## **REGION 5 DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

# JULY 1, 1995 - JUNE 30, 1996

Prepared By: Region 5 Development Commission 611 Iowa Avenue Staples, MN 56479 218/894-3233



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#### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

July 1, 1996

The Region 5 Development Commission continues to serve well the people of Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena counties. Although increasing financial pressures make it difficult, the Commission is determined to respond in a responsible way to the needs of our five-county area, whether in the areas of transportation, community and economic development, arts activities, township concerns, or in the burgeoning needs of our older population.

Cooperation and collaboration are the keys to success, and the Region 5 Development Commission is dedicated to fostering collaborative efforts on all levels of governmental activities. As Chairperson of the Commission, it is my hope that we will keep these concepts foremost in mind as we meet the challenges of the future.

Sincerely, Paul Nieman, Jr., Chairperson

Region 5 Development Commission

## COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

(As of June 30, 1996

#### CASS COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Erwin Ostlund, Walker Ardean Brasgalla, Cass Lake Fred Martin, Akeley Board of Commissioners Municipalities Town Boards

#### CROW WING COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Mary Koep, Brainerd Donna Good, Pequot Lakes Robert Olson, Pequot Lakes

#### MORRISON COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Paul Nieman, Jr., Little Falls Duane Johnson, Swanville James Wielinski, Little Falls

#### TODD COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Stan Sumey, Browerville Carolynne Bisel, Eagle Bend Don Thiel, Staples

#### WADENA COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Ralph Lorentz, Wadena Barbara Halvorson, Menahga William Kern, Verndale

#### **CITY OF BRAINERD REPRESENTATIVE**

Gene Goedker, Brainerd

#### **COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

Robert Erdrich, Little Falls Richard Tanner, Cass Lake

#### **REGION 5 SCHOOL BOARDS**

William Higgs, Wadena Herman Pietrowski, Little Falls

#### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Ted Winkels, Verndale

Town Boards

Board of Commissioners Municipalities Town Boards

City of Brainerd

Little Falls Area COG Leech Lake Tribal Council

School Board Representative School Board Representative

Soil & Water Conservation District

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS (As of June 30, 1996)

Paul Nieman, Jr., Chairperson Herman Pietrowski, Vice-Chairperson Robert Olson, Secretary Stan Sumey, Treasurer Ardean Brasgalla, Director James Wielinski, Director Ralph Lorentz, Director

#### <u>STAFF</u> (As of June 30, 1996)

#### ADMINISTRATION

Leyten Fontaine, Executive Director Nancy Stevens, Controller/Executive Assistant Lori Verlennich, Secretary

#### AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Barbara Card, Director Renee Frethem, Grants Manager

#### ARTS

Shelly Stevens, Five Wings Arts Director/Office Manager

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Randy Hilliard, Economic Development Planner Roger Germann, Technical Planner Mary Safgren, Community Development Planner

#### ADVISORY COUNCILS/TASK FORCES (As of June 30, 1996)

Advisor

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE REPRESENTING

Robert Olson, Pequot Lakes

#### HEALTH CARE TASK FORCE

Mary Koep, Brainerd Don Thiel, Staples David Jessop, Staples Vacant Vacant

#### COUNCIL ON AGING

Donna Good, Pequot Lakes Gloria Norman, Pine River Donald Vollman, Akeley Richard Ashmun, Merrifield Carolyn Frisch, Brainerd Marvin Lavalla, Royalton Marvin Swecker, Motley Vonda Hedlund, Clarissa George Green, Grey Eagle Lucy Andrie, Wadena Martha Rach, Staples Judy Rian, Brianerd Steve Reger, Little Falls Kathy Ahlf, Menahga

#### FIVE WINGS ARTS COUNCIL

Ted Winkels, Verndale Bette Green, Hackensack Dorothy Harrington, Hackensack Christine Nick, Pequot Lakes Patrick Spradlin, Brainerd Janice Bradshaw, Brainerd Mary Warner, Little Falls DeAnna Gehant, Little Falls Donn Harris, Eagle Bend David Bengston, Long Prairie Vickie Paurus, Sebeka Gail Leverson, Wadena

#### TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

Fred Martin, Akeley Mary Koep, Brainerd Jim Worcester, Walker

## REPRESENTING

Chairperson Region 5 DC Insurance/Risk Mgt. Consumer Rep. Health Care Professional

