
VII. Finance Director's Report – <i>Ky Battern</i> A. Audit Updates	5:15	13	
VIII. Chair's Report – <i>Chair Laven</i>	5:25		
IX. Executive Director's Report – <i>Nicole Griensewic</i> A. Upcoming Commissioner Vacancies B. Out of State Travel Request C. Le Sueur County Plan Recap – <i>Leah Petricka</i> D. RNDC 50 th Celebration	5:35	14	Action
X. Other Business A. Commissioner Updates B. Meeting Evaluation	5:50		
		Handout	
XI. Adjournment	6:00		Action

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Laven called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. at RNDC in Mankato, MN.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Andrea Boettger, Marie Dranttel, Mike Laven, Christian Lilienthal, Kevin Paap, Steve Rohlfig, Phil Schafer, Gary Sturm

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Tom Loveall, Blair Nelson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Juliann Wiersma, Ky Battern, Frances Long, Paola Ferrario, Nicole Griensewic, Heather Bartelt

There was a quorum.

III. APPROVAL OF NEW BLUE EARTH COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Kevin Paap addressed the Board and informed them that Juliann Wiersma will be filling the Blue Earth County seat. Paap thanked the Board for allowing him to serve. On behalf of RNDC, Griensewic also thanked the commissioner for his time served.

Chair Laven requested each board member to introduce themselves to the new commissioner.

Rohlfig moved to approve the Juliann Wiersma for Blue Earth County Commissioner.
Boettger seconded. Motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA

Griensewic revised the agenda to include *Action Item X. C. Out of State Travel Request*

Schafer moved to approve the revised agenda as presented, Boettger seconded. Motion carried.

V. APPROVAL OF JUNE 1, 2022 MINUTES

Schafer moved to approve the June 1, 2022 minutes as presented, Rohlring seconded. Motion carried.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

Dranttel presented the Treasurer's Report.

Rohlring moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Schafer seconded. Motion carried.

VII. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair Laven shared with the Board the list of current nominations. Andrea Boettger for Vice President, Marie Dranttel for Treasurer, Gary Sturm for Secretary. Laven asked for other nominations from the floor. No further discussion.

Schafer moved to recommend Commissioner Boettger for Vice President, Commissioner Dranttel for Treasurer, and Commissioner Sturm for Secretary. Lilienthal seconded. Motion carried.

VIII. FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Battern noted that the FY22 ended on June 30th and the Finance Department is currently preparing for the audit taking place on September 6-9th.

Battern shared that Frances Long joined RNDC on July 18th as the new Finance Specialist.

Battern has expressed interest in having Abdo have the RNDC Audit Report done by October.

Battern shared that the finance department is currently getting caught up on deferred low priority tasks during the month of May and June.

Battern shared that new guidance from the EDA stated that all loans would need to be fully closed by June 30th instead of the previously stated July 27th deadline.

Battern noted that RNDC was able to get four loans closed in the months of June and July.

Battern shared that most of the CARES Act funding was dispersed. Battern noted that approximately \$20,000 was unable to be loaned out before the deadline.

Battern shared that RNAI has been working with the organization, The Reconciliation Learning Journey. The organization aims to pair up those of the Dakota decent with Caucasian individuals from the area and tour various historical sites regarding Native American and settler conflicts within the region.

Commissioner Rohlfling asked Battern for an update on future grants and projects. Discussion followed.

IX. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Laven shared that he is still in process of learning the process of Board Chair.

Chair Laven noted that he met with the finance department last week to ensure that his signature is on file for documents that can be signed electronically.

X. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Griensewic shared that Frances Long started as the Finance Specialist on July 18th.

Griensewic shared that Paola Ferrario started as a Community Development Planner on June 20th.

Griensewic noted that discussions are being held on creating a position for a planner focusing on sustainability.

Griensewic shared that the MarksNelson Training began today with RNDC staff. The MarksNelson training will follow into a second day with RNDC Directors and Commissioners. Griensewic shared the purpose of this training is to have a clear direction of the future of the organization, strengths, etc.

Griensewic shared that RNDC is still working with Extended HR. Extended HR will be reviewing all RNDC job descriptions, performance evaluations, and a few other items listed as top priority.

Griensewic noted that she currently has not found any other entities doing salary surveys but will continue to pursue that avenue.

Griensewic shared that RNDC has received a non-compliance letter from MnDOT. Griensewic noted that RNDC has been behind on the MnDOT planning grant spending from the past two years. MnDOT noted that the remaining amount of \$5971.00 was not fully spent in FY22. MnDOT shared that they will continue to allow flexibility of carryover between the fiscal years however need to address the inability of spending the funds according to the grant agreement. Discussion followed.

Griensewic updated the board that no grant applications submitted in Region Nine were funded by the Federal EDA. Griensewic shared with the board that she has made an appointment to meet with the Federal EDA in Chicago next week to inquire why no applications were funded in the region. Discussion followed.

