REGION NINE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
UNAPPROVED Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Laven called the meeting to order at 4:29 p.m. at RNDC in Mankato, MN.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Andrea Boettger, Marie Dranttel, Mike Laven, Christian Lilienthal, Steve Rohlfing, Phil Schafer, Gary Sturm, Juliann Wiersma

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Tom Loveall, Blair Nelson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Ky Battern, Leah Petricka, Nicole Griensewic

There was a quorum.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

IV. APPROVAL OF SEPTMEBER 7, 2022 MINUTES

Rohlfing moved to approve the September 7, 2022 minutes as presented, Schafer seconded. Motion carried.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

Dranttel presented the Treasurer's Report.

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

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Laven shared November elections took place and there are no changes to the Full Commission.

Chair Laven noted that he participated in the MADO All Staff Training that took place November 1-3. Laven shared that staff had positive reviews of the training.

VII. FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Battern shared that the semi-annual reporting has completed and submitted.

Battern shared that RNDC audit is still ongoing.

Battern shared that RNDC has transitioned to FY23 budgets.

Battern shared that he and Frances Long will be visiting loan clients as a part of the RLF program.

Battern noted that he and Frances will also be visiting banks to promote RLF Program.

Battern noted that he has reached out to banker, Julie Baumgartner from Citizens Bank in New Ulm to network and market RNDC's RLF program.

IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Strategic Plan, CEDS & APR Update

Leah Petricka updated the Board on the current process of the Strategic Plan. Petricka shared the RNDC action plan that has been drafted. Petricka shared as a result of the commission networking session there is interest in having RNDC become more involved in childcare, housing and environment and stainability topics. Petricka noted that she and Griensewic have been in the process of interviewing candidates for an environment and stainability position. Petricka asked the Board for input on the direction of how Board and Commission meetings should be conducted.

- The board noted to have more engagement at Full Commission meetings.
- The board recognized that the Board of Directors meetings are for the "hard work" and Full Commission meetings are generally for presentations.
- The board noted that having network time at the Full Commission meetings is beneficial.
- The board noted to Improve communication and tasks between RNDC Committees.

Petricka did note that she will be looking into different avenues for more engagement with RNDC committees.

Petricka asked the board for input on what metrics are important to the Board.

- The board noted receiving a RLF committee report.
- The board noted that they would be interested in knowing what kinds of phone calls RNDC receives to understand the general public's perception of RNDC's work.

Petricka shared that she is seeking to establish RNDC's main engagement priorities. Discussion followed.

B. MADO All Staff Training

Griensewic noted the November 1st, "Diversity of Thought" event was a positive experience for those who attended. Commissioner Wiersma shared positive reviews of the event and how it highlighted the arts in Mankato.

Griensewic shared the final speaker for the MADO All Staff Training was Dr. Brian Martensen, President, MinnPoly. Dr. Martensen spoke on the topic of how the relationship between RDO's and universities can be beneficial to both parties.

Griensewic asked for Battern's input on the training. Battern shared that the most beneficial aspect for him was the networking with colleagues from around the state.

C. Resolution 2022 – 07 Application to the Federal EDA

Griensewic requested a revised resolution to reflect "cash" vs. "in kind" language change.

Sturm moved to approve Resolution 2022 – 07 Application to the Federal EDA. Dranttel seconded. Motion carried.

D. Resolution 2022 – 08 Application to the Federal EDA

Griensewic requested a revised resolution to reflect "cash" vs. "in kind" language change.

Sturm moved to approve Resolution 2022 – 07 Application to the Federal EDA. Rohlfing seconded. Motion carried.

Griensewic asked Vice Chair Boettger to share any thoughts she had from the NADO Annual Training Conference. Boettger said the conference went well. Boettger reflected that the most beneficial aspect was networking with fellow MN colleagues. Discussion followed.

Griensewic shared that she will no longer be attending ACE in Ecuador due to protesting, civil unrest, and their President's Deceleration State of Emergency, as well as her workload capacity. Griensewic noted that Aaron Pacheco will already be traveling to Ecuador as a part of his research at Indiana University. The ACE Program allowed Pacheco to participate in place of Griensewic.

Griensewic noted that RNDC's 50th Celebration will take place at the January 11, 2023 Full Commission meeting at the Kato Ballroom.

Griensewic shared that Doug Trytten has been re-elected as the Mayor of Kiester. He is excited to rejoin the Full Commission assuming he gets the appointment in January after being sworn in.

X. 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.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Lilienthal moved to adjourn. Boettger seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Mike Laven, Chair

Gary L. Sturm

Gary Sturm, Secretary