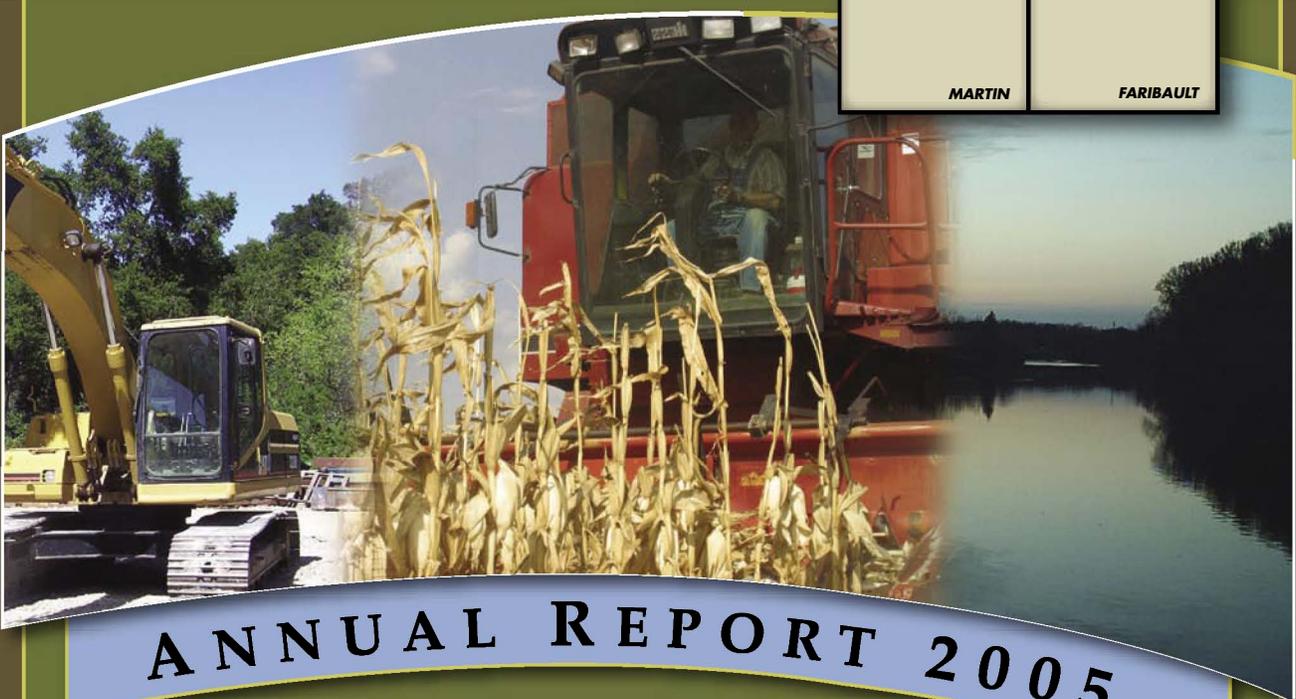


REGION NINE

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



ANNUAL REPORT 2005

www.rndc.org

INDEX

YOUR REGIONAL PARTNER FOR PROGRESS

Your Regional Partner For Progress

P.O. Box 3367 Mankato MN 56002-3367
507.387.5643 800.450.5643 Fax 507.387.7105 www.rndc.org

Honorable Commissioners, Public Elected Officials, Citizens, and Partners:

On behalf of the Region Nine Development Commission (RNDC), we respectfully submit the Region Nine Development Commission's 2005 Annual Report. The 2005 Annual Report is intended to convey the progress of RNDC in a variety of areas, as well as provide a financial overview of the year 2005.

RNDC takes great pride in working with and on behalf of counties, cities, townships and schools throughout south central Minnesota. Since 1972, being a partner for progress has led to the development of programs and identification of solutions in areas of aging, economic, community and business development, healthy communities, transportation, and leveraging regional resources.

The year 2005 may be best described as a year of regeneration. Over the past year, RNDC Commissioners have led in the development and implementation of a strategic plan. The strategic plan focuses on leadership of the Commissioners within the region, organization focus on core areas, and improvement of operations. Over the coming year benchmarks will be established to measure the intended results of the changes implemented.

RNDC continues to meet the challenges of previous years of economic decline and limited resources. However, RNDC has positioned itself to increase capacity in various key areas. The aging service area was expanded from 9 counties to 27 counties. Four regions (6E, 6W, 8 and 9) came together to form Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging and completed its first year of transition. The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) experienced a record year in small business investment and development. RNDC led an effort that assisted the first region-wide transit coordination system that started with volunteer driver services. Coordinated transit was extensively expanded in one county where coordinated rides on a monthly basis surpass previously coordinated rides in an entire year. A few services have been successfully transferred to other partner organizations in order to ensure program sustainability and leveraging of resources. Also, there are new ventures that RNDC has undertaken including renewable energy, economic development and aging integration, and development of a virtual community center.

In 2005, RNDC experienced initial indicators of a stabilizing financial portfolio including operating funds, pass through (contract or grant) dollars, and business loan funds. After several years of persistent aid and grant reductions, resources are beginning to regenerate. The organization managed to hold down operational costs while slightly increasing its reserves which demonstrate that fiscal stability strategies are headed in the right direction. Currently, there are a number of RNDC grant applications being considered for program support. Ultimately, RNDC must continue to drive toward revenue diversification and service quality and innovation.

