

**Rural Development Council (RDC) Meeting  
Black Leg Ranch 24750 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SE Sterling, ND  
and via TEAMS platform  
August 17, 2021 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

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**Members Present:**

Teran Doerr, Shawn Kessel, Jay Doan, Gwen Crawford, KayCee Lindsey, Carol Peterson, Senator Jaane Myrdal, Joyce ShiningOne Side, Daniel Stenberg, Antoinette Heier, Lindsey Lipp, Megan Laudenschlager, Dawn Mandt,

**Guests Present:**

Maria Effertz Hanson, Tracey Miller, Katie Ralston, Sherri Frieze

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

Chairwoman Doerr called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., welcoming members and guests.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**Approval of Minutes**

**It was moved by Megan Laudenschlager, seconded by Daniel Stenberg to approve the Rural Development Council minutes of May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 EDF/RDC Joint Meeting and May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 RDC Succession Planning Meeting. Motion carried.**

**COMMERCE NEW LOCATION**

**Shawn Kessel**

Commerce remains a tenant in the Workforce Safety Insurance (WSI) building but has moved the office location to the north side of the WSI building. The address has remained the same, except for the change of the suite number. Address is 1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 6.

**REVIEW/REVISE BYLAWS AND LEADERSHIP POSTIONS**

**Shawn Kessel**

Members reviewed and revised the current language of the RDC bylaws. The bylaws had not been updated since 2013.

**It was moved by Megan Laudenschlager, seconded by Carol Peterson to approve the following added language to Article 2, Section 1. “generally, to be categorized with populations of 5,000 or less.”**

The bylaws will be updated and brought forward to the next meeting.

**COMMITTEES**

**Shawn Kessel**

Committees were discussed and updated to include members, Carol Peterson and KayCee Lindsey.

| <b>GRANTS/VIBRANCY</b>       | <b>BEST PRACTICES</b>             | <b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/MSI</b>                  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Antoinette Heier – SW Region | Joyce ShiningOne Side – NE Region | Teran Doerr – To be replaced with the next chair. |
| Janne Myrdal – NE Region     | Lindsey Lipp – SE Region          | Megan Laudenschlager – NW Region                  |
| Daniel Stenberg – NW Region  | Jay Doan – SW Region              | Gwen Crawford – SE Region                         |
| Carol Peterson – SE Region   | KayCee Lindsey – NW Region        | Dawn Mandt – NE Region                            |
| Shawn Kessel                 | Shawn Kessel                      | Shawn Kessel                                      |

### **COMMERCE DIRECTION**

#### **Commerce Commissioner James Leiman**

As the future of North Dakota's clean and value-added energy sector grows, the energy projects will take place in more rural areas of ND, encompassing a need for local and regional organizations to reposition themselves, being more proactive than reactive.

### **MAIN STREET SUMMIT**

#### **Maria Effertz Hanson**

The Main Street Summit will be held at the Rustad Center in West Fargo on October 12<sup>th</sup>. The day's agenda will have three keynote speakers, and six breakout sessions. In person registration is limited to the first 600 people at a rate of \$50.00 for the full day on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Virtual registration is unlimited. A survey will be sent out after the summit to MSI communities, regarding their current MSI contact name in the community, who else would be a contact in the community or a conversation to be had and should/would a continued visit to your community be acknowledged.

### **STRATEGY SESSION FOR RDC/MSI**

#### **Shawn Kessel**

The Main Street Initiative is tied to the Governor's vision and before a transition in office takes place, the initiative should stay strong with existing principles and move to the next governor with stronger deliverables, leading to a need for a facilitated strategic session to be conducted with the council or had with the committee members of the council.

Main Street 2.0 – A rebranding adventure and what should that program look like.

- Connecting with communities; how and what to do better.
- Embedding of MSI principles across ND communities.

MSI Committee assignment was discussed to move forward with. The full council can participate in the meetings but is not required.

### **AMERICAN RESUCE PLAN ACT (ARPA) REQUEST**

#### **Shawn Kessel**

Commerce submitted \$1.1 billion in grant proposals to the Governor's office recently for ARPA federal funding. Each division had various dollar requests that ranged from 1 request in Community Development to 10 requests in the ED&F Division. The governor's office may not prioritize all funding requests, therefore those that do not get funded will be issued through EDA grant funding .

The Workforce Housing Grant proposal, \$36.5 billion.

#### **Community Development - Workforce Housing Program**

##### **Priorities include:**

1. Provide much needed workforce housing in communities of need
2. Eliminate blighted and hazardous building in communities
3. Raising revenue with increased property value
  - Based on a Tier System
    - Tier 1 - Cities with populations under 1,000
    - Tier 2 - Cities with populations 1,000 and 5,000
    - Tier 3 - Cities with populations 5,000 and under 40,000
    - Tier 4 - Cities with populations over 40,000

### **ROUNDTABLE RDC UPDATES**

Each member gave an update regarding their community activities.

### **ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 12:00 p.m.