Griensewic invited Paola Ferrario to share the ACE Unit concept. Ferrario noted that a plan is being created for an open market design for our region. These materials can be taken to the next ACE in November and create a pitch deck on what Region Nine has to offer. Ferrario shared that RNDC is also studying the possibility of creating Foreign Trade Zones. Ferrario noted the goal of these ideas is to becoming known internationally and tap into foreign markets.

Griensewic shared that she was on a call with Jeffrey Phillips, a former employee of the MN Trade Office who leads trade initiative for the MN Department of Agriculture. Griensewic noted that on September 21st, Phillips will be bringing a delegation of Agriculture leaders from foreign countries. Griensewic asked the board for input on what RNDC would like to show or highlight to this delegation. Commissioner Schafer noted the increase of organic farming in the region. Griensewic noted that she will keep the board informed as more details emerge.

A. Resolution 2022 – 05 – Authorizing Application to Federal EDA

RNDC is looking to be an applicant for a federal grant application in partnership with New Ulm Business Resource Center and Innovation Center (NUBRIC) for the purpose of funding an EDA planning Grant. RNDC will provide their share of 20% (currently estimated \$2,000) local match funds. The purpose of this grant is to develop a New Ulm Robotics and Automation Program that seeks to develop and implementation plan for a STEM robotics laboratory in New Ulm to serve the greater region.

Rohlfing moved to approve Resolution 2022 – 05 Authorizing Application to Federal EDA. Boettger seconded. Motion carried.

B. Resolution 2022 – 06 - Authorization Application to Federal EDA

RNDC is looking to be an applicant for a federal grant application in partnership with Project Cultivate for the purpose of funding an EDA planning Grant. RNDC will provide their share of 20% (currently estimated \$5,356) local match funds. The goal is to provide a replicable framework to empower cross-sectoral partners to address inequalities through entrepreneurship and business development. RNDC will provide technical assistance. Discussion followed

Boettger moved to approve Resolution 2022 – 06 Authorizing Application to Federal EDA. Dranttel seconded. Motion carried.

A. Introduction of Frances Long and Paola Ferrario

Chair Laven introduced new RNDC employees, Frances Long, Finance Specialist and Paola Ferrario, Community Development Planner. Chair Laven asked Frances and Paola to introduce themselves.

B. Out of State Travel Request

Griensewic requested the approval of out-of-state travel costs to Chicago to meet with the Federal EDA the week of August 15-19th. Griensewic noted that she was originally traveling to Chicago on a personal vacation but changed her plans to align them with a scheduled meeting with the Federal EDA. Griensewic then shared that she needed to be back in MN at the CTS meeting on Thursday evening, and then needed to travel back to Chicago for the Federal EDA meeting on Friday. Discussion followed.

Boettger moved to approve the Out of State Travel Request. Dranttel seconded. Motion carried.

Griensewic shared with the board a recap slide presentation of her time in Cambridge at the Harvard Kennedy School Local and State Government Leadership Course.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Commissioner Updates

Commissioners shared updates from their municipalities.

B. Meeting Evaluation

Chair Laven reminded the members of the Board to fill out the evaluation handout.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Boettger moved to adjourn. Schafer seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Mike Laven, Chair

Gary Sturm, Secretary

REGION NINE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
TREASURER'S REPORT
July 31, 2022

CASH BALANCE June 30, 2022 **\$ 3,100,031.31**

Cash Receipts - Checking	552,585.01	
Cash Receipts - Savings	-	
6 County deposits and interest	1,110.20	
9 County deposits and interest	6,627.93	
Tornado deposits and interest	5,383.23	
Cares deposits and interest	6,043.47	
Micro deposits and interest	1,093.46	
Interest	1,112.67	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$ 573,955.97
Payroll Disbursements		(70,479.59)
Accounts Payable & Other Disbursements		(562,491.09)

CASH BALANCE July 31, 2022 **\$ 3,041,016.60**

Region Nine Checking and Savings	
Checking	\$ 700,943.99
Savings	19,934.67
Total	\$ 720,878.66

Revolving Loan Funds	
6 County	\$ 152,559.39
9 County	841,773.54
Tornado	396,749.19
Cares Act	118,836.79
Micro	810,219.03
Total	\$ 2,320,137.94

CASH BALANCE July 31, 2022 **\$ 3,041,016.60**

REGION NINE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
July 2022 CASH RECEIPTS
FY 2022

Description	Amount	
DATE: 7/13/22		
Nicollet County Settlement - #203971	38,431.79	
Martin County Settlement - #202892	46,364.77	
Principal Dividend Payment - #0013812869	2,309.12	
Doppeleichen Origination Fee - #2560	1,500.00	
RLF Loan Payoff - #K225017	22,869.07	
TOTALS		111,474.75
DATE: 7/06/22		
Blue Earth County Assessment ACH	91,572.89	
TOTALS		91,572.89
DATE: 7/15/22		
MN Transit Grant Reimbursement	830.22	
TOTALS		830.22
DATE: 7/20/22		
MN Transit Grant Reimbursement	1,980.72	
TOTALS		1,980.72
DATE: 7/26/22		
EDA Treasury - CARES RLF Reimbursement	346,726.43	
TOTALS		346,726.43
July 2022 TOTALS		552,585.01