We are very pleased with the work completed by RNDC during the year 2005. Without the hard work and commitment of Region Nine Commissioners, staff, partners and volunteers, such progress would not have been possible. The success stories and progress outlined in this report are all part of ensuring citizens are able to experience, participate in and enjoy a high quality of life in south central Minnesota.

Respectfully yours,



James Broich
RNDC Chair / Sleepy Eye - Mayor



Reginald Edwards
Executive Director



Serving 9 counties, 72 cities and 147 townships since 1972.
An Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer

Area Agency on Aging



During the summer of 2003 Region Nine staff began working with a Transportation Workgroup in Le Sueur County. Transportation was identified as one of the major gaps in services for older adults. There was no public transportation system that serves all of Le Sueur County. There had been attempts over the years to develop a county-wide system but since there was no “hub” community in the county and no set pattern of transportation it would be difficult to develop a centralized county-wide system. Over the course of the next few months workgroup participants concentrated on identifying what resources were available in different parts of the county, how to develop cooperative models, and a method of coordinating the systems. The group also saw a need to address “out of county” transportation needs when county residents needed specialist medical appointments or other services not available in Le Sueur County. Since many of the transportation dependent population were also on limited incomes the cost of the ride was also a factor the group needed to consider.

Meanwhile, the Caregiver Support & Respite Program that had been

funded through the Region Nine Aging Program was in jeopardy of losing support in Le Sueur County due to a change in the mission focus of the sponsoring agency. During this time the Minnesota Department of Human Services issued a request for proposal for the development of community support services for older adults. This funding opportunity could provide the group with the necessary start up funds to create an organization that could potentially meet both the transportation needs and continue the work of the Caregiver Support & Respite Program. Region Nine Development

Aging Services for Communities Mission Statement:

Assist older persons in remaining in their own home environment for as long as possible by providing caregiver support & respite and transportation.

Commission submitted two grants in February 2004. The Elderly Transportation grant focused on coordinating the transportation systems throughout the Region Nine service area and included funding for a half time position in Le Sueur County to develop a volunteer driver program. The second grant was submitted through Project ROSE (Reaching Out to Support Elders), the regional Caregiver Support & Respite Project of Region Nine’s Aging Program. This smaller grant provided funding for

a half time position to continue the caregiver program in Le Sueur County. The outcome of these two grants produced the organization Aging Services for Communities (ASC) located in Montgomery, MN. Thanks to the generosity and community minded spirit of John Grimm, ASC receives donated office space. Mobilize Montgomery agreed to become the fiscal host of the grant funds until ASC could develop its non-profit status and become incorporated. Shelly Barnett who had worked with the former caregiver program interviewed for the Director position and established her office at ASC October 1, 2004.

Today Aging Services for Communities is an incorporated non-profit organization providing almost 400 volunteer driver rides monthly. ASC has contracts with Blue Rides and UCare to provide medical assistance rides and has recently taken on the coordination of the Senior Ride program funded through Le Sueur County. Over the course of this past year ASC worked with Le Sueur County Human Services and Public Health Nursing to become certified with the Minnesota Department of Health as a Home Management Services provider. Older adults or family members of older adults can purchase home management services such as meal preparation, light house keeping and laundry service. Services are provided by trained ASC staff in the home and are often the solution in helping frail older adults remain in their own homes.

Community Development

Region Nine Development Commission worked over the past three years with Waseca County to complete its comprehensive plan. The last comprehensive plan adopted by the County was in 1970. The primary purpose of the Plan is to provide a "vision" for growth, development and community sustainability and vitality by outlining what Waseca County residents would like to see occur in the future.

The Waseca County Comprehensive Plan focuses on growth and development issues for the next 20 years, or until approximately the year 2025. The Waseca County comprehensive planning process was designed from the start to have strong citizen participation and intergovernmental cooperation. The County Board

appointed a Citizen's Task Force to assist with the development of the Comprehensive Plan. The Task Force participants included citizen representatives, elected and appointed officials from the county, cities and townships.

City of Truman Redevelopment Plan

R9 is assisting the City of Truman to write a redevelopment plan for their business community. An analysis of the residential and commercial surveys in the community was conducted. R9 staff is also researching Minnesota Department of Economic Development and Employment (DEED) grant applications for rehabilitation or demolition costs.

Waldorf Zoning Ordinance

In late 2005, R9 began creating

and developing a new zoning ordinance for the City of Waldorf. After the zoning ordinance is complete, R9 staff will be working with the City to develop a Comprehensive Guide Plan.

Regional ENS Team

In 2005, a group of municipal and regional EDA officials met on a regular basis to develop a "supply-chain" list for area businesses. A "supply-chain" list would provide local businesses a number of suppliers throughout the country for materials they need to produce their product. This list would also provide local businesses a list of vendors whom they can sell their products to nationally. Ultimately, both lists can be used to recruit large businesses and jobs to south-central Minnesota.

Economic Development

REGION NINE PROGRESS

The Region Nine Development Commission, as the designated Economic Development District for the nine county area, prepared the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Its approval maintains eligibility to receive continued financial assistance from the Economic Development Administration, U.S. Dept. of Commerce.

