

**KANDIYOHI COUNTY AND CITY OF WILLMAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)
AGRICULTURE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

June 21, 2018

Christianson PLLP, Willmar

Present: Ian Graue, Kevin Halvorson, Dustin Kotrba, Kim Larson, Dan Lippert and Dan Tepfer

Excused: Jon Folkedahl, Keith Poier and Bruce Reuss

Absent: Rollie Boll and Larry Konsterlie

Staff: Connie Schmoll, Business Development Specialist

Media: Carolyn Lange, West Central Tribune

Secretarial: Diane Beck, Legal & Administrative Assistants, Inc. (LAA)

Chairperson Dan Tepfer called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 a.m.

AGENDA—

IT WAS MOVED BY Dan Lippert, SECONDED BY Kevin Halvorson, to approve the agenda as emailed.
MOTION CARRIED.

MINUTES—The minutes of March 15 and April 19, 2018 were presented.

IT WAS MOVED BY Kevin Halvorson, SECONDED BY Kim Larson, to approve the March 15 and April 19, 2018 minutes as emailed. MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS—

Ag Marketing and Event Planning Subcommittee. Dustin Kotrba provided an update on the Ag Talent & Technology Workshop scheduled for Monday, August 13, at Little Crow Resort (see attached).

- Marketing. The flyer will be emailed to contacts soon. Schmoll inquired if there were any noted changes to the flyer. Ian Graue questioned the word “progressive” in the subtitle. After discussion, the Ag Committee concurred to include the word, but will remove it for on-air advertising. Kotrba shared the subcommittee is hoping to reach approximately 1,000 contacts. Local newspapers will be asked if they would run free

workshop ads. Schmoll also encouraged committee members to get the word out and post flyers in their respective communities.

- Thor Figenskau, senior at Willmar High School has been hired by the EDC as an intern for the summer and will assist with various duties, including social media efforts for the Workshop.
- Radio ads have been written; Chair Tepfer and Kotrba have volunteered to record the radio ads.
- Continue to work with REDstar on various advertising and registration duties.
- Briefly discussed the golf opportunity following the Workshop. Schmoll will mention this during Open Mic on July 19th.
- The budget is currently at \$8,400, which include sponsorships of \$6,000 and expected participant fees of \$2,400. At this time, expenses total \$6,222.50 and are expected to slightly increase.

Chair Tepfer inquired if a workshop should be planned for each year. Kotrba felt it would be beneficial to continue with workshops; however, attendance numbers will determine future workshops. Schmoll concurred the goal is to do the workshops annually. Attendees will be able to suggest future workshop topics on the evaluation forms. Schmoll mentioned tariffs is currently a hot topic and is willing to lead a discussion following the workshop. Kim Larson mentioned an upcoming water quality conference which may be a topic for a future workshop.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CERTS 2018 Conference Report. Graue reported on the CERTS 2018 Conference *Community Driven Clean Energy* held on March 29th in St. Cloud. Chair Tepfer attended the March 28th session. Sessions for the day included: 1) Utility Innovation: identifying Win-Win & Solutions; 2) Learn and Drive: Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure; 3) Strategies for Reducing Low-Income Energy Burden; and 4) Local Government Solar: Best Practices and Tools. Clean Energy Community Awards were given to recognize achievement and planning efforts by communities across Minnesota. Graue felt it was a very good conference with many networking opportunities. Schmoll thanked Graue and Chair Tepfer for attending the conference.

NEW BUSINESS

AG/RENEWABLE ENERGY COMMUNITY EVENTS/PROJECTS. Schmoll announced a meeting will be held later this morning at the Kandiyohi County Health and Human Services Building with Senator Klobuchar's staff. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the Senate's proposed Farm Bill. Three other meetings will be held in other Minnesota cities.

Schmoll discussed the USDA Grant for Simply Shrimp's feasibility study. A \$90,000 grant has been submitted by the EDC.

A Kandiyohi County Commissioner contacted Schmoll regarding Tru Shrimp of Luverne. Which is building a large facility and may look to expand into Kandiyohi County.

Schmoll announced she will attend the 2018 FAM (Familiarization) Tour sponsored by the Minnesota Employment and Economic Development (DEED) on August 21-24, 2018 in Chicago, Illinois. There will be an opportunity to visit with site selectors looking for business expansion sites Schmoll will present available sites in Kandiyohi County.