Board Payment Listing

Region Nine Development Commission
Check Date from 7/1/2022 to 7/31/2022

Run Date: 8/29/2022
Run Time: 12:33:53 pm
Page 1 of 2

Check#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Check Amount	Description
115370	07/11/2022	Doppeleichen Vineyards, LLC	100,000.00	Loan Disbursement - CARES RLF
115371	07/11/2022	Doppeleichen Vineyards, LLC	100,000.00	Loan Disbursement - Legacy 9 County RLF
115372	07/08/2022	Griensewic, Nicole	954.95	Harvard Kennedy School Flight - MSP to Boston, Mileage to and from Airport - Reimbursement (Used Personal CC)
115373	07/08/2022	Branstad, Patricia	1,800.00	RLF Contracting Work in St James Community - April & May Invoice
115374	07/08/2022	Lake Crystal Coaches	1,129.58	June 15th Bus Tour - INV #12277
115375	07/08/2022	Spirited Journeys LLC	1,057.50	USDA Consulting Work for June of 2022 - INV 1184
115376	07/22/2022	JJ's Beauty Supply and Services, LLC	29,000.00	CARES RLF Loan Disbursement - 7/22/22 Closing Date
115377	07/25/2022	Auringer, Tim	48.19	6/15/22 Commission Meeting
115378	07/25/2022	Boettger, Andrea S	288.52	June Meetings and Mileage
115379	07/25/2022	Brennan Properties of Minnesota	100.00	Training Room 5/12/22 INV 239
115380	07/25/2022	Cooling, Steven	40.00	4/13/22 Commission Meeting
			69.25	6/15/22 Commission Meeting
115381	07/25/2022	Creative Ad Solutions Inc	743.32	Journals - INV-25022
			409.49	Tote Bags - INV-24988
115382	07/25/2022	Equifax Information SVCS LLC	25.00	Revolving Loan Credit Check
115383	07/25/2022	Glidden, Elroy	109.03	6/15/22 Commission Meeting
115384	07/25/2022	GMS	40.00	Monthly License and Warranty Addtl - INV 940062022
			215.00	Monthly Support and Maintenance - INV 69062022
115385	07/25/2022	Goblirsch, Robert	185.30	6/10/22 and 6/15/22 Meetings
115386	07/25/2022	Internet Connections Inc	280.00	Annual Fee Website and Word Press- INV 178655
115387	07/25/2022	Karen Stevenson/Security Storage Syste	100.00	June Storage
115388	07/25/2022	Kruse, David	6,600.00	Dashboard Development - INV KT2124
115389	07/25/2022	Lime Valley Advertising Inc	50.00	Programming Services June - INV 22273.01
115390	07/25/2022	McLeod Publishing	20.80	June Budget Hearing Notice
115391	07/25/2022	NRHEG Star Eagle	20.00	Public Hearing Notice 6/9 - INV 1956
115392	07/25/2022	Office Depot Inc	45.84	CRTDG Ink HP 82 - INV 235090899001
			(39.78)	Return Item - Paper Bond 24x100 - INV 235840680001
			61.66	CRTDG IN HP 82 - INV 235432900001
115393	07/25/2022	Peterson, Richard L	63.40	6/16/22 Commission Meeting
115394	07/25/2022	Principal Life Insurance Company	293.48	7.15.22 - 8.14.22 Admin Fees
115395	07/25/2022	Rathskeller Inc	266.91	Climate Smart Event Town Hall- INV 245 -- A/V Equipment Rental and Luncheon
115396	07/25/2022	Roue, Leah	200.00	Speaker Series 5.25.22
115397	07/25/2022	Schafer, Philip H	113.13	6/15/22 Commission Meeting
115398	07/25/2022	Schlueter, Scott A	68.55	6/15/22 Commission Meeting
115399	07/25/2022	Sturm, Gary L	86.80	6/15/22 Commission Meeting
115400	07/25/2022	The Free Press	14.93	Board Meeting Announcement - INV 112310063022
115401	07/25/2022	The Journal	32.57	Public Notice - INV 014076