The CEDS helps create jobs,

foster stable and diversified economies and enhance quality of life. It coordinates the efforts of individuals, organizations, local governments and private industry concerned with economic development. The CEDS provides a positive impact in numerous ways for the following:

- Leveraging financial capital
- Expanding uses for revolving loan funds
- Value-added agriculture and new agriculture

- Providing a solid infrastructure

Region Nine Development Commission's Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program works in partnership with local lending institutions, economic development organizations and government agencies to help "fill the gap" between available and necessary financial resources. Since inception, Region Nine's RLF has closed over 160 loans with start-up and expanding businesses and has disbursed over \$9.4 million.

CORE PROGRAM AREAS

Over 1,725 jobs have been created or retained.

Region Nine's Revolving Loan Fund programs provide financial assistance for small to mid-sized businesses to help them have a better chance of success and make sure they're on target for their goals.

Shetka Works

Shetka Works recycles post-industrial and post-consumer paper materials by converting them into durable goods like countertops, tables, using a patented process. Shetka Works officially opened its new facility in LeCenter in August, 2005. The company had been in the research development phase for over 10 years and is currently operating on two shifts for production.

Currently, Shetka Works has 7 employees; such as President (Stan



Shetka), a Vice President, controller, manufacturing and operations managers, and production employees- with plans to hire two more production employees by March. Shetka has invested more than \$500,000 million of capital into their new facility with plans to invest \$250,000 more over the next few months.

Region Nine Development Commission's Revolving Loan Fund Program, in partnership with a local lending institution, provided the necessary additional capital so this start-up and innovative business can be successful in the future.

Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

SBDC exists to serve small and developing businesses within Region Nine. We provide consulting services in the areas of marketing, finance, advertising, etc. Our purpose is to assist small businesses at a critical time; the early stages of development and growth. Our goal is to see small businesses grow and become successful.

Client Spotlight: Cabinets and Kitchen Design.

After more than two decades in the construction industry, Deb Miller decided it was time to remodel her career.

Having gained a wealth of experience in both the technical and business aspects of construction while working on everything from

new construction to large-scale renovations to small-scale remodeling projects, Miller knew she had the skills to run her own company. Still, she wanted to bounce her ideas off someone with more expertise.

She found a valuable sounding board at the Small Business Development Center, where coun-



selor Mary Oudekerk guided her through the startup process, reviewed her business plan and financial projections and helped her with a comprehensive marketing plan.

"I thought I knew the correct direction to go," says Miller. "But they've given me the confidence to follow through. You can't buy confidence. I've been in business a long time, but when you're on your own, it's different."

Miller's time in the construction industry taught her a great deal about carpentry and plumbing and wiring and masonry. But she's quick to point out that the most important thing she learned to build was relationships. "Building trust with your customer base is critical", says Miller.

"My target market is women homeowners who are afraid to remodel because of the horror stories they've heard," says Miller, adding that because many women know little or nothing about construction, they fear that they're



going to be preyed upon by unscrupulous contractors and tradesmen who will overcharge them or do shoddy or unnecessary work.

Her first year in business had its ups and downs. "My biggest challenge has been educating my customers that I own the busi-

ness and I am not part of a larger company. I've learned one of the hardest lessons of being a business owner: I'm the last person to get a check."

Still, business has been brisk with gross sales of \$390,000 in

2005. With 2006 sales projected to top \$500,000.

And Miller plans to stick close to her SBDC consultants. She's already turned to them for help with Web site development and choosing accounting software, and she plans to use the SBDC for help on marketing and advertising and periodic financial reviews.

"I think it's great there are SBDC services you can plug into. It's professional, it's credible, and it's the best information you can get," she says. "Sometimes you feel like you're all alone in a world of AHHH! You need that support."

SBDC PROGRESS

Clients	303
Hours of Counseling Services	2,553
Seminars	8
Woman Clients	142
Hours (Woman Clients)	801
Minority Clients	27
Hours (Minority Clients)	180

- Loan Packages approved & invested in the Region - **Over \$3.7 Million**

- For every **\$1 spent** on the SBDC operations there was **\$6.04 generated** in tax revenue.

- Responses from the 2003 ASBDC/MNSBDC Economic Impact Study for Minnesota:

Client Satisfaction rate: **88%**
94% would recommend Region Nine SBDC to others

Local Matching funds were contributed by **more than 50 organizations**.

Transportation

The Region Nine Transportation Project is focused on inter-regional transportation. There are excellent public transit systems throughout Region Nine but many typically operate within limited service areas which are defined by county boundaries. Many people who are dependent on public transportation services have difficulty reaching destinations beyond their public transit system's service area. This is especially problematic for older adults and persons with disabilities who may need to access specialty medical services in other parts of the state.

One of the region's most valued resources is its citizen's strong spirit of volunteerism. In collaboration with VINE Faith in Action in Blue Earth County TRUE (Town, Rural, Urban, Express) Transit was developed. TRUE Transit provides access to a networked system of volunteer driver programs throughout the region. The goal of TRUE Transit is to maximize the region's volunteer driver resources through ride sharing.

VINE Faith in Action is the coordinating hub for TRUE Transit. Persons interested in accessing services through TRUE Transit should contact their local volunteer driver program or TRUE Transit at 1-800-560-1575.

