

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

MINUTES

July 19, 2018

Christianson PLLP, Willmar

Present: Rollie Boll, Ian Graue, Kevin Halvorson, Dustin Kotrba, Kim Larson, Keith Poier and Dan Tepfer

Excused: Jon Folkedahl and Dan Lippert

Absent: Bruce Reuss 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— Connie Schmoll added an agenda item under Unfinished Business: Rural Development Grant. The revised agenda was approved as printed.

MINUTES—The minutes of June 21 2018 were presented.

IT WAS MOVED BY Kevin Halvorson, SECONDED BY Ian Graue, to approve the June 21, 2018 minutes as emailed. MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS—

Ag Marketing and Event Planning Subcommittee. Connie Schmoll shared copies of the flyer (see attached) and reported the flyer was emailed to appropriate contacts. The Willmar Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) agreed to distribute the flyers to its agriculture contacts. The Chamber is an in-kind sponsor for the workshop. Schmoll shared Thor Figenskau has been working on promoting/advertising the workshop via social media and is doing an outstanding job. He is also placing calls to ag producers. Schmoll reported the budget is stable and was slightly increased due to the printing of additional flyers by Baker Printing. Chair Tepfer and Schmoll will participate in Open Mic today to promote and highlight the workshop, as well as other issues facing the farming community. Schmoll mentioned several tasks remain, i.e., agenda, evaluation form and name tags.

Joanna Schrupp of MinnWest Technology Campus will promote the upcoming Ag & Animal Science Conference and the Little Crow Resort golf pro will be asked to share information regarding the golfing opportunity following the workshop. Schmoll has also contacted the speakers. Dustin Kotrba recorded a radio message, which will run several times on Lakeland Broadcasting and KDJS. Schmoll encouraged the Ag Committee to get the word out to their contacts.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Schmoll reported the EDC applied for a USDA grant for Simply Shrimp and were approved for a \$107,000 for a Rural Business Development Grant to conduct a feasibility study on an advanced pilot project. Schmoll shared one of Kandiyohi County's Commissioners is interested in seeing trū™ Shrimp, a frozen product line, of Balaton, Minnesota expand into Kandiyohi County. Schmoll will participate in a tour at the trū™ Shrimp facility in Balaton, MN, being arranged by the County Commissioner. Schmoll will give a report at the next Ag Committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed 2019 Ag Budget. Schmoll distributed and reviewed a 2019 proposed budget for expenses. This proposed budget was shared with the EDC Operations Board on July 12th, but has not been shared with the EDC Joint Powers Board. A suggestion was made to add \$6,000 under Conferences/Seminars/Training. Kotrba suggested adding an event/workshop line item in lieu of the Marketing line. Ian Graue inquired if carryover budget dollars are allowed. Schmoll will check. Chair Tepfer asked for a \$6,000 increase in the budget being the workshop is self-sustained; Schmoll will check with Aaron Backman. The Ag Committee also requested additional funding and a separate line item for a 2019 Ag workshop. The committee also discussed budget increases for other projects, i.e., an industrial hemp study, and briefly discussed partnering with the corn growers, soybean growers, AURI and Christianson's for various studies.

IT WAS MOVED BY Dustin Kotrba, SECONDED BY Kevin Halvorson, to separate out the expenses for a specific event/workshop and have a separate line item (EDC's Ag Annual Workshop) on the proposed 2019 Ag Budget. MOTION CARRIED.

A discussion was held on funds that may remain after expenses from this year's event. Rollie Boll suggested if excess funds are realized from the 2018 Ag workshop, the Ag Committee could make a request to the EDC Joint Operations Board to keep the excess funds in reserve for the 2019 Ag budget. Discussion was held to have a feasibility study line item for soybeans, industrial hemp, etc. Chair Tepfer suggested to stay with plant-based activity rather than livestock as plant-based agriculture and industrial hemp feasibility studies can be used to promote the industries. Schmoll stated the Ag Committee could propose \$5,000 of the EDC's reserve fund be used for plant-based and industrial hemp feasibility studies. There are also grants available to enhance the costs of the studies.

IT WAS MOVED BY Kim Larson, SECONDED BY Ian Graue, to add a line item in the 2019 proposed Ag Budget of \$5,000 for a value-added plant-based (industrial hemp) feasibility study.
MOTION CARRIED.

After discussion, Schmoll stated she will convey to the EDC Joint Operations Board that funds for a feasibility study will come from grant dollars and sponsorships.

Kim Larson commented he found an Ag Committee self-evaluation form used several years ago and felt this would be beneficial to do again.

AG/RENEWABLE ENERGY COMMUNITY EVENTS/PROJECTS. Schmoll recently attended the International Food and Technology Expo in Chicago and reported it was a very interesting conference. She met with various representatives/vendors and she will send out the vendor information to Ag Committee members. Schmoll reported she gained more attention from the dairy representatives.

ADJOURNMENT—There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:11 a.m.

NEXT MEETING—The next regular committee meeting is **7:30 a.m., August 16, 2018** at Christianson PLLP, 302 Fifth Street SW, Willmar.

a two-part workshop
brought to you by:



Kandiyohi County & City of Willmar
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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



Date Printed: 7/12/2018



	Proposed 2019	As of 6/30/2018	2018 Budget	2017 Actuals
COMMITTEE EXPENSES				
Agriculture and Renewable Energy Development				
Ag Producer BRE Survey		\$ -		\$ 5,622
Conferences/Seminars/Trainings	\$ 1,100	\$ 754	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,229
Marketing	\$ 3,000	\$ 805	\$ 1,500	\$ 949
Meals/Meeting Refreshments	\$ 1,500	\$ 388	\$ 600	\$ 525
Mileage/Travel	\$ 1,200	\$ 569	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,181
Professional Services				
General Administrative Services	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,434	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,635
Professional Services - Other	\$ 1,000	\$ 548	\$ 1,000	\$ 380
Supplies (office or program)	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 26
Total Ag Committee Expenses	\$ 10,050	\$ 4,498	\$ 7,650	\$ 14,547