Board Payment Listing

Region Nine Development Commission

Check Date from 7/1/2022 to 7/31/2022

Run Date: 8/29/2022

Run Time: 12:33:53 pm

Page 2 of 2

Check#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Check Amount	Description
115402	07/25/2022	Verizon Wireless	145.56	6.9.22 - 7.8.22 Hot Spots - INV 9910641359
115403	07/25/2022	Creative Ad Solutions Inc	145.91	Name Badges and Mugs (Paola, Sabri, Frances) - INV-25173
115404	07/25/2022	Creative Ad Solutions Inc	17.61	Name Badge Redo for Misspell (Frances) - INV-25278
115405	07/25/2022	Creative Ad Solutions Inc	10.75	Mug Redo for Name Misspell (Frances) - INV-25277
115406	07/25/2022	Spectrum	121.77	Business Internet July - INV 0820665062322
115407	07/25/2022	Vanderberg Cleaning Services LLC	350.60	July Cleaning Services - INV 14000
115408	07/25/2022	Thriveon Inc	47.23	July Managed Services Voice - INV 163403
115409	07/25/2022	Thriveon Inc	2,703.37	July IT Managed Services - INV 163406
115410	07/25/2022	Griensewic, Nicole	1,373.11	6.30.22 Airfare Reimbursement PA 10/14 and Ecuador 10/17
115411	07/25/2022	GHG Corporation	75.00	July Timesheet Software Support - INV 91227
115412	07/25/2022	Neubau Holdings LLC	3,024.00	August 2022 Lease
115413	07/25/2022	Karen Stevenson/Security Storage Syste	100.00	August Storage
115414	07/25/2022	Further	24.75	July Participant Fees
115415	07/25/2022	CenturyLink	152.05	Phone Service 6.8.22 - 7.7.22 - INV 300586727
115416	07/25/2022	Metro Sales Inc	377.25	July Copier Lease
115417	07/25/2022	Boettger, Andrea S	40.00	7/21 Zoom Meeting
115418	07/25/2022	Consolidated Communications	744.94	Phone Service 7/15/22 - 8/14/22 - INV 7/15/22 Statement
115419	07/25/2022	Xcel Energy	66.93	Electricity Service 6/14/22 - 7/16/22 - INV 788329396
115420	07/26/2022	Aquatic Gardens & Landscaping, Inc	100,000.00	CARES RLF Loan Distribution
115421	07/26/2022	Aquatic Gardens & Landscaping, Inc	100,000.00	9 County Legacy RLF Loan Distribution
115422	07/26/2022	Moonshot Enterprises, LLC	100,000.00	CARES Act RLF Loan Distribution
115423	07/29/2022	DM Stamps & Specialties	56.15	Custom Sign - Steve Rohlfing County Commissioner and Mike Laven Chairman
115424	07/29/2022	Enz, Pamela	3,750.00	Lego Serious Play - Staff Development
115425	07/29/2022	Extended Human Resources LLC	472.50	HR Support Job Description Updates
115426	07/29/2022	Griensewic, Nicole	1,084.51	Flight Reimbursement Ecuador 10.17.22
Check Total			559,377.41	
Report Total			559,377.41	