For additional information about the Region Nine Transportation



Project contact Elaine Spain at 507-389-8860 or Brent O'Neil at 507-389-8871.

Highway 15 – Region Nine is part of the Highway 15 Coalition, a group advocating for improvements to the Highway 15 Corridor, which stretches from Fairmont to St. Cloud. Our current efforts involve securing federal funding to conduct a full corridor study.

Safety is a primary concern for the committee and this project, but Region Nine is also advocating highway improvements for economic development purposes in communities along the corridor. Since transportation is essential for business growth and recruitment, Region Nine will have a proactive role in Highway 15 improvements.

Highway 14 – Highway 14 has been graded between Janesville and Waseca and is scheduled to be

completed in the Fall of 2006.

Region Nine continues to work with local agencies and legislators to accelerate the completion of Highway 14 from New Ulm to I-35 at Owatonna.

Rail – Region Nine worked with the Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority and the Minnesota Prairie Line to complete a study on non-bulk grain logistic rail services. Seventy-six firms expressed a high or moderately high potential of using rail for their services. Region Nine is currently working with rail providers and others to develop a strategy to maximize rail service in the area.

ATP – Region Nine has worked with the District 7 Area Transportation Partnership to provide federal funding to counties and cities for improvement projects, preservation projects, safety projects, and enhancement projects.

Regional Transit



could be provided if these transportation means were coordinated. Given the various stages of development among county areas throughout the various regions, the development of a coordinated transit system would help to create a sustainable transit system.

For the past 18 months a diverse group of local units of government, transit providers, and transportation interested entities have been working to develop a coordinated regional transit system. Transit across multiple counties in southern Minnesota is not possible without a personally owned vehicle or by spending an enormous amount of money for a taxi service. Because no public transit system exists to transport individuals throughout south-cen-

tral Minnesota, a taxi ride may cost \$100 round trip to travel from, for example, the city of LeCenter to the city of Mankato, or \$80 by mobility van from St. Peter to Mankato. This is the norm for most rural areas. Current transit funding goes to target a specific city area only and does not provide transit services for the greater rural areas. It also does not meet the needs of the non-driving population throughout greater rural areas.

The group has facilitated discussions across diverse interest groups, surveyed various transit users, helped establish transit services in areas where services did not exist, developed the first regional network of coordinated volunteer driver services, developed and mapped transit corridor plans and moving toward regional training for drivers.



A number of transit assets already exist in the region which could be utilized, including personally owned vehicles, non-profit vans, assisted living facility vans, church buses, school buses, city buses, etc. A comprehensive transit plan



Renewable Energy

Region Nine Renewable Energy Task Force (not a program of RNDC, but a founding organization member) has completed its first year of development. Several partners in the region including higher education institutions, local government, environmental agencies, utility companies, RNDC and others from throughout the region have come together to support, promote and advocate for advance use of renewable energy.

The mission statement of the Region Nine Renewable Energy Task Force (RETF) is "To explore and support renewable energy uses in the Nine County Area to enhance our quality of life".

The efforts of the RETF include informing and engaging all local jurisdictions with the viability of the ethanol industry



in the area. RETF developed a resolution supporting further development and use of ethanol by government in the state, which serves as its first public policy effort. RNDC will lead in getting all local jurisdictions to support an ethanol resolution. The resolution states all units of government support the use of renewable energy; encourage the State to increase the use of renewable fuels for transportation to 25% by year 2025; encour-

age every unit of government to use renewable fuels for transportation to 25% by year 2025; and encourage units of government to purchase new flexible fuel vehicles with biodiesel and E85 use capabilities.

Engaging in this initiative for partners and rural communities are important for three primary reasons including leveraging rural community resources, protecting the environment, and addressing national interest.



Revenues & Expenditures

Levy by Department

	FY '05	FY'04
General Government	62.03%	47.60%
Aging	13.73%	14.20%
Community Economic Development	4.32%	12.00%
Prevention & Healthy Communities	10.90%	6.70%
Public Information & Marketing	0.00%	7.20%
SBDC	6.28%	6.50%
Transportation	2.74%	5.80%

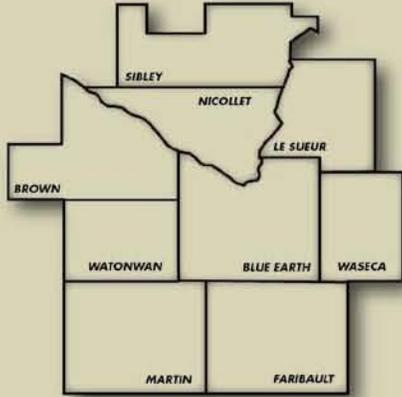
Revenues by Source

Interest (\$102,000)	(5.9%)
Federal (\$507,499)	(29.1%)
Other Sources & Conf Fees (\$310,305)	(17.8%)
State (\$373,223)	(21.4%)
Tax Levy (\$398,294)	(22.9%)
Charges for Services (\$49,832)	(2.9%)

Expenditures by Department

Other (\$129,460)	(7.4%)
Area Agency On Aging (\$462,785)	(26.7%)
Community & Economic Dev (\$259,289)	(14.9%)
General Fund (\$252,060)	(14.5%)
Prevention & Healthy Communities (\$338,457)	(19.4%)
Small Business Development Center (\$221,678)	(12.7%)
Transportation (\$77,424)	(4.4%)

