

**Kandiyohi County & City of Willmar Economic Development Commission (EDC)
Joint Operations Board (OB)
AGRIBUSINESS/RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT (Ag) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Special Meeting
MINUTES
March 1, 2006
EDC Office, 312 Fourth Street SW, Willmar**

Present: Glenn Arfstrom, Wade Gustafson and Kim Larson

Staff: Steve Renquist, Executive Director

Chair Glenn Arfstrom called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Chair Arfstrom read a letter dated February 28, 2006 re-certifying his intent to resign as committee chairperson and his vision for the committee's activities. Steve Renquist thanked Arfstrom for his great service to the committee and expressed the desire that Arfstrom remain active on the committee. Arfstrom's experience and wisdom on the issues are a real asset to the committee's activities and he would be missed if he were no longer on the committee. Arfstrom gave his permission for the EDC staff to continue sending him Ag Committee agendas, minutes and materials.

The Executive Committee discussed the following:

- loss of Chair Arfstrom and who would be candidates to replace him for the remainder of 2006.
- Ag Conference—the progress that has been made to host it and the contents of the Animal Ag Conference—it will have a poultry and four-legged animal mutual theme.
- the various methane digester projects.

Renquist asked the group for recommendations on pictures and captions for the Willmar Ag Show. The following ideas were offered:

- a. Picture: Ethanol Plant
Caption: Promoting Renewable Resources
- b. Picture: Livestock Operation
Caption: Kandiyohi County is a livestock friendly and supportive county
- c. Picture: Ear of corn and soybeans with pipeline leading to \$
Caption: Increasing value-added agriculture production facilities
- d. Picture: BR&E Interview
Caption: Education activities supporting the continuation of agriculture

The following will be placed on the next Ag Committee meeting agenda.

- a. Bob Meyerson—presentation on a wind energy project
- b. Renquist—prioritization of Ag Committee projects for 2006
- c. Renquist—discuss land use issue

Renquist was directed to write a letter to the Ag Commissioner re-certifying that Willmar should be the annual site for the Minnesota Animal Ag Conference.

Justin Mattern will be contacted relative to the web site.

ADJOURNMENT—There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.