Region 9 Development Commission
Credit Card Activity: April 2022 to July 2022

Batch #	VR/GJ #	Description	PO#	VR Date	Check #	CK/GJ Date	CD#	Amount
2100	Wells Fargo	Status:	Active					
1529	11356	Lela Restaurant Bloomington - St. James Project - AB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	70.21
1529	11357	Holiday Gas Station Jordan MN - Breakfast - AB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	6.66
1529	11358	Taco Libre Edina - Staff Lunch for St. James Project - AB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	17.87
1529	11359	HyVee Gas Mankato - Region 9 Vehicle - AB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	28.75
1529	11360	Sheraton Bloomington - St. James Project Hotel Stay - AB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	124.83
1529	11361	Finance Charge - AB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	1.96
1530	11362	Late Charge - LP		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	39.00
1530	11363	Periodic Finance Charge - LP		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	7.75
1531	11364	Apple iCloud Storage - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	0.99
1531	11365	Mind Mapping Monthly Subscription - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	6.46
1532	11366	Pizza Ranch Waite Park - Finance Director Qtly Meeting - KB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	13.44
1532	11367	Late Charge - KB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	39.00
1532	11368	Periodic Finance Charge - KB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	2.01
1533	11369	Pizza Ranch Waite Park - Finance Directors Qtly Meeting - LV		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	13.44
1533	11370	Late Charge - LV		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	39.00
1533	11371	Periodic Finance Charge - LV		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	3.98
1534	11372	SMIF Trivia Night Package - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	110.00
1534	11373	Amazon - Copier Paper - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	182.78
1534	11374	Office Max Clear Report Covers - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	39.77
1534	11375	Amazon - Owl Pro and Asst Office Supplies - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	1,052.11
1534	11376	Trophies2Go - Steve Rohlfling Plaque - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	125.00
1534	11377	First Advantage - BG Check Nate George - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	49.00
1534	11378	Late Charge - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	39.00
1534	11379	Periodic Finance Charge - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	20.48
1535	11380	Traverse Registration Renewal - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	19.73
1535	11381	La Terraza Grill Mankato - Lunch and Learn - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	239.58
1535	11382	Office Max - Foam Boards MnDOT Open House - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	64.66
1535	11383	Office Depot - Slit Score PJC - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	17.45
1535	11384	Office Depot - Slit Score PJC Returned - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	(17.45)
1535	11385	Walmart - Snacks for MnDOT Open House - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	34.75
1535	11386	LinkedIn - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	114.13
1535	11388	Facebook Ads - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	251.59
1535	11389	LinkedIn - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	32.65
1535	11390	Gallup Strengths Finder - Aaron Pacheco - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	53.93
1535	11391	Canva Pro Annual Fee - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	119.40
1535	11392	Amazon - Web Cam, Lifesavers, Mouse, Paper Towels - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	98.98
1535	11393	NADO Membership - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	300.00
1535	11394	Over Limit Fee - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	39.00
1536	11395	DocuSign - LV		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	300.00
1537	11396	Facebook Ad 3/25/22 - CJ		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	50.00
1537	11397	Facebook Ad 3/28/22 - CJ		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	75.00
1537	11398	Facebook Ad 4/12/22 - CJ		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	77.91
1538	11399	Apple iCloud Storage - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	0.99
1538	11400	Mind Meister Monthly Subscription - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	6.46
1538	11401	Taxi Ride 3/27/22 - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	14.60
1538	11402	Walgreens - Covid Test - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	52.51
1538	11403	Lyft Ride 3/27/22 - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	13.82
1538	11404	Lyft Ride 3/27/22 - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	11.71
1538	11405	PJ's Coffee House - Meal - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	14.45
1538	11406	Hilton Baton Rouge - Hotel Stay - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	114.80
1538	11407	Jung Hotel & Residence New Orleans - Hotel Stay - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	371.20
1538	11408	Doubletree Hotels Lafayette, LA - Hotel Stay - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	146.06
1538	11409	Lyft Ride New Orleans - 4/2/22 - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	14.86
1538	11410	Gumbo YaYa New Orleans - Meal - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	41.74
1538	11411	Lyft Ride New Orleans 4/2/22 - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	10.99
1538	11413	Lyft Ride New Orleans - 4/2/22 - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	13.38
1538	11414	Chili's New Orleans LA - Meal - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	12.84
1538	11415	Lyft Ride New Orleans - 4/3/22 - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	51.45
1538	11416	Over Limit Fee		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	39.00
1538	11561	Delta Air Refund 3/24 - NG		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	(837.20)
1541	11418	Getting Started with Climate Action Webinar - LP		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	249.00
1542	11420	Marathon Gas Station Mankato - Fuel for Traverse - KB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	49.96
1544	11421	Zoom Support - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	161.71
1544	11422	Curiosi-Tea House North Mankato - Lunch and Learn 4/27/22 - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	269.31
1544	11423	Facebook Ads 4/30/22 - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	26.01
1544	11424	Indeed Sponsored Job Posting - 5/1/22 - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	114.92
1544	11425	U of M Parking 5/2/22 - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	13.00
1544	11426	U of M Parking 5/2/22 - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	5.00
1544	11427	Eagle Express Eagle Lake, MN - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	49.47
1544	11428	Package Mailed to St. James 5/2/22 - HB		01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	12.31