FY05 Budget by Programs



REVENUES:

FEDERAL	507,499
STATE	373,223
TAX LEVY	398,294
OTHER SOURCES	306,305
CONFERENCE REVENUE	4,000
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	49,832
INTEREST	102,000

TOTAL REVENUES 1,741,153

EXPENDITURES:

AREA AGENCY ON AGING	462,785
COMMUNITY / ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	259,289
TRANSPORTATION	77,424
PREVENTION & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES	338,457
SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER	221,678
GENERAL FUND	252,060
OTHER	129,460

TOTAL EXPENDITURES 1,741,153

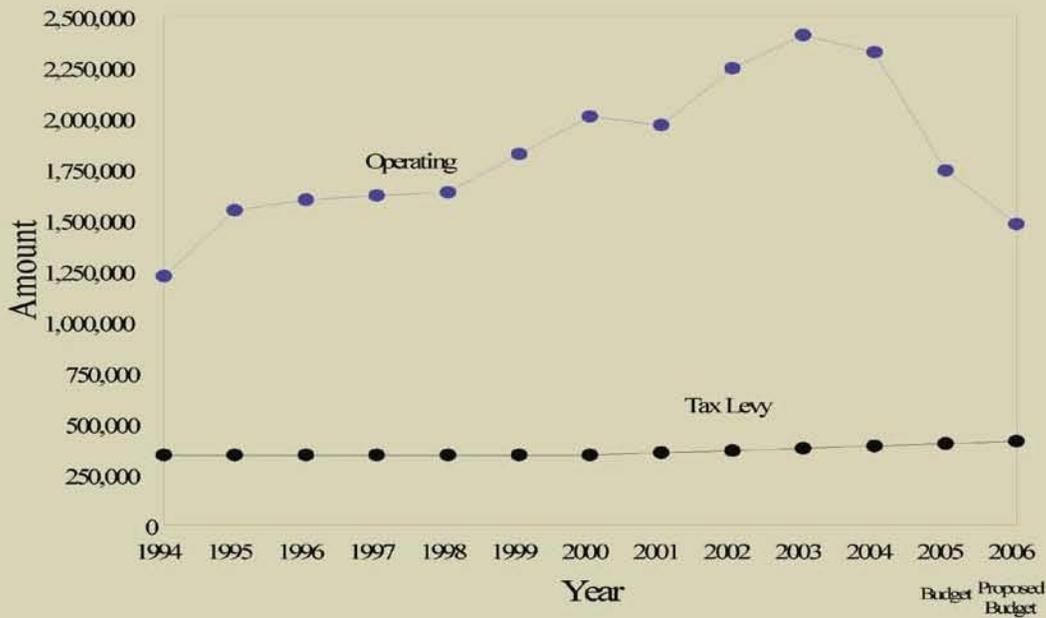
FY05 Budget by Line Item

REVENUES:		
FEDERAL		507,499
STATE		373,223
TAX LEVY		398,294
OTHER SOURCES		306,305
CONFERENCE REVENUE		4,000
CHARGES FOR SERVICES		49,832
INTEREST		102,000
TOTAL REVENUES		1,741,153
EXPENDITURES:		
PERSONNEL		947,981
FRINGE		395,579
COPYING / PRINTING		29,997
PUBLIC NOTICE		2,590
POSTAGE		19,833
TELEPHONE		21,199
TRAVEL - STAFF		78,210
TRAVEL - OTHER		27,052
REGISTRATION		16,275
SUPPLIES		22,863
MEMBERSHIP / DUES		16,850
MISCELLANEOUS		250
CONSULTANT		19,500
INSURANCE		6,000
ERRORS & OMISSIONS INSURANCE		13,000
MAINTENANCE		7,700
LEGAL		2,200
AUDIT		11,450
EQUIPMENT / DEPRECIATION		8,000
STORAGE SPACE & CONFERENCE ROOMS		2,000
OFFICE SPACE		72,624
DEBT CARRYOVER		20,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,741,153
INDIRECT RATE		20.41%
PASS THRU		2,020,554

Region Nine Development Commission Levy History

Year Payable	Base	Increase Allowed	Levy Amount	Percent Increase
2006	398,294	3%	410,243	3.00%
2005	386,693	3%	398,294	3.00%
2004	375,430	3%	386,693	3.00%
2003	364,495	3%	375,430	3.00%
2002	353,879	3%	364,495	3.00%
2001	343,572	3%	353,879	0.00%
2000	343,572	3%	343,572	0.00%
1999	343,572	3%	343,572	0.00%
1998			343,572	0.00%
1997			343,572	0.00%

Total Operating Revenue vs Tax Levy
Actual FY 1994-2004, Budget FY 2005-06



Region Nine Development Commission Members

Blue Earth County

Bruender, Kip
Kagermeier, Jeff
Lynch, Brian
Lynch, David
More, Alvis

County Commissioner
City of Mankato*
Cities under 10,000
Township Board
Agriculture*

