NORTHEAST NEBRASKA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
NENEDD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2026 – 7:30 P.M.

A FULL CUP restaurant, 803 10TH ST., STANTON, NE 68779

MINUTES

Ratification: Quorum was not available during the September 30, 2026, NENEDD Board of Directors' meeting. The Secretary's report, Treasurer's report, quarterly staff reports, and action items A & B were discussed but no official action was taken, therefore will be ratifited at the October 28, 2026, meeting.

I. Call to Order: The Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District (NENEDD) Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by NENEDD Chairwoman Meghann Buresh, 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 Deputy Director, Andrea Westerhaus, read roll call.

Board Members Present:

Meghann Buresh, Chairwoman, Nebraska Apex Accelerator

Sally Ganem, Fremont City Council

Rich Jablonski, Columbus City Council

Mason Zimmerer, Northeast Community College

Board Members Absent:

Blake Denton, Vice Chairman, MetLife Investment Management

Benjamin Benton, Secretary/Treasurer, Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Wayne

Doug Huttmann, Stanton County Commissioner

Anthony Warrior, Nebraska Indian Community College

Jeff Jensen, Norfolk City Council

NED, Inc. Board Members Present: Sally Ganem

NENEDD Staff Present: Mandy Gear, Andrea Westerhaus, Jill Godfrey, Jeff Christensen, and Sandra Goode.

III. Introduction of Guests: Kyle Voecks, Mayor of Stanton, and Shannon Hekrdle, owner of A Full Cup restaurant.

IV. Secretary's Report

A. **Consideration to discuss the September 30, 2026, agenda and the August 26, 2026, meeting minutes.** Rich Jablonski made a motion to discuss the September 30, 2026, agenda and August 26, 2026, meeting minutes. Salley Ganem seconded the motion. **AYES:** Meghann Buresh, Mason Zimmerer, Sally Ganem, and Rich Jablonski. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Doug Huttmann, Anthony Warrior, Benjamin Benton, Blake Denton, and Jeff Jensen. The item was discussed and no vote was completed therefore the item will be presented to the Board for formal action at the October 28, 2026, meeting.

V. Treasurer's Report

A. **Consideration to discuss August 2026 Treasurer's Report as presented.** NENEDD Fiscal Officer, Jill Godfrey, presented the report. Mason Zimmerer made a motion to discuss the August 2026 treasurer's report as presented. Rich Jablonski seconded the motion. **AYES:** Meghann Buresh, Mason Zimmerer, Sally Ganem, and Rich Jablonski. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Doug Huttmann, Anthony Warrior, Benjamin Benton, Blake

Denton, and Jeff Jensen. The item was discussed and no vote was completed therefore the item will be presented to the Board for formal action at the October 28, 2026, meeting.

VI. Discussion Items

A. Quarterly Staff Reports

VII. Action Items

A. Consideration for discussion to amend the NENEDD 457 Retirement Plan, effective January 1, 2027, and authorization of the Executive Director to execute the required documents. NENEDD Executive Director, Mandy Gear, presented. To ensure consistency between NENEDD's personnel policy and the official retirement plan document, the amendment will clarify that only full-time employees are eligible to receive employer matching contributions, effective January 1, 2027. Rich Jablonski made a motion to discuss amending the NENEDD 457 Retirement Plan, effective January 1, 2027. Mason Zimmerer seconded the motion. **AYES:** Meghann Buresh, Mason Zimmerer, Sally Ganem, and Rich Jablonski. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Doug Huttmann, Anthony Warrior, Benjamin Benton, Blake Denton, and Jeff Jensen. The item was discussed and no vote was completed therefore the item will be presented to the Board for formal action at the October 28, 2026, meeting.

B. Consideration for discussion of a resolution accepting and adopting the 2026-2031 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). NENEDD Deputy Director, Andrea Westerhaus, presented. The proposed 2026-2031 CEDS was made available for a 30-day public comment period, which concluded on September 6, 2026, and no public comments were received. Minimal changes of the draft CEDS included the removal of prohibited words described in an Executive Order via the current administration. Mason Zimmerer made a motion to discuss the resolution to accept and adopt the 2026-2031 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Rich Jablonski seconded the motion. **AYES:** Meghann Buresh, Mason Zimmerer, Sally Ganem, and Rich Jablonski. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Doug Huttmann, Anthony Warrior, Benjamin Benton, Blake Denton, and Jeff Jensen. The item was discussed and no vote was completed therefore the item will be presented to the Board for formal action at the October 28, 2026, meeting.

VIII. President/Board Comments: Meghann Buresh thanked A Full Cup for hosting the board meeting.

IX. Next Meeting Date: The next NENEDD Board of Directors meeting will be held on Wednesday October 28, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held via conference call by attending one of these locations: City of Norfolk Offices-Training Room, 309 N. 5th Street, Norfolk, NE 68701; Columbus Community Building – Room 223 2500 14th St., Columbus, NE 68601; Lied Randolph Public Library, 111 N. Douglas St., Randolph, NE 68771; Fremont Municipal Building – 400 E. Military Ave., Fremont, NE 68025.

X. Adjournment: Rich Jablonski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mason Zimmerer seconded the motion. **AYES:** Meghann Buresh, Mason Zimmerer, Sally Ganem, and Rich Jablonski. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Doug Huttmann, Anthony Warrior, Benjamin Benton, Blake Denton, and Jeff Jensen. Meghann Buresh, President, adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.