1544	11429	Box Lunches for SMIG Meeting 5/9/22 - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	48.42
1544	11430	Amazon - Plaques and Batteries - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	82.78
1544	11431	Hy-Vee Breakfast for IDI Training 5/11/22 - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	41.27
1544	11432	Amazon - Copier Paper 10 Reams - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	48.76
1544	11433	United Team Elite - Polo Shirt - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	28.00
1544	11434	Indeed Sponsored Job Listings 5/16/22 - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	500.38
1544	11435	Walmart Mankato - Greeting Cards - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	12.85
1545	11436	Apple - Mindmeister Subscription - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	6.46
1545	11437	Apple - iCloud Storage - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	0.99
1545	11438	Lola an American Bistro New Ulm - Staff Lunch - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	22.07
1546	11440	Adobe AcroPro Subscription - LV	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	194.05
1547	11441	USPS - 4/26/22 - KB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	123.05
1547	11442	MN Attorney General - Registration Fee - KB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	25.00
1547	11443	MN Attorney General - Processing Fee for Registration - KB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	0.54
1547	11444	Periodic Visa Finance Charge - KB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	1.82
1548	11445	Late Charge - CJ	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	39.00
1548	11446	Periodic Visa Finance Charge - CJ	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	2.07
1549	11447	ACEC of AZ Transporation Conference - JH	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	175.00
1549	11448	Amsterdam Bar & Hall - St. Paul - Meal - JH	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	20.00
1549	11449	Sakura Restaurant St. Paul - Meal - JH	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	46.98
1549	11450	Hyatt St. Paul - Hotel Stay - JH	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	305.38
1550	11451	Cub Foods Mankato - Cookies and Coffee - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	18.78
1550	11452	Amazon Plaque - Commission - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	45.37
1550	11453	Hy-Vee Mankato - Cookies and Soda - Lunch and Learn - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	30.72
1550	11454	Topper's Pizza Door Dash - Lunch and Learn 5/25/22 - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	115.56
1550	11455	Amazon Digital Voice Recorder - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	38.00
1550	11456	Arrowwood Lodge Brainerd, MN - Hotel Stay - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	124.13
1550	11457	Indeed Sponsored Job Postings - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	498.87
1550	11458	Facebook Ads - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	122.47
1550	11459	Walgreen's Mankato - Staff Covid Tests for Bus Tour - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	107.77
1550	11460	Background Check - Paola Ferrario - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	49.00
1550	11461	Background Check - Sabri Fair - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	49.00
1550	11462	Background Check - Frances Long - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	49.00
1550	11463	Adobe Subscription - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	517.67
1550	11464	Caribou Coffee North Mankato - Coffee for Bus Tour - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	119.57
1550	11465	Adobe AcroPro Subs Refund - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	(94.89)
1550	11466	Walmart Mankato - Craft Supplies Eagle Lake - HB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	19.23
1551	11467	Prairie Bay Brainerd MN - Meal - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	48.59
1551	11468	Apple MindMeister Subscription - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	6.46
1551	11469	Apple iCloud Storage - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	0.99
1551	11470	Local 218 Brainerd, MN - Meal - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	38.36
1551	11471	Caribou Coffee Baxter, MN - Meal - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	15.00
1551	11472	WA Frost St. Paul - Meal Finnish Delegation - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	66.70
1551	11473	LinkedIn Job Listings - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	507.41
1551	11474	Parking St. Paul - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	4.50
1551	11475	Parking St Paul - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	1.75
1551	11476	Traveluro Double Tree Suites Minneapolis - Hotel Stay - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	260.00
1551	11477	Doubletree Hotels Minneapolis - Room Service - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	32.41
1551	11478	LinkedIn - Job Posting - NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	175.59
1552	11479	Marathon Petro Mankato - Ice for Bus Tour - LP	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	4.98
1552	11480	Marathon Petro Mankato - Ice for Bus Tour - LP	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	2.30
1552	11481	Hy-Vee Mankato - Snacks for Bus Tour - LP	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	146.78
1552	11482	Big Dog Sports Cafe North Mankato - Meal Approved by NG	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	43.21
1553	11483	Secretary of State - UCC3 Termination - KB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	20.00
1553	11484	Hy-Vee Mankato - Fuel - KB	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	38.33
1559	11532	Hy-Vee Mankato - Supplies for R9 Bus Tour - JH	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	15.19
1570	11566	Service Fees - January to June, 2022	01/00/1900	0	06/30/2022	0	1,760.50
Vendor Total		11,673.32					
Report Total		11,673.32					

Finance

- Over this last month, year-end audit preparation has been the primary focus.
- Our auditing firm, Abdo, will be doing a hybrid audit the week of September 6th. Depending on how the audit progresses come September 7th, I may be able to provide a high-level summary of how FY22 finished up as part of this report.

Revolving Loan Fund

- Reporting for submitted for the four federal revolving loan funds Region 9 operates. After their approval, the process to officially defederalize three of these funds (all but CARES) will begin.
- Demos of two software programs were viewed in hopes of incorporating one within our RLF program. ProFx Systems is a binder based software with a client portal that R9 is moving forward with implementing. This will allow our clients to electronically upload to a secure portal with a specified needed checklist prior to their loan being considered for approval by the Loan Committee.

Region Nine Area, Inc.

- Region 9 has been working with a start up organization to be known as 'The Reconciliation Learning Journey' that pairs up those of Dakota decent with Caucasian individuals from our area to take part in a bus tour of varying historical sites regarding Native American and settler conflicts in this area. This bus tour was originally scheduled to take place in September, but has since been moved back to October 6th. RNAI is acting as the short-term fiscal host for this event.



Congratulations! Your organization has received a 2022 NADO Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award!

Thank you so much for the time and effort you put into submitting an application, and more importantly, for the important work you are doing for your region. **We are waiting until next month for our new website to go live to make a public announcement but wanted to let you know the good news now!** The complete list of awarded projects is below.

Award-winning projects will be featured on October 17 at the Impact Awards reception at [NADO's 2022 Annual Training Conference in Pittsburgh, PA](#) and will also be highlighted in an online StoryMap released during the conference. In addition, you will receive via email a [free PDF certificate](#) for each project that can be printed at your convenience, as well as a press relate template to share with local media. *Certificates and press releases will be e-mailed in October.*

Please let me know if you have any questions at this time. Thank you for your participation in this year's Impact Awards program and congratulations again!

Best,

Brett

Brett Schwartz

Associate Director
NADO Research Foundation
bschwartz@nado.org
www.nado.org



Staff Updates – September 2022

Nicole Griensewic

Met with EDA Chicago Regional Office's leadership team August 19th in Chicago. Plan to share a recap during the board meeting.

While in Chicago, Paola and I scheduled additional meetings. We met with the German American Chamber of Commerce's (GACC) Midwest office in downtown Chicago. They are the leader among the other GACC regions with all sustainability/ clean energy initiatives. Jana Liebe, one of our German ACE colleagues shared her organization's research and current projects in Thüringen, Germany.

September 12-16 will be attending Harvard Kennedy School's Executive Education course on Climate Change and Policy. The professional development was supported by the CARES Act. Eager to learn more about this subject area as it is new to our team. Federal funding is now available through the Inflation Reduction Act.