Brown County

Berg, Jim
Broich, James (R9 Chair)
Fleischmann, Ron
Juni, Frederick

County Commissioner
Cities under 10,000*
New Ulm City Council
Township Board*

Faribault County

Loveall, Tom
Nelson, Dennis
Oldfather, Roger

County Commissioner
Township Board
Cities under 10,000*

LeSueur County

Dietz, Alvin
Holicky, Janet
McGuire, Mick
Rohfling, Mary Jean
Stangler, Bill
Stangler, James (R9 Vice Chair)

Environmental Quality
MN Valley Council of Governments
Cities under 10,000
School Board
County Commissioner
Township Board*

Martin County

Gorath, Harlan
Hanson, Kenneth
Roesler, Bob
Schmidtke, Dan

Fairmont City Council
Township Board
Cities under 10,000*
County Commissioner

Nicollet County

Flores, Janie
Genelin, Terry
Hawbaker, Jerry
McGee, Terri
Stenson, James
Schabert, Bob

Minority Populations
Township Board
Mayor, City of St. Peter*
City of North Mankato
County Commissioner
Cities Under 10,000

Sibley County

Bauer, Leo
Kaufmann, Norbert
Pautsch, Brenda
Steckman, Patricia

County Commissioner*
Township Board
Cities Under 10,000
Tourism & Recreation

Waseca County

Armstrong, Wendell
Brandenburg, Eldo
Fitzsimmons, Jack
Johansen, Matt

County Commissioner
Township Board*
Transportation
Cities Under 10,000

Watonwan County

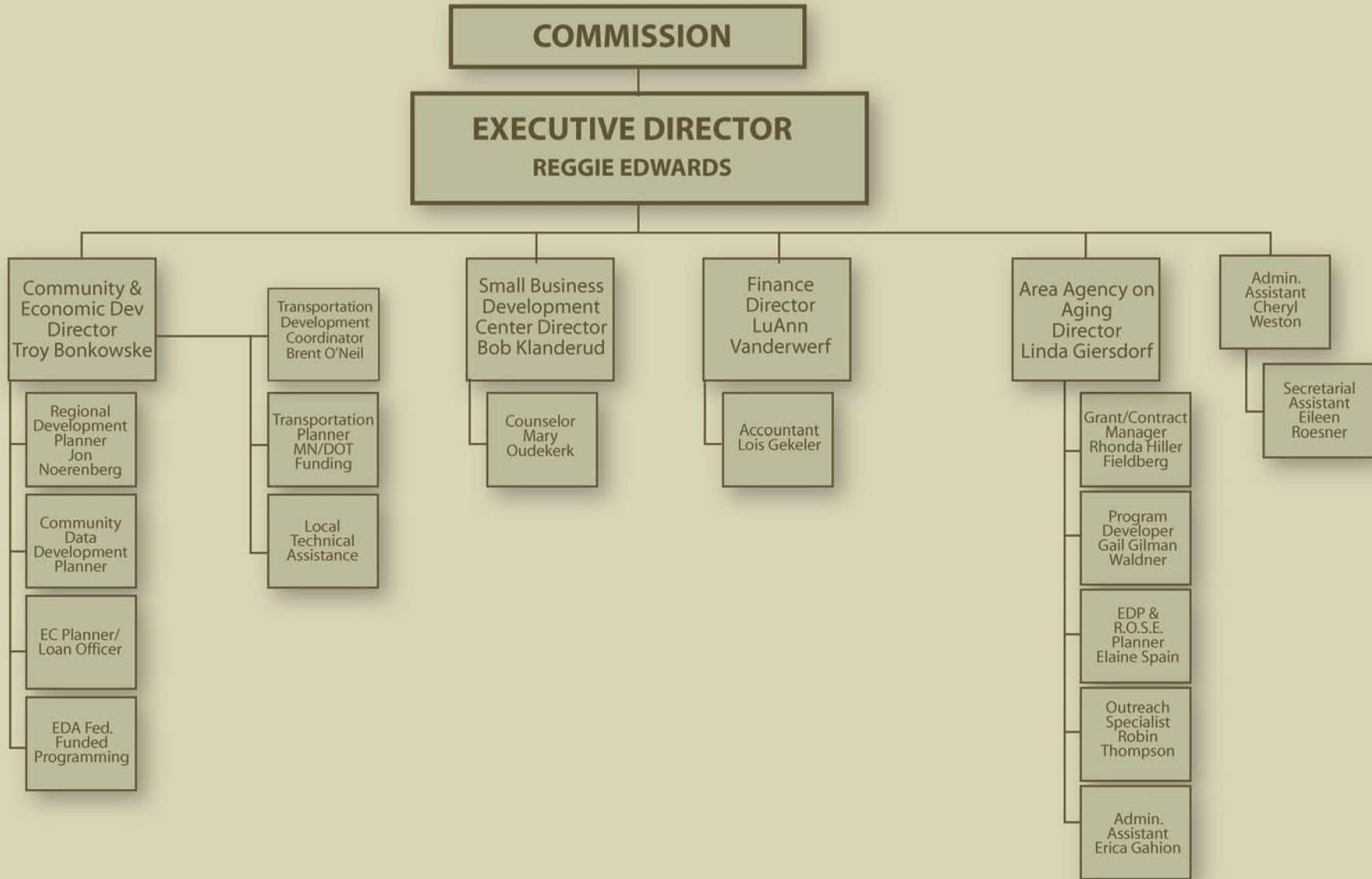
Fenske, Candace
Krenz, Dwayne
Mikkelson, Lance
Martin, Lynette
Devens, Sue

