



Commission Meeting

Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.



CONSENT AGENDA

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Action</u>
I. Call to Order	6:00		
II. Pledge of Allegiance			
III. Roll Call – Secretary Branstad			
IV. Approval of Commissioner Pam Rodewald, Nicollet County: Cities under 10,000			Action
V. Approval of Consent Agenda			Action
A. Approval of June 12, 2024, Minutes		3	
B. Treasurer’s Report		7	
VI. Chair’s Report – Chair Laven	6:10		
A. Introduce New Staff			
B. Executive Director Succession Plan		11	Action
C. Playbook Strategies - Meredith Vadis			
VII. Executive Director’s Report – Nicole Griensewic			
VIII. Housing – Todd Prafke, Saint Peter City Administrator	6:20		
IX. Breakout Discussions	6:40		
With fellow Commissioners on housing needs & ideas			
X. Other Business	7:30		
A. Outgoing Commissioner Recognition			
B. Commissioner Updates			
C. Meeting Evaluation			
XI. Adjournment	8:00		Action

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Laven called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. at South Central Service Cooperative.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lee Baarts, Sarah Berry, Andrea Boettger, Dave Borchert, Jim Branstad, Steve Cooling, Chris Dalton, Marie Dranttel, Lyle Femrite, Elroy Glidden, Robert Goblirsch, Paul Harris, Dawn Kratzke, Katelynne Kratz, Brad Krause, Mike Laven, Christian Lilienthal, Mary Milbrath, Bob Nielsen, Lisa Norton, Shanon Nowell, Patty O'Connor, Ayan Omar, Matt Peterson, Mike Pfeil, Rita Rassbach, Gary Richter, Steve Rohlfig, Phil Schafer, Scott Schlueter, Julie Tesch, Rob Wilkening

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Elliot Belgard, Stephanie Hilpiper, Tom Loveall, Steve Rohlfig

OTHERS PRESENT: Nicole Griensewic, Ky Battern, Sarah Janovsky, Kristian Braekkan, Mercedes Sempè, Alejandra Bejarano, Nate George, Joel Hanif, Sabri Fair, Samuel Sharp, Mireille Ghassan

There was a quorum.

IV. ACCEPTING NOMINATION OF LEE BAARTS, CITY OF FAIRMONT

Nowell moved to approve Lee Baarts as Commissioner for the City of Fairmont. Omar seconded. Motion carried.

V. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Kratzke moved to approve the consent agenda. Wilkening seconded. Motion carried.

A revision was made to the agenda to include the addition of item IV. Accepting Nomination of Lee Baarts, City of Fairmont.

Norton moved to approve the revised agenda. Schlueter seconded. Motion carried.

VI. PLAN RECAP: FARIBAULT & SIBLEY COUNTIES

Mercedes, Kristian, and Saga provided an analysis, highlighting how the plans for each county maintained a cohesive structure while being tailored to the unique objectives and priorities of their respective communities.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

A. Introduction of New Commissioners- Julie Tesch (Waseca County Townships), Rita Rassbach (Regional School Boards), Brad Krause (Waseca County)

B. Commissioner Per Diem Increase from \$40 to \$50 to go into effect July 1, 2024

Nowell moved to approve the per diem increase to \$50 beginning July 1, 2024. Schafer seconded. Motion carried.

C. Chair Term

Chair of the Budget & Personnel Committee, Lyle Femrite, noted the committee met on May 25th and approved the nomination of Mike Laven and Lisa Norton as Full Commission Board Chair. Femrite went on to ask the Full Commission if there were any other nominations for Full Commission Board Chair. No other nominations were made.

Dalton moved to close nominations for the Commission Chair. Tesch seconded. Motion carried.

Norton moved to approve Mike Laven as Commission Board Chair. Schlueter seconded. Motion carried.

D. Slate of Officers: Boettger-Vice Chair, Dranttel-Treasurer, Branstad-Secretary

Nowell moved to approve the slate of officers for FY25. Borchert seconded. Motion carried.

E. Resolution 2024 – 02 - Proposed FY25 Meeting Dates

Dalton motioned to approve the meeting dates for FY25. Milbrath seconded. Motion carried.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Nicole provided updates on the organizational chart, which was originally shared with the Commission in April, to reflect the current staffing changes she is aware of. Jessica Beyer has joined RNDC as a consultant for RNDC, facilitating County Leadership and Flooding Recovery efforts. Mayor Lee Baarts has taken on the role of Fairmont Representative on the RNDC Commission, while the commission seats for Faribault County Cities and Faribault County Townships remain vacant. Nicole recently attended the NADO Summer Board Meeting. The McKnight Foundation has allocated \$1.5 million in funding to six regions, including Region Nine, providing significant support for local initiatives. Last night, the City Council adopted the Comfrey Plan, and Comfrey remains in the running for the Blandin Foundation Grant in its pursuit of becoming a Carbon-Free City. Nicole also proposed that housing be the focus of the October Commission Meeting, an idea that was well-received by the commission. Additionally, the American Scandinavian Association has been nominated for a NADO Impact Award.

IX. PUBLIC HEARING OF FY25 BUDGET

A. Call for Opening Public Hearing

Schafer motioned to open the public hearing. Norton seconded. Motion carried.

B. Approval of FY25 Operating Budget

Wilkening motioned to approve the FY25 Operating Budget. Dalton seconded. Motion carried.

C. Approval of FY25 Preliminary Levy

Omar motioned to approve the FY25 Levy. Dalton seconded. Motion carried. Schafer Opposed.

D. Call for Close Public Hearing

Nowell motioned to close the public hearing. Norton seconded. Motion carried.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioners shared updates from their communities.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Norton moved to adjourn. Schafer seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Region Nine Development Commission

Balance Sheet

As of August 31, 2024

	<u>General</u>	<u>Legacy RLF</u>	<u>CARES Act RLF</u>	<u>Auto Fund</u>	<u>McKnight Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
Assets						
Cash	\$ 567,796	\$ 1,782,771	\$ 30,171	\$ 25,011	\$ 230,580	\$ 2,405,749
Receivables						
Taxes - Current	96,968	-	-	-	-	96,968
General Accounts Receivable	39,770	-	-	-	-	39,770
Grants Accounts Receivable	229,046	-	-	-	-	229,046
Revolving Loan - Current	-	75,463	108,077	-	-	183,540
Revolving Loan - Long-Term	-	1,140,208	835,417	-	-	1,975,625
Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation	-	-	-	39,278	-	39,278
Prepays	18,003	-	-	-	-	18,003
Total Assets	<u>951,583</u>	<u>2,998,442</u>	<u>973,665</u>	<u>64,289</u>	<u>230,580</u>	<u>4,987,979</u>
Liabilities						
Accounts Payable	1,362	-	-	-	-	1,362
Due to Other RDC's	-	-	-	-	230,580	-
Accrued Payroll Liabilities	12,731	-	-	-	-	12,731
Unearned Revenue	242,132	-	-	-	-	242,132
Accrued Leave Payable	34,781	-	-	-	-	34,781
Total Liabilities	<u>285,266</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>230,580</u>	<u>285,266</u>
Fund Balances						
Non-Spendable - Prepaid Items	18,003	-	-	-	-	18,003
Restricted for Future Loans	-	2,998,442	964,489	-	-	3,962,931
Restricted Fund Balance for Auto/Capital	-	-	-	25,011	-	25,011
Restricted Fund Balance - Fixed Assets	-	-	-	39,278	-	39,278
Unassigned	648,314	-	9,176	-	-	657,490
Total Fund Balances	<u>666,317</u>	<u>2,998,442</u>	<u>973,665</u>	<u>64,289</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,702,713</u>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	<u>951,583</u>	<u>2,998,442</u>	<u>973,665</u>	<u>64,289</u>	<u>230,580</u>	<u>4,987,979</u>
	-	-	-	-	-	-

