

**NORTHEAST NEBRASKA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT – NENEDD
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2021 – 7:15 P.M.**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order: The Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District (NENEDD) Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by NENEDD Vice Chairman Charlie Bahr who 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:

Charlie Bahr, Vice Chairman, City of Columbus
Gary Jackson, Secretary/Treasurer, City of Norfolk
Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, West Point Chamber of Commerce
Sally Ganem, City of Fremont
Loren Kucera, Nebraska Business Development Center (NBDC), Wayne

Board members absent:

Judy Mutzenberger, Chairwoman, Cuming County
Troy Uhlir, Madison County
Blake Denton, MetLife Investments

NED Inc. Board Members Present:

Rich Jablonski, City of Columbus; Jim McCarville, Northeast Community College.

NENEDD Staff Present:

Thomas L. Higginbotham, Jr., Tina M. Engelbart, Jan Merrill, Andrea Larson, Kirk Brown, Riah Deane, Jeff Christensen, Mandy Gear, Martin Griffith, Kristen Rosner, and Grace Petersen.

III. Introduction of Guests: Doug Backens, Dodge County Supervisor and Kristi Griffith.

IV. Secretary's Report

A. Consideration to approve the September 29, 2021, agenda and the August 25, 2021, minutes: Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong made a motion to approve the September 29, 2021, agenda and the August 25, 2021, minutes. Gary Jackson seconded the motion. **AYES:** Gary Jackson, Charlie Bahr, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, Sally Ganem, and Loren Kucera. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Judy Mutzenberger, Troy Uhlir, and Blake Denton. Motion carried.

V. Treasurer's Report

A. Consideration to accept the August 2021 Treasurer's Report as presented. NENEDD Fiscal Officer Kristen Rosner presented the report. Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong made a motion to accept the August 2021 Treasurer's Report as presented. Gary Jackson seconded the motion. **AYES:** Gary Jackson, Charlie Bahr, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, Sally Ganem, and Loren Kucera. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Judy Mutzenberger, Troy Uhlir, and Blake Denton. Motion carried.

VI. Discussion Items

A. Quarterly Staff Reports. NENEDD staff reported to the board their activities from July through September 2021.

B. Quarterly Loan Review. NENEDD Fiscal Officer Kristen Rosner presented the report. She said NENEDD's loan portfolio includes 60 active loans with 0 loans delinquent at this time.

VII. Action Items

A. Consideration to certify NENEDD is operating in accordance with its EDA CARES Act RLF Plan. NENEDD Fiscal Officer Kristen Rosner presented. NENEDD submits a semi-annual report to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) relating to its CARES Act Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) and certifies that the CARES Act RLF Plan is consistent with and supportive of the area's current economic adjustment strategy; the revolving loan fund is being operated in accordance with the policies and procedures contained in the CARES Act revolving loan fund plan; and the loan portfolio meets the standards contained therein. There were eight loans closed during the last 6 months period (1/1/2021 to 6/30/2021). Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong made a motion to certify NENEDD is operating in accordance with its EDA CARES Act RLF Plan. Gary Jackson seconded the motion. **AYES:** Gary Jackson, Charlie Bahr, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, Sally Ganem, and Loren Kucera. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Judy Mutzenberger, Troy Uhler, and Blake Denton. Motion carried.

B. Consideration to approve the resolution for League Association of Risk Management (LARM) Insurance. NENEDD Fiscal Officer Kristen Rosner presented. LARM has been approved since 2013 to provide NENEDD's workers' compensation, general liability, errors & omissions, auto physical damage and commercial property insurance coverage. Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong made a motion to approve the resolution for League Association of Risk Management (LARM) Insurance. Gary Jackson seconded the motion. **AYES:** Gary Jackson, Charlie Bahr, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, Sally Ganem, and Loren Kucera. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Judy Mutzenberger, Troy Uhler, and Blake Denton. Motion carried.

C. Consideration to adopt the 2021-2025 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. NENEDD Deputy Director Tina M. Engelbart presented. The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) analyzes the regional economy and serves as a guide for establishing regional goals and objectives, developing, and implementing a regional plan of action and identifying investment priorities and funding sources. The CEDS is a requirement of the Economic Development Administration (EDA) from which NENEDD receives funding for planning activities. Gary Jackson made a motion to adopt the 2021-2025 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong seconded that motion. **AYES:** Gary Jackson, Charlie Bahr, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, Sally Ganem, and Loren Kucera. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Judy Mutzenberger, Troy Uhler, and Blake Denton. Motion carried.

VIII. Chairman's/Board Comments: None.

IX. Next Meeting Date: The NENEDD Board of Directors meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at 7:15 p.m. or following the NED, Inc. meeting. The meeting will be held via conference call.

X. Adjournment: Gary Jackson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong seconded the motion. **AYES:** Gary Jackson, Charlie Bahr, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, Sally Ganem, and Loren Kucera. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Judy Mutzenberger, Troy Uhler, and Blake Denton. Motion carried. NENEDD Vice Chairman Charlie Bahr adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.