Health & Human Welfare
County Commissioner*
Township Board
School Board
Cities Under 10,000

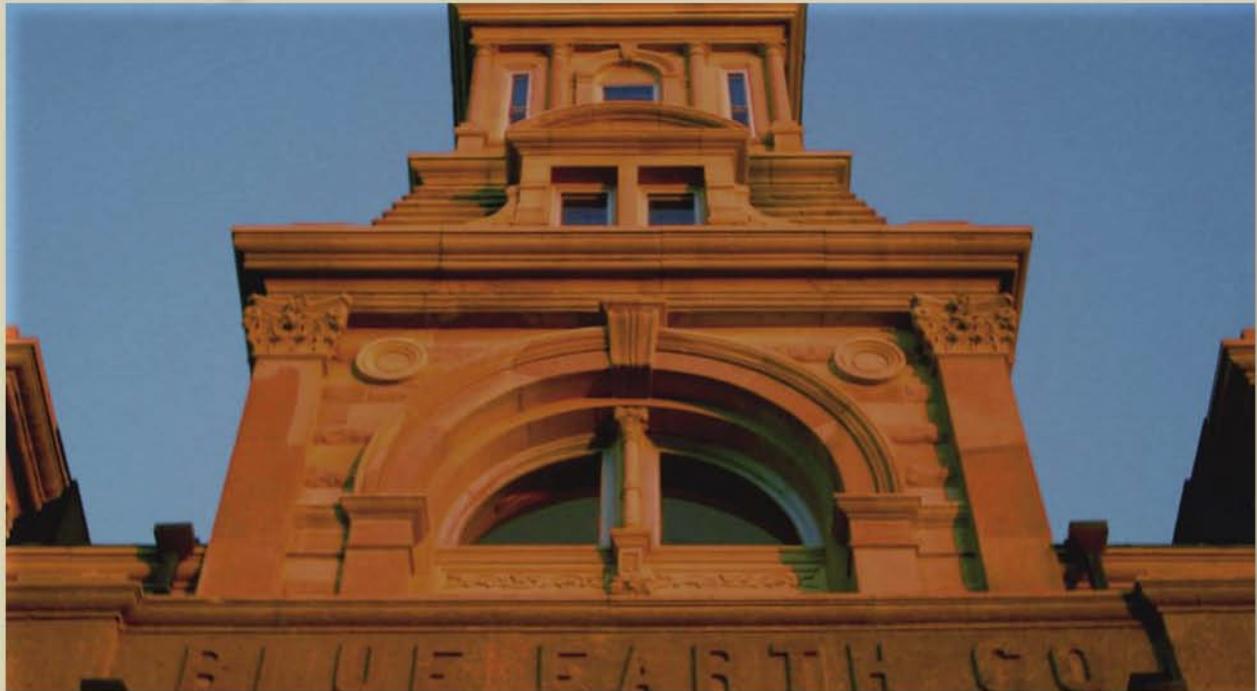
*Board of Directors

Region Nine Development Commission

Organization Chart



History



Who are we?

- Forty-three leaders from across the region serve on the Commission; including:

- Thirty-four elected officials representing nine counties, 72 cities, 147 townships, school districts and soil and water conservation districts.

- Eight representatives of special interest groups include: agriculture, commerce, crime prevention, environmental quality, health and human welfare, minority populations, tourism and recreation and transportation. The Minnesota Valley Council of Governments is also represented.

Where do we serve?

- Region Nine is comprised of nine south central Minnesota county areas including:

Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan. Their combined population is 222,790 of the state's 4,919,479 people according to the 2000 Census. Fairmont, North Mankato, New Ulm and Mankato are the four largest cities.

A history in progress

The Region Nine Development Commission was authorized by the Regional Development Act of 1969, and was organized by local officials in 1972. The purpose of regional development commissions "is to work with and on behalf of local units of government to develop plans or implement programs to address economic, social, physical and govern-

mental concerns of each region of the state."

According to state statutes,

"The legislature finds that problems of growth and development transcend the boundary lines of local government units and not a single unit can plan for their solution without affecting other units in the region; and assistance is needed to make the most effective use of local, state, federal and private programs in serving the citizens of urban and rural regions."

Mission



Because of the strategic and collaborative approach to planning over the years, Region Nine Development Commission is well positioned to be a valuable resource for small business growth. RNDC's vision and leadership will work to ensure the economic vitality of this region well into the future.

Our Mission

The mission of the Region Nine Development Commission is to promote the development of the region through intergovernmental cooperation, community and human development, long-range planning and technical assistance.

Vision/Goals

We will maintain a future-oriented perspective that helps

to facilitate decisions which result in healthier and more prosperous communities that are better equipped to move forward into the future.

Accountability

We are accountable to the public, our funding agencies and to each other for the quality of our work, promoting development of the region and being fiscally responsible.

Professionalism

We promote, encourage and provide opportunities for development, leadership and mentoring at all levels of participation within the organization. We expect professionalism to be demonstrated by our behavior, conduct and loyalty.

Communications

We value timely, open and honest communication to enhance organization effectiveness.

Adaptability

We embrace change and celebrate new challenges, are able to identify problems, look at the options and evaluate the consequences with a sense of purpose and future.