Region Nine Development Commission
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes
As of August 31, 2024

	<u>General</u>	<u>Legacy RLF</u>	<u>CARES Act RLF</u>	<u>Auto Fund</u>	<u>McKnight Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
Revenues						
Levy						
Taxes	96,968	-	-	-	-	96,968
Federal Grants						-
EDA Planning Grant	4,838	-	-	-	-	4,838
Other Federal Grants	61,115	-	-	-	-	61,115
Transportation						-
Transportation - MnDOT Contract	19,658	-	-	-	-	19,658
Other Grants	6,125	-	-	-	-	6,125
McKnight Pass Through	-	-	-	-	1,119,420	1,119,420
Contract Revenue	20,631	-	-	-	-	20,631
Deposit Interest & Dividends	11,932	8,067	9,083	-	-	29,082
Loan Interest Earned	-	9,697	4,429	-	-	14,126
Loan Administration Revenue	-	1,000	38	-	-	1,038
Other Revenue	100	-	-	-	-	100
Total Revenues	<u>221,367</u>	<u>18,764</u>	<u>13,550</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,119,420</u>	<u>1,373,101</u>
Expenses						
Salary & Wages	141,461	14,345	2,844	-	-	158,650
Fringe Benefits	32,690	3,590	712	-	-	36,992
Indirect Costs	40,055	4,125	818	-	-	44,998
Consultants	10,247	-	-	-	-	10,247
Staff Travel	2,521	-	-	35	-	2,556
Bank Service Charges	205	-	-	-	-	205
Service Fees	511	-	-	-	-	511
Subgrantee	2,336	-	-	-	1,119,420	1,121,756
Miscellaneous	(4,067)	-	-	-	-	(4,067)
Total Current	<u>226,355</u>	<u>22,176</u>	<u>4,374</u>	<u>3,099</u>	<u>1,119,420</u>	<u>1,375,424</u>
Debt Service						
Copier Lease Payment	377	-	-	-	-	377
Total Debt Service	<u>377</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>377</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>226,732</u>	<u>22,176</u>	<u>4,374</u>	<u>3,099</u>	<u>1,119,420</u>	<u>1,375,801</u>
Net Changes in Fund Balances	(5,365)	(3,412)	9,176	(3,099)	-	(2,700)
Fund Balances, July 1, 2024	<u>671,682</u>	<u>3,001,854</u>	<u>964,489</u>	<u>67,388</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,705,413</u>
Fund Balances as of August 31, 2024	<u>\$ 666,317</u>	<u>\$ 2,998,442</u>	<u>\$ 973,665</u>	<u>\$ 64,289</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 4,702,713</u>

Finance

- Worked to onboard and set up technology for three new staff members: Jessica Beyer, Lisa Callahan, Giselle Lo. Onboarding files and checklists were updated within a singular template and pdf binder.
- The adopted budget was rolled forward, and updates have already begun within the working budget document. Will plan to have a revised budget in place by early next year.
- The Budget & Personnel committee approved the use of stipends for any non-commissioners serving on an R9 created committee.
- Auditors from Abdo were on site the week of September 3rd.
 - Highlights of Unaudited Financials for the Year Ending June 30, 2024:
 - Decrease in General Fund Balance of \$305,890
 - Decrease in Legacy RLF of \$500
 - Decrease in CARES Act RLF of \$43,344
- Most of the work within finance for the month of August and September was associated with new year roll forwards, financial system setup, and prior year audit work.

Revolving Loan Fund

- As of August 2024
 - Principal Outstanding = \$2,159,165
 - Dollars Available for Lending = \$1,812,942
- See Jazmine Flores's report for more RLF specifics.

Region Nine Area, Inc.

- No new activity to report.

Region Nine Development Commission
General Fund Budget to Actual
As of June 30, 2024

	General	Budget	Actual vs Budget
Revenues			
Levy			
Taxes	670,248	678,067	(7,819) {a}
Federal Grants			
EDA Planning Grant	48,729	30,515	18,214 {b}
Other Federal Grants	242,279	247,595	(5,316) {c}
Transportation			
Transportation - MnDOT Contract	75,000	75,000	-
Other Grants	140,293	115,211	25,082 {d}
Contract Revenue	35,862	26,452	9,410 {e}
Deposit Interest & Dividends	18,951	15,000	3,951 {f}
Transfer Funds	26,129		26,129 {g}
Other Revenue	3,230	3,318	(88)
Total Revenues	1,260,721	1,191,158	69,563
Expenses			
Salary & Wages	759,463	749,784	9,679 {h}
Fringe Benefits	193,855	214,603	(20,748) {i}
Indirect Costs	218,895	192,043	26,852 {j}
Consultants	215,701	224,428	(8,727) {k}
Staff Travel	23,741	24,183	(442)
Supplies	5,382	4,600	782
Copying	2,159	3,900	(1,741)
Postage	692	350	342
Phone	1,784	1,440	344
Staff Development	15,759	22,415	(6,656) {l}
Software	22,196	21,023	1,173
Dues, Membership, Registration	10,265	14,954	(4,689) {m}
Marketing & Publication	9,825	9,750	75
Rentals	1,779	2,619	(840)
Bank Service Charges	3,985	3,500	485
Service Fees	2,136	2,700	(564)
Legal Fees	7,181	2,000	5,181 {n}
Catering & Event Meals	2,773	1,129	1,644
Service Contracts	534	432	102
Equipment	1,170	-	1,170
Subgrantee	30,312	30,573	(261)
Commission	26,392	26,145	247
Bus Tour	1,815	1,500	315
Miscellaneous	5,327	100	5,227 {o}
Total Current	1,563,121	1,554,172	8,949
Debt Service			
Copier Lease Payment	3,490	4,527	(1,037)
Total Debt Service	3,490	4,527	
Total Expenditures	1,566,611	1,558,699	7,912
Net Changes in Fund Balances	(305,890)	(367,541)	61,651
Fund Balances, July 1, 2023	977,573	977,573	-
Fund Balances as of June 30, 2024	\$ 671,683	\$ 610,032	\$ 61,651

Year End Highlights

RNDC's General Fund saw a decrease in it's fund balance of \$305,890 with an ending balance of \$671,683. RNDC's Revised Budget was forecasted with a deficit of \$367,541, a difference of \$61,651 from that of the actual. The Adopted Budget called for a deficit of \$265k for a difference of \$40,013.

In summary, budget to actual differences can be attributed largely to an increase in General Fund revenues related to recognizing due to /due amounts from the RLF programs, revenue recognized from the Hispana Covivencia prize, and an increase in contract income from the SMIF Rev Assessment.

{a} = Delinquencies and collection timing of tax levy will result in differences from that of the certified levy each year.

{b} = \$13k more of remaining EDA Planning Award ending 3/31/24 than that of budgeted. \$5k of EDA Planning Award ending 3/31/27 was utilized in April-May than budgeted.

{c} = USDA NRCS grant claimed expenditures was approximately \$8k less than budgeted to be expended.

{d} = The Covivencia Hispana Community Energy Prize revenue was not included within the Revised Budget - \$17,500. This is essentially an in and out award. An additional \$4,500 was expended out of McKnight Funding in relation to the Harvard Kennedy Course that was otherwise sitting in deferred revenue.

