

**NORTHEAST NEBRASKA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT – NENEDD
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2020 – 7:15 P.M.**

**City of Norfolk Offices – Board Room, 309 N. 5th St., Norfolk, NE 68701
West Point Chamber of Commerce – 200 Anna Stalp Ave., West Point, NE 68788
City of Hartington Offices – Conference Room, 107 W. State St., Hartington, NE 68739
The Wakefield Civic Center – 407 E. 7th, Wakefield, NE 68784
City of Columbus – 1st Floor Mayor’s Office, 2424 14th St., Columbus, NE 68601**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order: The Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District (NENEDD) Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m. by Vice Chairman Dan Kathol. Vice Chairman Dan Kathol informed the public about the location of the Open Meetings Act LB 898 and that it was accessible to the public.

II. Roll Call: NENEDD Administrative Assistant, Grace Petersen, read roll call.

Board Members Present:

Troy Uhlir, Madison County (Norfolk)
Dan Kathol, Vice Chairman, Hartington Community Development Corporation (Hartington)
Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, West Point Chamber of Commerce (West Point)
Gary Jackson, City of Norfolk (Norfolk)
Loren Kucera, Secretary/Treasurer, Nebraska Business Development Center (NBDC), Wayne (Norfolk)
Glen Ellis, City of Fremont (West Point)

Board Members Absent:

Judy Mutzenberger, Cuming County
Rich Jablonski, Chairman, City of Columbus

Others Present:

John F. Lohr, City of Columbus (Columbus)
Shannon Stuchlik, Midwest Bank of Pierce (Norfolk)
Megan Weaver, Wakefield Progressive, Inc. (Wakefield)
Thomas L. Higginbotham, Jr., NENEDD (Norfolk)
Kristen Rosner, NENEDD (Norfolk)
Jeff Christensen, NENEDD (Columbus)
Grace Petersen, NENEDD (Norfolk)
Matthew Hines, Black Hills Energy (Norfolk)
Danny Willets, Black Hills Energy (Columbus)

III. Introduction of Guests: Vice Chairman Dan Kathol asked everyone attending the meeting to introduce themselves to the group.

IV. Secretary’s Report

A. Consideration to approve the January 29, 2020, agenda and the December 18, 2019, minutes: Gary Jackson made a motion to approve the January 29, 2020, agenda and the December 18, 2019, minutes. Troy Uhlir seconded the motion. **AYES:** Gary Jackson, Troy Uhlir,

Dan Kathol, Glen Ellis, Loren Kucera, and Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Rich Jablonski and Judy Mutzenberger. Motion carried.

V. Treasurer's Report

A. Consideration for acceptance of the November and December 2019 Treasurer's. Fiscal Officer Kristen Rosner presented the report. Troy Uhlir made the motion to accept the November and December 2019 Treasurer's Report. Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong seconded the motion. **AYES:** Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, Gary Jackson, Troy Uhlir, Dan Kathol, Glen Ellis and Loren Kucera. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Rich Jablonski and Judy Mutzenberger. Motion carried.

VI. Action Items

A. Consideration to approve the write-off of Loan #4011 in the amount of \$197.99. NENEDD Fiscal Officer Kristen Rosner presented the report. Loan #4011 is a housing rehabilitation loan that originated in 2001. After making monthly payments for nine years, the loan client asked for a hardship review due to the wife's death. The review resulted in a forgivable loan that began in 2010 and was to mature June 1, 2020. The husband passed away October 2019, leaving a loan balance of \$197.99. The loan was forgivable and the expectation of obtaining a payment from the estate is low. Gary Jackson made a motion to approve the write-off of Loan #4011 in the amount of \$197.99. Troy Uhlir seconded the motion. **AYES:** Dan Kathol, Glen Ellis, Gary Jackson, Troy Uhlir, Loren Kucera, and Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Judy Mutzenberger and Rich Jablonski. Motion carried.

B. Consideration to approve the closing of the Housing Construction/Rehabilitation account. NENEDD Fiscal Officer Kristen Rosner presented the report. NENEDD has a housing program with any loan repayments transferred to NED, Inc. NENEDD is not eligible to apply for housing grants. NED, Inc. was needed as a non-profit organization to apply for housing grants. The housing account has a balance of \$1,539.72 and the funds will be transferred to NED, Inc. Troy Uhlir made a motion to approve the closing of the Housing Construction/Rehabilitation account. Loren Kucera seconded the motion. **AYES:** Glen Ellis, Loren Kucera, Gary Jackson, Troy Uhlir, Dan Kathol, and Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Rich Jablonski and Judy Mutzenberger. Motion carried.

VII. Chairman's/Board Comments: Dan Kathol discussed the new TV program, "Heartland Docs, DVM," which features veterinarians Erin and Ben Schroeder of Hartington. The show is on Saturday nights on the National Geographic Wild channel and has been renewed for another season. Thomas L. Higginbotham, Jr., executive director of NENEDD, added that the Schroeders were presented with the 2019 Nebraska State Historic Preservation Award for the work they've done in Hartington. Higginbotham also talked about Legislative Bill 1098, which focuses on funding for the Nebraska Economic Development Districts.

VIII. Next Meeting Date: The next NENEDD Board of Directors meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, at 7:15 p.m. or following the NED, Inc. meeting. The meeting will be held via conference call.

IX. Adjournment: Gary Jackson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong seconded the motion. **AYES:** Loren Kucera, Gary Jackson, Troy Uhlir, Dan Kathol, Glen Ellis, and Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Judy Mutzenberger and Rich Jablonski. Motion carried. Dan Kathol, Vice Chairman, adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.