Diversity

We value and respect the diversity of the region and of our organization.

Teamwork

We support teamwork across the organization, lending knowledge and skill as needed to be successful and efficient.

Staff

Area Agency on Aging

Linda Giersdorf, Director
Erica Gahlon, Administrative Assistant
Rhonda Hiller Fjeldberg, Grant/Contract Manager
Elaine Spain, Project ROSE (Reaching Out to Support Elders) & EDP
(ElderCare Development Partnership) Planner/Transit Coordinator
Gail Gilman Waldner, Program Developer
Robin Thompson, Senior Outreach Specialist

Community & Economic Development

Troy Bronkowske, Director
Jon Noerenberg, Regional Development Planner

Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

Bob Klanderud, Director
Mary Oudekerk, Counselor

Transportation Development

Brent O'Neil, Regional Transportation Planner

Administration

Reggie Edwards, Executive Director
Eileen Roesner, Secretarial Assistant
Cheryl Weston, Administrative Assistant

Office of Finance

LuAnn Vanderwerf, Finance Director
Lois Gekeler, Accountant

Gracias

Region Nine Advisory Council on Aging

Name	Category served	County/Community
Ahmed, Lul	At Large, Any Age	BE Co., Mankato
Attenberger, Vicki	County Social Service	Nicollet Co., N. Mankato
Baumann, Archie	60+	Faribault Co., Wells
Behne, Carroll	60+	Martin Co., Sherburn
Berg, Jim	RNDC Liason	Brown Co., New Ulm
Bliesmer, Mary	Public / Private Agency	Nicollet Co., N. Mankato
Cattrysse, Jo	60+	Nicollet Co., N. Mankato
Fenske, Candace	RNDC Liason	Watowwan Co., Madelia
Fox, Janice	60+	BE Co., Mankato
Griebel, Charlie	60+	Brown Co., New Ulm
Harrison, Phyllis	60+	LeSueur Co., LeCenter
Hawkins, Mindy (Chair)	Nursing Home Rep	BE Co., Mankato
Olson, Chris	County Social Service	Brown Co., New Ulm
Peterson, Richard "Dick"	60+	Sibley Co., Belle Plaine
Purcell, Ronald	60+	Waseca Co., Waseca
Schmiesing, Wally	60+	Brown Co., Hanska
Stangler, Bill	RNDC Liason	LeSueur Co., St. Peter
Viland, Bonnie	60+	Watowwan Co., LaSalle

Region Nine Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Armstrong, Wendell	Waseca
Broich, James	Sleepy Eye
Bruender, Kip	Eagle Lake
Dietz, Alvin	New Prague
Fitzsimmons, Jack	Waseca
Forsberg, Alan	Mankato
Genelin, Terrance	LeSueur
Haeder, Doug	Mankato
Hanson, Ken	Sherburn
Kaufmann, Norbert	Belle Plain
Krenz, Dwayne	Madelia
Loveall, Tom	Winnebago
McDonald, John	Blue Earth
Stevens, Wayne	New Ulm
Wagner, Mike	St. Peter

Minnesota Department of Transportation District 7 Area Transportation Partnership

Apitz, Bob	Transit
Armstrong, Wendell	Counties
Bigham, Lisa	Mn/DOT
Broich, Jim	Region 9
Haeder, Douglas	Mn/DOT
Holmberg, Darrell	Region 8
Koehler, Steve	Cities
Ous, Greg	Mn/DOT
Rubis, Craig	Counties
Schnieder, Steve	Counties
Stevens, Wayne	Transit
Swanson, Connie	Mn/DOT
Swanson, Jim	

Prevention & Healthy Communities Advisory Committee & Coalitions

Aadahl, Jeanell	Advisory Committee Chair, At-Large
Anderson, Carol	St. James Chemical Health/Violence Prevention Advisory Council
Bachman, Wendy	St. Peter Healthy Community Alliance
Brua, Latrice	Montgomery SAFE
Bruender, Kip	At-Large, R9 Development Commission
Dressler, Carol	Waterville-Elysian-Morristown Healthy Communities
Dauer, Roni	Martin County Networking
Gorath, Harlan	At-Large- R9 Development Commission
Grams, Rosalie	Janesville Waldorf Pemberton TEAM Task Force
Madsen, Kristine	Maple River Community Network
McCabe, Joe	Madelia Coalition for Healthy Life Choices
Penny, Barbara	Waseca Healthy Community/Healthy Communities
Rahman, Erin Randall	LeSueur-Henderson Healthy Community
Schneider, Steve	At-Large, Health Care
Smith, Carolyn	United South Central One Healthy Community
Thill, Anna	Mankato Area Healthy Youth
Ward, Susan	Healthy Communities/Healthy Youth New Ulm Area

Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee

Anderson, Larry	Center for Policy & Rural Development
Broich, Jim	Mayor, City of Sleepy Eye
Hayden, Don	Economic Development Director, Le Center
Ireland, Connie	Dept of Employment & Economic Development
Miller, Doug	Nicollet County Bank
Pederson, Dean	City of Winthrop Community Dev. Director
Paulson, Jim	Pioneer Bank, St. James
Roesler, Bob	Sherburne City Council
Thompson, Larry	Roundbank Waseca

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