{e} = SMIF Contract for REV Assessment was finalized after budget creation - \$7,500 in funding.

{f} = The MAGIC Fund has consistently been paying out over 5% on held deposits which exceeded budgeted numbers.

{g} = Transfers from the CARES RLF and Legacy RLF from due to / due from transactions refunding the General Fund for applicable costs.

{h} = Additional costs relate to Paola Ferrario vacation pay out (\$3k), additional hours for Mireille Ghassan (\$5k), Additional hours for Mercedes Sempe (\$3k)

{i} & {j} = The fringe benefit portion supposed to Indirect Cost wasn't coded properly resulting in Fringe and Indirect being inversly different.

{k} = Consultants within the USDA NRCS were originally budgeted to have been fully expended by year end. The grant was extended through the next fiscal year allowing them more time to spend down balances. Reminder that \$100k of this balance is payment for the BDO Zone work.

{l} = RNDC had \$15k budgeted for staff development (outside of courses taken using McKnight funding). This balance was not fully expended.

{m} = Budget was created prior to RNDC's prepaid expenses entry made - some costs were shifted into FY25.

{n} = RNDC had a higher utilization rate for legal services in FY25 than in previous years. Various reasons for the increased utilization.

{o} = in closing out the MBFFA Grant early in the year certain costs included within Indirect Cost were required by the grant to be shown broken out. This was a portion of Thriveon &

SUCCESSION PLAN
For Region Nine Development Commission (RNDC)
Executive Director Position
Nicole Griensewic

Approved by the Commission of RNDC

EMERGENCY PLAN - Short Term Unplanned Absence.

1. Rationale: When the Executive Director departs unexpectedly, usually due to death or illness, this can be used as a short-term “stop gap” measure to sustain viability for the short-term or for longer-term use when it will take time for recovery of illness or to go through replacement.
2. Priority Functions of the Executive Director – see attached job description and External Roles and Relationships. Those functions include:
 - A. Carry out the mission of RNDC as stated by RNDC Commission through planning, administration and communication.
 - B. Assure that the overall operations of the commission are carried out in an effective, professional, and timely manner.
3. Approved Actions in the event of an unplanned temporary/short absence or death of the Executive Director.
 - A. The Commission authorizes the Board of Directors to implement the terms of this emergency plan.
 - B. The Deputy Director or other appropriate staff shall immediately inform the Chair of the Commission of the Executive Director’s absence.
 - C. The Commission Chair shall convene a meeting of the Board of Directors via video conference to affirm the procedures prescribed in this plan or to make modifications the Board deems appropriate.
 - D. Standing Appointee to the position of Acting Executive Director: to be Jessica Beyer, Deputy Director.
If Jessica Beyer is unable to take on the role of Acting Executive Director, Kristian Braekkan will serve as the backup for the position.

The Board of Directors may consider the option of splitting executive duties among the designated appointees.

4. Cross-Training Plan for Appointees: The Executive Director will work with the Deputy Director to develop a plan for training in each of the priority functions of the Executive Director. *(from job description)*

The training plan will be attached to this document when the plan is completed.

5. Authority and restrictions of the Appointee: The person appointed as Acting Executive Director shall have the full authority for decision-making and independent action as the regular Executive Director. This includes signature authority on all accounts, investments and checks, etc. The RNDC Finance Director, will immediately issue all appropriate signature changes to include Acting Executive Director; such as signature cards for checking accounts at banks, etc.
6. Compensation: The Acting Executive Director shall receive a temporary salary increase to the entry-level salary of the Executive Director OR to 5% above his/her current salary, whichever is greater.
7. The Board Chair is responsible for oversight and support to the Acting Executive Director: As with the Executive Director, the Board Chair will have responsibility for monitoring the work of the Acting Executive Director. In addition, the Board of Directors will also be alert to the special support needs of the Acting Executive Director in their temporary leadership role.
8. Communications Plan: As soon as possible after the Acting Executive Director has begun covering an unplanned absence of the Executive Director, The Board Chair shall communicate the temporary leadership structure to the following key supporters external to RNDC:
 - A. Governments within the Region Nine region, total of nine counties
 - B. Key Customers (current contractual partners)
 - C. Key Partners and foundations (NADO and MADDO Executive Directors)
 - D. When appropriate the Communications Specialist will develop a press release for regional newspapers and media. Press release will also be sent to all newspapers and news outlets in the region.

TEMPORARY LONG-TERM PLAN

1. **Rationale:** When the Executive Director's unplanned absence is expected to last more than 3 months and it is expected that the Executive Director will return to his/her position once the events precipitating the absence are resolved.
Process: A determination will be made by the Board of Directors to decide if the Executive Director is ready and able to resume the duties of the position. If it is determined that the Executive Director is not either ready nor able to resume the duties of the position, and therefore will not be reinstated, then

the Permanent Plan outlined in this document will commence. If it is determined that they are ready and able to resume the duties of the position, then a plan for an orderly return will be established, communicated and implemented.

If the Board of Directors determines that the Executive Director **will be able** to resume the duties of the position, then the following procedures will be taken.

2. **Procedures:** The procedures and conditions to be followed shall be the same as for the unplanned short-term absence with one addition:
 - A. The Board of Directors of the Commission will give immediate consideration in consultation with Acting Executive Director, to temporarily back-fill the position left vacant by the Acting Executive Director (filling the Deputy Director position). OR they may decide to develop a temporary plan utilizing **multiple** appropriate staff to cover the responsibilities of the Deputy Director position left vacant. This is in recognition of the fact that, for a term of more than 3 months, it may not be reasonable to expect the Acting Executive Director to carry the duties of both positions. The position description of a temporary position would focus on covering the priority areas in which the Acting Executive Director needs assistance.

PERMANENT PLAN

1. **Rationale:** A permanent unplanned absence is one in which it is firmly determined that the Executive Director will not be returning to the position.
2. **Procedures:** The procedures and conditions shall be the same as the temporary long-term plan for an unplanned absence with the following additions:
 - A. The Commission shall appoint a Search Committee to include a minimum of two Commission members, one or two MADO Executive Directors (Dawn Hegland and/or Jay Trusty), and begin the process of a search for a permanent long-term Executive Director.
 - B. Search Committee will utilize a Talent Recruitment Consultant who will report directly to the Chair of the Search Committee to develop a full search plan and implementation.

- C. Search Committee Chair will work with the Acting Executive Director to:
1. Develop Request For Proposal (RFP) for a Talent Recruiter, that a search firm considered for selection criteria would have a rural perspective, Minnesota base preferred, experience in working with organizations similar to RNDC and other criteria that could be developed by the search committee.
 2. Set up interviews with Search Consultant candidates, and
 3. Once a Search Consultant has been selected, amend the organizational budget to include both Search Committee and Search Consultant expenses.
- D. When the selection of the new Executive Director is made, the Search Committee Chair will work with Acting Executive Director to develop a communications plan utilizing, where appropriate, the communications plan above for the formal announcement of a new Executive Director.

APPROVALS AND MAINTENANCE OF RECORD

1. **Succession Plan Approval:** This succession plan will be approved by the full Commission. Following approval, the plan will be reviewed and amended as needed by the Board of Directors.
2. **Signatories:** The Board Chair, Executive Director, and the appointees designated in this plan shall sign this plan and all updated version of the plan if there are changes at the June meeting of the Commission.
3. **Maintenance of Record:** Copies of this plan shall be maintained by the Board Chair, Executive Director, Finance Director, and filed.