Asked the Department of Commerce to present during the board meeting to ensure the funding opportunities can be shared throughout our region. Few other team members were also in attendance for a Zoom meeting with Great Plains Institute (GPI) and MN Dept. of Commerce that was held for MADO Ex. Directors and planners who work in the sustainability space. Information is coming down the line quickly. Want to assist our local leaders on program awareness, timing, and funding priorities.

Special thank you to Commissioners: Boettger, Femrite, Laven, Lilienthal, Rohlfing, and Schafer on participating in the MarksNelson training in mid-August. The team will have follow up meetings with trainer Steve Etcher on next steps and an action plan.

August 12th the team enjoyed half day of kayaking down the Minnesota River with Bent River through support from our Worksite Wellness Program. The team had only positive feedback on the opportunity.

Attended Zoom meeting with MnDOT district 7 team on Aug. 19th to review the corrective action plan. Former RND C'er Dani Walchuk is the new contact at MnDOT for all MN RDOs. Directors participated to ensure clarity on expectations for the planning grant going forward. The plan is included in the packet if interested in seeing final version.

August 30-Sept 1 participate in MADO Executive Director quarterly meetings in Alexandria. Discussion items included personnel policies, funding & partnership opportunities, DevelopMN updates and more. MADO directors were able to have a Zoom meeting with Tom Baron who serves as WI's Economic Development Representative for the Chicago Regional Office (CRO) for EDA. Baron is temporarily in charge of MN, as an EDR is on leave. Improving communication and partnerships between MN RDOs and EDA is a priority.

Alejandra Bejarano

Alejandra is leading the strategic planning for the city of Eagle Lake. Alejandra is wrapping up interviews with business owners, and she is currently working on designing and finishing the strategic plan. Alejandra will meet with the local EDA to present a final draft of the plan in October and will later present it to the City Council.

Alejandra and Kristian are leading a local task force composed of local academic institutions and industries focused on talent retention and the development of talent pipelines for international students coming to the region for education. Alejandra and Kristian have been facilitating monthly meetings of the local task force. The group has identified a series of objectives that they would like to pursue over the next year. The group will convene in September to establish work groups that will work towards achieving these action items.

Alejandra and Kristian are working with HACER and the University Minnesota Extension on an "informal to formal" economy project focused on studying entrepreneurship that arises from economic needs. The project seeks to identify and assess barriers that entrepreneurs face when formalizing their business ventures. This is a two-year project funded by the McKnight foundation.

Additionally, Alejandra and Kristian are working with Alexandra Jensen, Research Associate at HACER on a pilot project centered on assessing and understanding the skills gap that affects individuals who are internationally trained and who are employed below their skillset. The project aims to collaboratively develop community-driven solutions to address the barriers that prevent Latino and Latina immigrants from securing jobs they have the training and are qualified for.

Alejandra has also been supporting other initiatives such as the Prosperity Initiative, the St. James Resiliency Plan, and the Annual Progress Report for the CEDS.

Kristian Braekkan

Kristian has worked to co-submit applications with NUBRIC and Project Cultivate to the federal EDA. He has also supported MSU's Department of Mechanical Engineering on an application for federal assistance as it pertains to automation and robotics training to young adults. He is also working with the cities of Blue Earth and Fairmont on revised EDA applications for economic adjustment assistance. Kristian continues to support Waseca County on the Manufacturing Resource Center and has been part of conversations with AURI regarding possible reuses of the Clear Lake Press building. He is working on finalizing recommendations for the Manufacturing Resilience study and is currently doing an update of the economic impact of the manufacturing segments in the aftermath of COVID for the same plan.

Sabri Fair

As summer ends, so too have a few of Sabri's projects. In the past couple of weeks Sabri has been wrapping up the Local Foods Week project and his work with the Local Food's interns. Both of those are projects that will be replicated in the remaining years of the USDA/NRCS grant so evaluating their success and learning from their mistakes is important for improving the next iterations. He has a few pages of notes on each project but thinks the biggest take away is the importance of engaging partners early and often, which can get lost in the day to day of work, however it makes a world of a difference for creating quality deliverables and forming lasting relationships. With the school year quickly approaching, Sabri has started working on the Safe Routes to School Plan for Madelia. The goal of this plan is to help students get to school safely on foot, bicycle, car, or bus. They have already started meeting with the planning team and will be at a couple of school events in the coming weeks to get input on traffic issues near the schools. Sabri has also been helping with a feasibility study for Neighbor's Meats in New Richland which hopes to start USDA inspection and expand their processing facility. Sabri has also continued working on the Manufacturing Resilience Plan which is contributing a section on sustainable manufacturing. So far, he has had valuable conversations with consultants, engineers, installers, and utilities about the work they do and the opportunities they see manufacturers taking advantage of.