Chair Tepfer shared that Ag Professionals (formerly West Central Ag Sales Association) will tour Simply Shrimp, Lettuce Abound and conclude with dinner at Model Citizen restaurant at Goat Ridge Brewery in New London next week. It will hold an annual meeting/banquet in 2019 and he encouraged Ag Committee members to join.

Schmoll shared that AURI and Southern Research and Outreach Center in Waseca will hold a Winter Camelina Open House Field Day on June 27th. Attendees will learn the many uses of Winter Camelina, which is an oilseed crop for use as a cash cover crop that provides both protection for soil and water plus economic benefits to farmers.

ADJOURNMENT—There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40 a.m.

NEXT MEETING—The next regular committee meeting is **7:30 a.m., July 19, 2018** at Christianson PLLP, 302 Fifth Street SW, Willmar.

a two-part workshop
brought to you by:



Ag & Renewable Energy
Development Committee



TALENT & TECHNOLOGY

FOR THE PROGRESSIVE FARM MANAGER

AUGUST 13
7:30 - 11:30AM

LITTLE CROW RESORT

15980 Hwy 23 NE
Spicer MN 56288

\$30

Includes breakfast
& refreshments

**7:30 - 9:30AM | MIKE HENKE, MIKE HENKE INC.
& KRISTIE HAEFNER, CHRISTIANSON PLLP**

Attracting, retaining and managing your ag labor workforce. Plus, the latest changes to the employment regulatory environment.

9:45 - 10:30AM | LYLE MANGEN, CNH INDUSTRIAL

An introduction to the hardware associated with precision farming and best practices for your data storage and privacy.

10:45 - 11:30AM | MIKE MASTEY, RIDGEWATER COLLEGE

Utilizing production and financial data to make better investment decisions on technology for your operation. Learn more about the use of UAS (drone) systems as a management tool.

REGISTER

advanced registration required
kandiedc.eventbrite.com
or call 320.235.7370



GOLF SPECIAL FOLLOWING THE WORKSHOP

18 holes + cart	\$42
9 holes + cart	\$22

(call Isaac Nelson at 320.354.2296 to schedule a tee time)

THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS:

KANDIYOHI COUNTY
Corn & Soybean Growers



>TALENT | 7:30 - 9:30AM



MIKE HENKE, OWNER OF MIKE HENKE INC.

Mike's passion for building strong teams led to the creation of Mike Henke, Inc. He works with organizations throughout the country in the areas of Leadership Training and Recruiting & Retention of Employees. Mike has created over 50 unique training programs, previously managed an employment agency in Nebraska that partnered with many organizations in the ag industry, and he works with many of those organizations today!



KRISTIE HAEFNER, FIRM ADMINISTRATOR & LEAD HR CONSULTANT, CHRISTIANSON PLLP

Kristie is a results driven leader with 10 years of experience in human resources. She's motivated to continuously refine her skills to strengthen leadership and business acumen. Kristie serves as an advocate for employees while focusing on the overall mission and goals of the organization. Some of her specialties include: attracting and retaining talent, staff development, performance management, employee relations, and HR analytics. Her goal is to help business owners achieve their goals by assisting them with HR related tasks, so that they can focus on their passion.

>TECHNOLOGY | 9:45 - 11:30AM



LYLE MANGEN, GLOBAL PRODUCT SPECIALIST, CNH

Lyle is a 28-year employee of CNH Industrial and its equipment brands. He is currently working in a commercial role which includes defining self-propelled sprayer and dry fertilizer applicator product lines around the globe. He graduated from SDSU with a degree in Ag & Bio Systems Engineering, followed by an MBA from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee, WI. He currently serves as a member of the SDSU Ag & Bio Systems Advisory Board, and has served in various committee, standards development and section officer roles for the American Society of Ag & Bio Systems Engineers.



MIKE MASTEY, FARM BUSINESS MANAGEMENT INSTRUCTOR, RIDGEWATER COLLEGE

Mike grew up on a Central MN crop and livestock farm. After teaching high school agriculture for 7 years, Mike transitioned to farm business management education at Ridgewater in 2000. Since then, he has been helping farm families in Central MN with farm business management education, financial & transition planning, and farm business analysis with livestock, conventional and specialty crop operations. The past three years, Mike has been using UAS (drone) technology with farmers to use imagery data in helping make management decisions on the farm.