SIGNATORIES

This Succession Plan has been reviewed and approved by the RNDC Commission.

Mike Laven, Chair of the Commission

Date

Nicole Griensewic, Executive Director

Date

Jessica Beyer, Deputy Director

Date

Kristian, Braekkan, Economic Development Director

Date

STAFF UPDATES | October 2024

Nicole Griensewic

Nicole took the lead on organizing the visit with the Aachen region from Germany. The region had reached out as they were looking to create a sister region relationship with RNDC. Their delegation included a County Commissioner and regional economic developers who are interested in foreign trade and investment. We greatly appreciate the commissioners who joined us for a full day showcasing our work in New Ulm and Mankato. The delegation was especially interested in learning from our local leaders on flood preparedness, response and recovery, and mitigation strategies. They experienced horrible flooding a few years ago that resulted in tragically losing over 150 residents due to a lack of a warning system, like Code Red. We also highlighted the university and its relationship with the Mankato Regional Airport and its aviation program with Northstar Aviation that has over 800 students currently enrolled. The Aachen region is focused on R&D in the aviation industry with their university partners and presented their plans with one of their airports.

The Mankato Area Foundation, (MAF) reached out regarding a possible partnership. A donor has expressed interest in supporting work regionally to address food insecurity. After consulting with the Board, it was communicated to the Foundation that RNDC would be willing to add a full-time position to serve as a Food Insecurity/ Food Recovery Coordinator. Our request was that the funding be secure for two years, but preferably three years, to be successful with recruiting and retaining the talent, as well as ensuring the project would be set up for success. We will await their response and move forward accordingly.

Nicole and Nate met with True Facade Pictures in Mankato to discuss creating new marketing videos for the organization. There have been requests for more information on the organization that can be shared to help explain our work and impact in the region.

Jessica Beyer

Jessica started her position as Deputy Director on September 16 and has hit the ground running with getting acclimated to the organization and digging into some projects/initiatives. She was part of the team that coordinated the Aachen Delegation visit that included a dinner on September 18 and a full day of activities within the region on September 19.

She is beginning to connect with internal staff and external partners. Part of her work will be leading Minnesota Climate Adaptation Program (MCAP) activities on behalf of Region Nine and has attended multiple meetings related to that work.

Looking ahead, Jessica will be coordinating a meeting on September 25 in Waterville to bring city, county, chamber, and related organizations together to talk about flood recovery and ongoing needs.

Kristian Braekkan

Kristian wrapped up the first phase of RNDC's assessments of economic opportunity in the twenty Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) counties in September. Kristian and Nicole presented the initial findings to Tim Penny (President/CEO) and Pam Bishop (Vice President) on September 26th, specifically highlighting areas that should be addressed to ensure future prosperity in the larger region. Phase 2, which includes qualitative assessments, kicked off on October 1. A formal report of phase 1 will be submitted to SMIF and their board of directors later this fall.

Kristian presented to the Transportation Policy and Economic Competitiveness (TPEC) Advisory Board Meeting (University of Minnesota) on September 24th on the ongoing cluster analysis he is conducting in partnership with University of Minnesota, University of the Redlands, Georgetown University, and ESRI. This work is currently focusing on agriculture and food production in the upper Midwest and emphasizes the need for transportation solutions that support both local production and consumption needs.

Finally, Kristian assisted Waseca County's request for nearly \$2.4 million from the federal EDA for the development of a physical space for their workforce development center (total budget approximately \$3 million). RNDC prepared the feasibility study for this project and has been supporting the county through the process over the past couple of years. Although not awarded yet, RNDC has been very pleased to support this project and connect the county with various partners in preparation for this application as it aligns with an array of CEDS priorities for the region, and RNDC look forward to working with the county should the funding be received.

Sabri Fair

On September 12th Sabri hosted another engaging landowner's webinar and learning circle for farmers and landowners thinking about transitioning their farm to the next generation. The webinar had 25 farmers from across the upper Midwest attend which resulted in great conversations and will hopefully prepare these farmers to take that next step for their farm.

Sabri also had a conversation with the philanthropic organization Resource Rural to discuss opportunities to continue funding the energy auditing and community energy navigator work in St. James.

Also related to the energy auditing program, Region Nine was able to execute a contract with the Center for Energy and Environment after much deliberation and waiting. The first round of audits 8 energy audits will be occurring on September 23rd and 24th.

For the planning process of the permanent farmers market location in Mankato, Sabri borrowed vehicle and pedestrian counting tools from the MNDOT District 7 office. These included four tube counters to track vehicles and two pedestrian cameras to count the number of visitors. Upon initial review the main entrance had 1000 cars enter the parking lot! During this time Sabri was also able to get ~ 50 survey responses from customers who expressed a strong interest in a permanent covered location.

Sabri also received notice from SMIF that his application to their Inclusive and Equitable Entrepreneurial communities grant was successful. Additionally, he was invited to request the full \$10,000 beyond the initial request of \$7,700. Sabri will submit a revised budget and work plan to receive the additional funds.

Sabri presented at the American Planning Associations Minnesota Chapter conference in Bloomington MN on Thursday September 19th. Sabri presented as part of a panel with a planner from the West Central Initiative Foundation and the Executive Director of the Region Five Development Commission. Their presentation was about doing climate resilience planning in rural Minnesota sharing experiences, advice, and approaches.

Jazmine Flores

Jazmine had a follow up meeting with Joshua Schuetz from Martin County EDA. Joshua expressed great enthusiasm about the prospect of collaborating with RNDC on forthcoming projects. He showed interest in RNDC's recent acquisition of a bilingual lending specialist. Joshua noted the value of having a bilingual specialist for past projects requiring translation and believes this addition will significantly benefit their upcoming endeavors.

Additionally, Jazmine engaged in discussions with Dave Schmidt in Winnebago regarding potential projects, including the upcoming sale of a restaurant property. Dave indicated that Region Nine's RLF would present an excellent opportunity for prospective new owners of this restaurant. He expressed high regard for our RFL program and eagerly anticipates future partnerships.

During her visits to St. James and Madelia, Jazmine met with local banks to discuss RNDC's RLF. Additionally, she facilitated a meeting with a client whose loan had fallen behind for several months and successfully reached a potential agreement for reduced monthly payments with a plan to resume regular activity in December.

Jazmine has been actively engaged with a potential new client in the event barn industry, assisting them in securing additional funding for venue renovations. Furthermore, she has been collaborating with a second client who is seeking to establish a pottery studio in New Ulm. Jazmine has also been in contact with various bankers about a workshop on non-financing options that we'll be taking part in Mankato.

In addition to these engagements, Jazmine participated in the rural needs webinar, RLF Community of Practice webinar, and RLF Risk Analysis System Updates webinar. She also attended the multicultural network meeting hosted by MSU.

Nathan George

Nathan was part of the team that organized the Aachen Delegation Tour. His role was creating and distributing the event invitations, managing registration, designing all the print elements, informing the media, distributing the media advisory, and communicating with attendees about the day.

Nathan has been working with Alejandra on the upcoming Annual Performance Progress Report. He has been editing the information, designing the layout, and assisting with image creation. This year's report has different metrics and format from previous years. Because of this, Nathan will be creating a template to expedite future reports.

During this period, Nathan attended the *Childcare-Whole Community Approach* workshop. The workshop's purpose was to inform regional stakeholders of upcoming community engagement opportunities and to lay out the road map for the program. The upcoming engagement opportunities aim to find obtainable solutions to the lack of affordable childcare.