Paola Ferrario

Paola has been working on the general organization of the North Rhine Westphalia organization on best practices in sustainability and exchanging on welcoming communities. The agenda is halfway under way and the scheduling details are being looked over and secured. For this purpose, Paola and Nicole had a series of meetings in Chicago with the German American Chamber of Commerce to further expand partnerships as well. The ACE Unit has been outlining the blueprint of work in foreign direct investment and possible incentives to attract businesses and further develop the region. A program outline will be sent to the Inter-American Competitiveness Network and has shown positive acceptance from high level authorities, including the White House, for its innovative approach. Paola and Sabri are working on the development of an agriculture resiliency grant and working on a blueprint of needs for the region in agriculture. She is also collaborating with Launch Minnesota to find possible international speakers for the Global Entrepreneurship Week celebration in November 2022. Finally, Paola and Leah are working on onboarding the remaining team members to the project management platform and designing the management of the same.

Joel Hanif

Joel held a public hearing at the Mapleton Planning and Zoning Commission to adopt their comprehensive plan on August 30. The original public hearing in July was determined to not

be a quorum by the city's legal counsel (two commissioners joined in person, and one joined via phone), so the August 30 hearing takes the place of the original hearing. Feedback and changes will be made to the plan after the public hearing, and the final plan will be adopted at a September council meeting.

Work is ongoing with the Local Human Services Transit Coordination plan. Final outreach and plan drafting is occurring, and needs will be prioritized by the steering committee in September.

Madelia held its Safe Routes to School kickoff meeting with the leadership team and local stakeholders (city council, principals, bus service, law enforcement, and more). There, the team received an overview of what the SRTS process will be throughout the school year, and the team also worked on drafting a vision statement for the plan. The parent/guardian survey is live, and RNDC staff and other stakeholders on the team will be engaging with community members at back-to-school open houses in late August and early September.

In the USDA/NRCS local foods project, Anne Ganey and Joel have completed the report on barriers to accessing NRCS services. That will be submitted to NRCS in early September. Planning for year 2 activities in the project and reviewing the first year of activities for semi-annual reporting is underway.

Aaron Pacheco

Aaron has been offering assistance on the Eagle Lake strategic planning project. By conducting a population projection and generating a dataset with population growth trends by Census blocks, a final map shows where in Eagle Lake population has been increasing and decreasing in the last 10 years.

Additionally, after collaborative research with Minnesota State University, Mankato (MNSU) on industry and employment dynamics has pointed to growing issues in labor shortages and workforce precarity, Aaron is currently planning a more in-depth study on the topic as a follow-up with MNSU and Indiana University (IU). While IU has already begun a labor study regarding meat processing and agriculture in Colorado, Aaron will examine labor issues (such as shortages, workforce disruptions, and economic instability) surrounding similar industries and situations in the Midwest and Region Nine in particular.

Leah Petricka

Leah presented the draft of the Le Sueur County study for community and economic development staffing in August to stakeholders. A presentation to county commissioners is anticipated in September.

Leah has been assisting with the planning and execution of community conversations in Le Center as a next step to the equity blueprint that has been developed for the region as part of the Bush Foundation grant.

Leah along with several others on the team are assisting the city of St. James with an upcoming application to the EDA. Leah will specifically be assisting with the strategic economic development plan. The project is in the early stages with a survey planned in October.

Leah is working with Kristian on a feasibility study for a Waseca business looking to expand operations. The feasibility study is a requirement of the USDA funding the business is seeking for part its operational expansion.

Leah continues to provide support and guidance to her direct reports in the various projects the team is working on.

Terms & Abbreviations

AURI – Agricultural Utilization Research Institute

CEDS – Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

CGMC – Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities

DEED – Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

DHS – Minnesota Department of Human Services

EDA – Economic Development Administration

EDD – Economic Development District

GAC – Gustavus Adolphus College

GIS – Geographic Information Systems

GMG – Greater Mankato Growth

GMDC – Greater Mankato Diversity Council

GMNP – Greater Minnesota Partnership

HACER – Hispanic Advocacy and Community Empowerment through Research

HUD – Department of Housing and Urban Development

LCWM – Lake Crystal Welcome Memorial

LGU – Local Government Unit

LMI – Labor Market Information

LMI – Low-to-Moderate Income

MADO – Minnesota Association of Development Organizations

MAPO – Mankato/North Mankato Area Planning Organization

MDH – Minnesota Department of Health

MnDOT – Minnesota Department of Transportation

MnSCU – Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System

MPCA – Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

MSA – Metropolitan Statistical Area

MSU-M – Minnesota State University, Mankato

MYLAP – MN Young America Leaders Program

NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Services

REDA – Regional Economic Development Alliance

REV – Rural Entrepreneurial Venture

RLF – Revolving Loan Fund

RNAI – Region Nine Area Inc.

RNDC – Region Nine Development Commission

SBDC – Small Business Development Center

SCBDN – South Central Business Development Network

SCC – South Central College

SHIP – Statewide Health Improvement Partnership

SMIF – Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation

SRTS – Safe Routes to Schools

TAC – Transportation Advisory Committee