Nathan also represented RNDC at the CEDA Regional Development Tour. The tour consisted of Mapleton and the new Maple River High School. The stops included future development plans in the city and ways they are working to become an attractive destination for prospective homeowners.

Nathan has also been participating in professional development. He virtually attended a University of Minnesota webinar for Storytelling Through Data. He also attended the annual Hootsuite Marketing Trends webinar that lays out the newest usage statistics for social media platforms. Nathan has also earned his certificate as a Branding Specialist. The above training will help Nathan tell the story of rural more effectively.

Joel Hanif

Joel attended the Southcentral Minnesota Clean Energy Forum on September 13. The topic was *Active Transportation Benefits Everyone* and featured a presentation by Greater Mankato Bike and Walk Advocates board member Cindy Winters, and Joel was able to promote several upcoming Safe Routes to School and active transportation grant solicitations.

Joel's involvement with the Empowering Small Minnesota Communities project has continued. The most recent meeting with the team was on September 16, and the team discussed possible sites for listening sessions throughout the region to get a holistic view of the current state and needs of EMS providers.

Joel attended two Recharge Minnesota EV adoption and transition events in September. The first was a local recharge event for the City of Mankato on September 16 at Snell Motors where he and other stakeholders discussed what the future of electrification looks like in Mankato. The second was the Recharge Minnesota Symposium in Minneapolis on September 18. There, Joel served on a panel for the NEVI (National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure) program and explained the role of RDOs in EV adoption.

Joel participated in the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Community of Practice session on September 24. Though Region Nine's SS4A grant agreement has not yet been finalized, Joel was invited to join these sessions and get started early on the SS4A peer exchange. Joel will attend one of the SS4A Minnesota kickoff meetings in late September/early October and then work with FHWA to finalize the agreement and contracts after that.

Finally, Joel's work on the Waterville-Elysian-Morristown Safe Routes to School plan has continued. Joel completed a draft plan and sent it to the local SRTS team for review in late September.

Sarah Janovsky

Sarah finalized the September Board Meeting minutes and prepared for the September Budget and Personnel Meeting and the October Commission Meeting packet. She assisted in both planning and executing the September 19th Aachen Delegation Bus Tour and supported RNDC's role in the MADDO All Staff Training happening October 2-4 in Waite Park. Additionally, she provided help where needed in onboarding new team members Jessica, Giselle, and Lisa.

Aaron Pacheco

As maps generated in 2021 continue to be utilized by Region Nine and partners, Aaron is updating these studies to keep the data and their products current. By analyzing manufacturing and demographic statistics, he explores how regional manufacturing connects local communities with larger global networks. The initial focus is on visualizing manufacturing firm density and employment rates in the sector for the upcoming Minnesota Department of Commerce's state competitiveness grant. However, the study has broader implications.

In collaboration with the University of Minnesota, the University of Redlands, and the University of Indiana, the study examines how manufacturing clusters across the Upper Midwest are interconnected. It highlights how Region Nine partners, such as Greater Mankato Growth, New Ulm, and Waseca, function as nodes in a larger network of economic mobility. Mapping has revealed that these clusters have remained largely aligned with historic routes and waterways in the region, many of which are now served by our modern state highways. Interestingly, while highly efficient in transporting people and goods, the larger interstate system has not displaced these clusters from their historical routes, such as Highway 14 and Highway 169 corridors. Small towns along these routes are particularly

impacted by the major industrial clusters, and they will likely be the focus of future studies by our academic partners.

This manufacturing density study has also been adapted to showcase the region's industrial landscape to the visiting delegation from Germany. The history of southern Minnesota, including its agricultural roots and the growth of industry (particularly manufacturing) over the centuries, is still reflected in the data and maps. Another project stemming from previous studies has explored the relationship between educational attainment and economic well-being in Minnesota. Combining these studies, Aaron has assisted community development partners in Waseca in illustrating the crucial links between education, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, and economic outcomes. While this project was first used to aid partners in the MNSCU system, this recent reiteration helps Waseca in their federal EDA application for the construction of Waseca County's new workforce development center.

Sam Sharp

Samuel attended the NA Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Expo & Conference from 9/11-9/13. Topics discussed included value chain analyses, rural involvement in feedstock production, and the public/private cooperation to stimulate development. This event was particularly topical for Region Nine, as ethanol-to-jet SAF production is among the foremost production pathways currently under consideration. As the BDO Zone report revealed, Region Nine contains an abundance of corn stover and biomass residuals. Coupled with federal tax credits and private investments, Region Nine's geography implies strong potential for bioeconomic development.

Samuel was a key component of the Aachen planning team, helping facilitate the bus tour and working with other staff to ensure a successful delegation visit. Samuel coordinated lunch with Chef Jun and helped brainstorm the attendees and site locations to visit.

Samuel and Sabri have begun outreach for the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program, connecting with Waseca and Fairmount. Waseca has expressed interest and is currently undergoing review of this opportunity among the city manager and development team. As cities begin to accept Region Nine's support with the EECBG program, Samuel and Sabri will scale up resilience planning efforts.

Samuel has been coordinating with Region Nine's GreenCorps member, Lisa Callahan, and will act as her supervisor over the next 11 months. Lisa's first day with Region Nine was 9/23, where Samuel had been supporting her onboarding process and familiarizing her with the organization. Lisa's service plan will entail community outreach and readiness, serving to further Region Nine's reach and establish stronger relationships across the nine counties. Specific aspects of Lisa's work will include developing educational materials and helping prepare communities for grant funding.

Samuel will be attending the CEEM CleanTech Event 9/24-9/25, representing Region Nine and working to build out his network of clean and renewable energy leaders. The intention behind these conversations is to create and strengthen relationships between actors in the clean energy space, allowing for a deeper pool of resources to support the region.

Samuel will be attending the MADO All Staff retreat in early October alongside fellow staff members to strengthen ties between the other RDOs and identify opportunities for collaboration. Lisa will be attending as well, allowing her the opportunity to familiarize herself with other RDO's and widen her collaborative network.

Board Payment Listing - July 2024

Check#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Check Amount	Description
117240	08/06/2024	Neubau Holdings LLC	3,208.00	July 2024 Rent - Reissue
117241	08/06/2024	Neubau Holdings LLC	3,208.00	August Office Space Rent
117242	08/15/2024	Principal Life Insurance Company	228.84	Life Insurance Premiums - Acct 1125885-10001
117243	08/15/2024	Johnson, Corree	3,735.00	July Consulting Services - INV 8
117244	08/15/2024	Neubau Holdings LLC	3,208.00	September Office Rent
117245	08/15/2024	Xcel Energy	42.23	Electric Utility - July Statement 886292446
117246	08/15/2024	Security Storage Systems	100.00	August Offsite Storage
117247	08/15/2024	Creative Ad Solutions Inc	502.01	Promotional Journals - INV 27371
117248	08/15/2024	Creative Ad Solutions Inc	61.20	Name Badges & Mug for Jazmine - INV 27356
117249	08/15/2024	Metro Sales Inc	545.69	Copier Usage 4/27 to 7/26 - INV 2569191
117250	08/15/2024	Wooden Spoon	759.00	LFPFA Contract Monthly Services - INV 4243
117251	08/15/2024	Thriveon Inc	976.00	Password Keeper Setup - INV 191161
117252	08/15/2024	Cyphers, Ruth	77.05	8/6 CEDS Meeting Mileage
117253	08/15/2024	Spirited Journeys LLC	90.00	NRCS Grant Work - INV 706A
117254	08/15/2024	Blethen Berens	116.00	Collections Work/Closeout - Acct 12541.009 Statement 11
117255	08/15/2024	Ahern & Frutiman LLC	960.00	Maggie Ahern Georgetown Fellow - Transportation Study Work
117256	08/15/2024	Thriveon Inc	3,064.14	New Laptop, Docking Station, Monitors, Keyboard/Mouse for Deputy Director - INV 190464
117257	08/15/2024	Thriveon Inc	3,281.57	Monthly IT & Microsoft Services - August - INV 190441
117258	08/15/2024	Living Earth Center	297.19	LFPFA Donations - Various Greens - INV 1042
117259	08/15/2024	Living Earth Center	2,984.63	USDA NRCS Grant Work - INV 1040
117260	08/15/2024	Aerial Imagery Media	2,100.00	USDA NRCS - Local Foods Week Photos - INV 292
117261	08/15/2024	Vanderberg Cleaning Services LLC	360.00	Janitorial Services - August - INV 18057
117262	08/15/2024	American Solutions for Business	68.96	Business Cards for Mike & Sarah - INV 07458160
117263	08/15/2024	American Solutions for Business	34.48	Business Cards for Jazmine - INV 07567003
117264	08/15/2024	Metro Sales Inc	377.25	Copier Lease Charge - 7/27 to 8/26 - INV 2571409
117265	08/15/2024	Metro Sales Inc	127.86	Copier Staples - INV 2579762
117266	08/15/2024	Spectrum	173.93	Internet Services - 7/23 to 8/22 - INV 0820665072324
117267	08/15/2024	Lime Valley Advertising Inc	57.50	Website Programming Services - INV 24120.05
117268	08/15/2024	SFM	1,074.00	Work Comp Installment - INV 3363791
117269	08/15/2024	River Bend Business Products	222.50	Office Supplies - INV 411131-00
117270	08/15/2024	Sempe, Mercedes	1,337.50	Consultant Work - July Hours - INV 00004
117271	08/15/2024	Abdo	19,000.00	Audit Services - FY24
117272	08/15/2024	Wiimani Homestead LLC	16.50	LFPFA Donation - Farm Fresh Eggs - INV 24-10
117273	08/15/2024	GMS	327.50	Monthly License & Support for Accounting Software - Billing #69062024
117274	08/15/2024	GMS	80.00	RNAI Monthly License & Support - Billing 940062024
117275	08/15/2024	Bartelt, Heather	129.59	Missed HSA Payment from 2023
117276	08/15/2024	Ferrario, Paola	73.08	Missed HSA Contribution from 2023
117277	08/15/2024	Long, Frances	73.08	Missed HSA Benefit Payment from 2023
117278	08/15/2024	Verizon Wireless	140.99	Cell Phone Service for ED & Tablet - INV 9968559346
117279	08/15/2024	Griensewic, Nicole	919.45	NADO & Harvard Travel - Various Reimbursements
117280	08/15/2024	Schafer, Philip H	133.75	8/14 - Mileage & Per Diem
117281	08/15/2024	Boettger, Andrea S	82.16	8/14 - Mileage & Per Diem
117282	08/15/2024	Laven, Mike	50.00	8/14 - Per Diem
117283	08/15/2024	Lilienthal, Christian	102.26	8/14 - Per Diem & Mileage
117284	08/15/2024	Femrite, Lyle	60.72	8/14 - Mileage & Per Diem
117285	08/15/2024	Wilkening, Rob	82.16	8/14 - Mileage & Per Diem
117286	08/15/2024	Rohlfing, Steve J	28.14	8/14 - Mileage
117287	08/15/2024	South Central Service Coop	75.00	FY25 - Associate Membership Fee
117312	08/31/2024	US Bank	1,100.00	RIMS II Data - UofM/CTS Project - 6/5 - KristianB
			657.00	Lucid Enterprise Software - 6/17 - KristianB
			18.13	HyVee Fuel - Fuel for Rav4 - 5/27 - SF
			73.04	EB 2024 Celebration - Admission to Celebration of Ag - 6/20 - SF
			165.00	Indeed - Job Posting for Lending Specialist - 6/3 - NateG
			10.92	Walmart - Office Supplies - 6/11 - NateG
			33.91	Suzettes Restaurant Jordan - NADO Meal - 5/23 - NicoleG
			2,000.00	Harvard Kennedy School - Leadership Course for Nicole - 5/23 - NicoleG
			2,348.03	Harvard Kennedy School - Nicole Leadership Course Installment - 6/10 - NicoleG
			(436.20)	Delta Airlines - Refund for Albuquerque NADO flight - 5/29 - NicoleG
			0.99	Apple - iCloud Storage - 6/1 - NicoleG
			27.50	Joys Pattaya Thai Richfield - Travel Meal - 6/3 - NicoleG
			23.89	The Burrito Company Santa Fe - NADO Meal - 6/3 - NicoleG
			119.88	DropBox - Online Storage - 6/4 - NicoleG
			20.77	Tia Sophia's Santa Fe - NADO Meal - 6/3 - NicoleG
			57.08	Ojo Caliente Cafe Santa Fe - NADO Meal - 6/6 - NicoleG
			1,091.00	El Dorado Hotel & Spa in Santa Fe - NADO Hotel Stay - 6/6 - NicoleG
			22.00	Pizza Ranch Red Wood Falls - Meal - 6/19 - NicoleG
			29.30	Lyft - NADO Ride Santa Fe - 6/24 - NicoleG
			32.98	Wrestaurant St Paul - Meal for Transp Conf. - 5/29 - JH
			30.89	Zambonis on 7th in St Paul - Meal for Transp Conference - 5/30 - JF
			572.85	Hyatt Place in St Paul - Hotel Stay for Transp Conference - 5/31 - JF
			16.00	Ticketleap Minnesota - 2 Farmfest Tickets - 5/29 - SJ
			34.93	HyVee Mankato - Bus Tour Snacks - 6/11 - SJ
			30.50	Sams Club - Fuel - 6/11 - SJ
			42.90	Fairmont Sentinel - Budget Notice Listing - 6/11 - SJ
			56.07	Office Max - Printer Paper - 6/11 - SJ
			74.25	Sams Club - Bus Tour Snacks - 6/11 - SJ
			609.61	Chipotle Online - Commission Meeting Meal - 6/12 - SJ
			188.06	The Crow Bar - Bus Tour Desserts - 6/13 - SJ
			192.05	August Schell Brewing - Bus Tour Lunch - 6/12 - SJ
			11.00	CK Holiday - Car Wash for RAV4 - 6/11 - SJ
			170.73	Battle Lake Inn - MADO Hotel for Nicole - 6/21 - SJ
			15.00	HAAF Ramp - Parking - 5/22 - SS
			13.62	Lyft - To be Reimbursed - 6/1 - SS
			(275.04)	US Bank CC Rebate & Fees - 6/24
			119.88	QR Code Generator.com - QR Code for Local Foods - 6/25 - SF
			28.09	HyVee Fuel - Fuel for RAV4 - 6/27 - SF

Check#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Check Amount	Description
			120.00	ESRI - GIS Software - 6/27 - KristianB
			37.00	Atlas Corporate and Notary - Notary Stamp for Ky - 6/26 - KyB
			20.43	Notary Registration Blue Earth County - 7/22 - Kyb
			307.52	Apparel for Covivencia Hispana Grant - 7/11/24 - SF
			29.00	First Advantage - Background Check - 7/2 - NateG
			(758.20)	Delta Air - New Orleans Flight Refund - 7/10 - NicoleG
			0.99	Apple iCloud Storage - 7/1 - NicoleG
			(170.73)	Battle Lake Inn - Hotel Stay Refund - 7/3 - SJ
			62.57	Amazon - Office Supplies - 7/7 - SJ
			157.56	Amazon - Office Supplies - 7/8 - SJ
			6.50	USPS - Postage - 7/11 - SJ
			2.70	Dollar Tree - Office Supplies - 7/11 - SJ
			49.92	Amazon - Office Supplies - 7/12 - SJ
			34.84	Sams Club Fuel - Fuel for RAV4 - 7/15 - SJ
			80.00	Sams Club - R9 Membership - 7/15 - SJ
			(25.02)	Amazon - Refund for Office Supplies - 7/16 - SJ
			107.85	Amazon - Keurig for Office - 7/16 - SJ
			31.73	Lyft - Charges to be Reimbursed - SS
			112.49	Office Max - USDA NRCS Supplies - 7/17 - SF
			15.00	US Bank - Processing Fee - 6/27
117313	08/31/2024	US Bank	183.38	Kato Escape - Wellness Event - 7/15 - SJ
Check Total			64,485.05	
Report Total:			64,485.05	

Note: The April board payment listing never made the board packet for review - the March listing was mistakenly attached at the May 2024 Meeting.

Check#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Check Amount	Description
117001	04/17/2024	Lykke Books LLC	74,398.00	Lykke Books LLC Loan Disbursement
117002	04/17/2024	Regents of the University of Minnesot	1.00	Check Test for US Bank
117003	04/16/2024	US Bank	100.00	Agriculture Utilization AURI Event - 2/22 - NG
			9.06	Java Junction - 2/28 - NG
			9.06	Java Junction - 2/29 - NG
			26.62	Dakotah Dining in Morton - Staff Meal - 2/28 - NG
			25.46	Plaza Garibaldi - Staff Meal - 2/29 - NG
			21.18	Duffy's Riverside Saaloon Redwood Falls - Staff Meal - 2/28 - NG
			20.11	Dacotah Dinning - Staff Meal - 2/29 - NG
			100.00	Jackpot Junction Hotel - Hotel Stay - 2/28 - NG
			0.99	Apple iCloud Service - 3/1 - NG
			78.04	Krewe Restaurant - District 4, WCI, Climate Crew Meal - 3/7 - NG
			91.88	Joe's Restaurant in DC - NADO DC - Staff Meal - NG
			265.87	Lyft Rides for NADO DC (15 trips total) - 3/10 to 3/15 - NG
			193.65	The Warehouse Restaurant - DC NADO Trip Nicole, Andrea, Mike Meal - 3/10 - NG
			83.28	Old Ebbit Grill - NADO DC - 3/11 - NG
			59.47	Old Ebbit Grill - NADO DC - Andrea Meal - 3/11 - NG
			45.38	The Hamilton - NADO DC - Andrea & Nicole Meal - 3/13 - NG
			101.64	Morton's The Steakhouse - Nicole & Andrea - 3/13 - NADO DC
			86.41	Joe's Seafood - NADO DC - Nicole & Andrea - 3/14 - NG
			2,245.65	Crystal Gateway Marriot Hotel Stay - NADO DC - 3/8 to 3/15 - NG
			2,000.00	Harvard Kennedy School - Nicole
			22.00	Metro Transit Card - NADO DC - 3/8 - NG
			0.99	Apple - iCloud Service - 2/2 - NG
			20.15	Whistle Binkies on the Lake - Staff Meal Kristian & Nicole - 2/5 - NG
			325.22	Verizon Wireless - ED Cell Phone & R9 Tablet Service - INV 9956162783
			136.00	USPS - Stamps 2 Coils - 3/7 - KB
			(500.00)	Lead Car Toyota - Deposit Refund - 3/8 - KB
			2,462.00	North Mankato DMV - Sales Tax on RAV4 - 3/11 - KB
			21.58	GreenSeam - State of Ag Registration - 3/11 - KB
			(20.00)	Greater Mankato Growth Refund - 1/24 - KB
			25.41	HyVee Fuel - Fuel for Traverse - 1/31 - KB
			59.94	Office Max - Office Supplies - 1/31 - KB
			132.22	Chipotle for Committee Meeting - 2/15 - KB
			9.85	USPS - Priority Mailing - 2/15 - KB
			100.00	Agricultural Utilization - Conference Registration - 3/18 - SS
			114.37	Lyft - Ride from Airport to Lodging for Energizing Rural Communities Conference - 1/22 - SS
			82.19	Door Dash - Food for Meals (Paola & Sam) During Energizing Rural Communities Conference - 1/23 - SS
			85.95	The Golden Mill - Staff Meals (Paola & Sam) for Energizing Rural Communities Conference - 1/24 - SS
			52.83	Lyft - Ride to Airport for Energizing Rural Communities - 1/27 - SS
			60.00	Delta Air - Baggage Fee for Energizing Rural Communities Denver Flight - 1/23 & 1/26 - SS
			26.00	Wow Zone - Southern MN Human Resource Association Event - 2/13 - AB
			6.00	MSU Pay Lot - Parking Cost - 2/15 - AB
			900.00	SurveyMonkey - Team Advantage Annual Plan with 3 Seats 3/18/24 to 2/18/25 - AB
			30.84	Amazon - Ink Cartridge for Printer - 3/6 - JH
			200.00	CEVENT - Minnesota Transportation Conference & Expo Registration - 3/22 - JH
			66.86	Office Max - Printing for WEM SRTS - 2/6 - JH
			77.80	HyVee - Faribault Strategic Planning Supplies - 1/24 - NateG
			99.50	Indeed - Executive Assistant Job Posting - 2/1 - NateG
			35.61	HyVee Fuel - Fuel for Traverse - 2/5 - NateG
			137.59	USPS - Postage - 2/6 - NateG
			29.00	First Advantage - Background Check for Exe. Asst Position - 2/15 - NateG
			5.44	USPS - Postage - 2/16 - NateG
			48.98	HyVee Fuel - Fuel for Traverse - 2/24 - SF
			25.00	MN Ag - The Hands that Feed Us Ticket - 3/4 - SF
			48.60	HyVee Fuel - Fuel for Traverse - 3/7 - SF
			22.65	Casey's - Fuel for Traverse - 1/24 - SF
			23.98	HyVee Fuel - Fuel for Traverse - 2/14 - SF
			76.32	Sherpa House CO - Staff Meal for Paola & Sam for Energizing Rural Communities Conference - 1/23 - PF
			127.77	Uber - Rides (4 total) for Energizing Rural Communities Conference - PF
			181.19	Chipotle - Committee Meeting Lunch - 2/6 - PF

Check#	Check Date	Vendor Name	Check Amount	Description
			(161.91)	US Bank CC Rebate - 2/15
			1.12	USPS - Postage - 3/22 - SJ
			40.00	Per Diem - 4/10
117004	04/19/2024	Laven, Mike		
117005	04/19/2024	Hilpipre, Stephanie	105.46	Per Diems & Mileage - 3/7, 4/10
117006	04/19/2024	Goblirsch, Robert	280.80	Per Diems & Mileage - 3/8,3/28,4/10
117007	04/19/2024	Glidden, Elroy	127.10	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117008	04/19/2024	Dalton, Chris	70.82	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117009	04/19/2024	Milbrath, Mary	44.02	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117010	04/19/2024	Cooling, Steven	76.00	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117011	04/19/2024	Borchert, Dave	200.20	Per Diems & Mileage - 1/18, 2/29, 3/1, 4/10
117012	04/19/2024	Belgard, Elliot R	97.62	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10.
117013	04/19/2024	Nielsen, Robert	435.17	Per Diems & Mileage - 1/10, 2/16, 2/28, 3/28, 4/10
117014	04/19/2024	Lilienthal, Christian	86.90	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117015	04/19/2024	Kratzke, Dawn	80.20	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117016	04/19/2024	Norton, Lisa	54.74	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117017	04/19/2024	O'Connor, Patty	48.04	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117018	04/19/2024	Richter, Gary	111.02	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117019	04/19/2024	Schlueter, Scott A	73.63	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117020	04/19/2024	Nowell, Shanon	60.01	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117021	04/19/2024	Wilkening, Rob	78.86	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117022	04/19/2024	Femrite, Lyle	97.42	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117023	04/19/2024	Loveall, Tom H	86.90	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/16
117024	04/19/2024	Belgard, Elliot R	93.60	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/16
117025	04/19/2024	Cyphers, Ruth	77.05	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/16
117026	04/19/2024	Pfeil, Mike	89.58	Per Diem & Mileage
117027	04/19/2024	Schlueter, Scott A	33.56	Mileage for CEDS Meeting - 4/16
117028	04/19/2024	Omar, Ayan	100.10	Per Diem & Mileage - 3/17 & 4/16
117029	04/19/2024	Berry, Sarah	133.60	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10, 4/16
117030	04/19/2024	Ryan Vesey	4.02	Mileage for CEDS - 4/16
117031	04/19/2024	Mohammad Alam	3.35	Mileage for CEDS - 4/16
117032	04/19/2024	Rohlfing, Steve J	70.82	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117033	04/19/2024	Schafer, Philip H	128.00	Per Diem & Mileage - 4/10
117034	04/19/2024	Cutler, Countney Breen	656.25	Executive Director Performance Evalulation Work
117035	04/19/2024	Security Storage Systems	100.00	April Off-Site Storage Rental
117036	04/19/2024	Boettger, Andrea S	3,048.07	NADO Policy Conference Expenses: Per Diems, Hotel, Airfair, Meals, Lyft/Uber
117037	04/19/2024	Verizon Wireless	131.97	Cell Service for ED and iPad plan - INV 9961124208
117038	04/19/2024	Spirited Journeys LLC	832.50	USDA NRCS Consultant Work - April Hours - INV 699A
117039	04/19/2024	Spectrum	124.98	Internet Services - 3/23 to 4/22 - INV 0820665032324
117040	04/19/2024	Shred-It, C/O Stericycle Inc	143.43	Shredding Services - INV 8006525223
117041	04/19/2024	Xcel Energy	70.08	Electric Utility 2/18 to 3/18 - Acct: 51-0012085064-9
117042	04/19/2024	Johnson, Corree	5,940.00	Consulting Services - 66 hours - March - INV 4
117043	04/19/2024	Metro Sales Inc	377.25	Copier Lease Charge - 3/27 to 4/26 - INV2495068
117044	04/19/2024	GHG Corporation	80.00	TeemKeeper Timeclock System - INV 98850
117045	04/19/2024	United Team Elite	262.00	R9 Apparel Order - INV 8762
117046	04/19/2024	GMS	140.00	Monthly Accounting Software - INV 300073, 300074
117047	04/19/2024	Living Earth Center	1,719.12	USDA NRCS Grant Work - INV 1030
117048	04/19/2024	Vanderberg Cleaning Services LLC	360.00	Janitorial Services for April - INV 17398
117049	04/19/2024	Thriveon Inc	3,447.95	IT & Microsoft Services for April - INV 185918
117050	04/19/2024	Colin Scharf	440.00	VOID - Positive Pay Return Issue
117051	04/19/2024	Sustainable Farming Association of M	4,948.27	USDA NRCS Grant Work - 4/1/23 to 2/29/24 - INV 20240229-R9
117052	04/19/2024	Principal Life Insurance Company	283.58	Life Insurance Premiums - Acct 1125885-10001
117053	04/19/2024	MAPCED	600.00	VOID - Positive Pay Return Issue
117054	04/19/2024	Braekkan, Kristian	27.96	Supplies Reimbursement for Sibley County
117055	04/19/2024	Lumberjack Properties, LLC	222.42	Refund of overpayment - Centerstage Dance
117056	04/19/2024	Le Sueur County Recorder	46.00	Mortgage Satisfaction - Lumberjack Properties Doc Number 305373
117057	04/19/2024	Le Sueur County Recorder	46.00	Collateral Assignment of Lease Release - Doc Number 305375
117058	04/19/2024	Rachel Stoll	50.00	Presentation to Growers Network on Land Access Option
117059	04/19/2024	Blethen Berens	453.00	VOID - Positive Pay Return Issue
117060	04/19/2024	Blethen Berens	800.00	VOID - Positive Pay Return Issue
117061	04/19/2024	Blethen Berens	551.00	VOID - Positive Pay Return Issue
117062	04/19/2024	Wooden Spoon	1,518.00	LFPA Grant Admin for January & February
Check Total	115,570.21			
Report Total:	115,570.21			

Terms & Abbreviations

ACC – American Connection Corp	MAPO – Mankato/North Mankato Area Planning Organization
APPR – Annual Performance Progress Report (CEDS)	MCLA – Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs
ATP – Area Transportation Partnership	MDH – Minnesota Department of Health
AURI – Agricultural Utilization Research Institute	MPCA – Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
BDO – Bioeconomy Development Opportunity	MSA – Metropolitan Statistical Area
CRP – Carbon Reduction Program	MSU-M – Minnesota State University, Mankato
CEDS – Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy	MYLAP – MN Young American Leaders Program
COPAL – Comunidades Organizando el Poder y la Acción Latina (Communities Organizing Latino Power and Action)	NEA – National Endowment for the Arts
CGMC – Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities	NEH – National Endowment for the Humanities
CPRG – Climate Pollution Reduction Grant	NUBRIC – New Ulm Business Resource Innovation Center
CSET – College of Science, Engineering & Technology	NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Services
CSM – Climate Smart Municipalities	PI - Prosperity Initiative
CSSJ – Climate Smart St. James	PROTECT – Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation
CTS – Center for Transportation Studies	REDA – Regional Economic Development Alliance
DEED – Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development	REV – Rural Entrepreneurial Venture
DOE – Department of Energy	RLF – Revolving Loan Fund
EDA – Economic Development Administration	RNAI – Region Nine Area Inc.
EDD – Economic Development District	RNDC – Region Nine Development Commission
EECBG - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant	SACE – Southern Agricultural Center for Excellence
GAC – Gustavus Adolphus College	SAF – Sustainable Aviation Fuel
GIS – Geographic Information Systems	SBDC – Small Business Development Center
GMG – Greater Mankato Growth	SCC – South Central College
GMNP – Greater Minnesota Partnership	SCSC – South Central Service Cooperative
HACER – Hispanic Advocacy and Community Empowerment through Research	SHIP – Statewide Health Improvement Partnership
IF – Initiative Foundation	SMIF – Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
LGU – Local Government Unit	SRTS – Safe Routes to Schools
LMI – Labor Market Information	SS4A – Safe Streets for All
LMI – Low-to-Moderate Income	STIP – State Transportation Improvement Program
MADO – Minnesota Association of Development Organizations	TAC – Transportation Advisory Committee
MAPCED - Minnesota Association of Professional County Economic Developers	WCI – West-Central Initiative
	TZD – Toward Zero Deaths