#### **REPRESENTING**

Chairperson Seniors Public Health Social Services Nutrition

#### REPRESENTING

Chairperson Visual Arts Music Music Theatre Music/Literary Visual Arts Visual Arts Music Literary Arts Music/Drama Visual Arts

#### REPRESENTING

Chairperson Ex-Officio-ATP Co. Hwy. Engineer

#### COUNTY Region 5 DC

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Region 5 DC Cass County Crow Wing County Crow Wing County Crow Wing County Morrison County Morrison County Morrison County Todd County Todd County Wadena County Wadena County

#### COUNTY

Region 5 DC Region 5 Cass County Duane Blanck, Brainerd Jeff Hulsether, Brainerd Steve Backowski, Little Falls Jerry Lochner, Little Falls Duane Lorsung, Long Prairie Vacant Steve Voss, Brainerd Lee Johnson, Nisswa Howard Warnberg, Little Falls Gene Young, Little Falls Jan Roers, Wadena Co. Hwy. Engineer Brainerd Engineer Co. Hwy. Engineer City Services Mgr. Co. Hwy. Engineer

Transportation Airports Railroads Townships Transit Crow Wing County Crow Wing County Morrison County Morrison County Todd County Wadena County MN/DOT Region 5 Region 5 Region 5 Region 5

#### COORDINATION

**REGION 5 LEGISLATIVE MEETINGS**: The Counties of Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena have enlisted the services of Region 5 to coordinate meetings between the five county boards and the area legislators on a regular basis. The purpose of the meetings are to share information and provide input on Region-wide concerns. These services include meeting notices, minutes and forwarding of resolutions and other concerns to state agencies and the legislature.

#### INFORMATIONAL SERVICES

The Region 5 Development Commission is a Regional Information Center for many types of information including but not limited to management and administration, community development, economic development, transportation, health issues, programs for older persons, cultural activities and census data.

The information is available through various methods including a library, a computer modem linking Region 5 with state data banks, referrals and two newsletters published and distributed by Region 5.

#### PROGRAMS FOR OLDER PERSONS

The Minnesota Board on Aging has designated the Region 5 Development Commission as the official Area Agency on Aging for Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena Counties. Three primary roles for the Area Agency on Aging are linking people to information; building community; and promoting prudent stewardship. The main strategy for linking people to information is the Senior Linkage Line. The Area Agency on Aging provides this service directly and is working with the Minnesota Board on Aging to establish statewide standards of practice in the delivery of information and assistance. To guide its activities, the Region 5 Area Agency on Aging has prepared an Area Plan for 1996. Based on the priorities established in this Plan, Table 1 shows the services which are projected for 1996.

	Numbe <u>of Unit</u>		Number of Unduplicated <u>Participants</u>
Congregate Meals Home Delivered Meals	183,200 <u>99,600</u> 282,800	meals meals	7,295 <u>1,625</u> 8,920
Assessment/Screening Homemaking Home Health Aide Advocacy Treatment Transportation Respite Information & Assistance Education/training TOTAL	2,080 11,384 3,864 966 185 1,600 564 600 <u>1,500</u> 22,743	hours hours hours hours one-way trips hours contacts contacts	45 174 69 252 85 325 9 600 <u>1500</u> 3059
Legal Education Legal Cases TOTAL	132 <u>773</u> 845	sessions hours	216 <u>143</u> 359
Frail Elderly	55	contacts	55

#### TABLE 1 - SERVICES PROJECTED FOR 1996

The activities of the Region 5 Area Agency on Aging are guided by a fifteen member Advisory Council on Aging. The Council on Aging is comprised of representatives for older persons and service providers. They develop policies and priorities, recommend action on grant applications and conduct the Annual Conference on Aging.

The Region 5 Development Commission takes final action on major policy decisions, budget approvals, and grant awards. The total project costs for the grants awarded by the Region 5 Development Commission annually amount to approximately \$1.6 million. Table 2 identifies the type of funds used to finance a wide array of services:

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#### TABLE 2 FUNDS DISTRIBUTED IN 1996

SERVICE	FEDERAL <u>FUNDS</u>	STATE FUNDS	COUNTY FUNDS/ IN-KIND	PRIVATE FUNDS/ IN-KIND
Congregate Meals Home Delivered Meals Sub-Total	349,193 <u>131,539</u> 480,732	100,811 <u>12,487</u> 113,298	0 <u>5,500</u> 5,500	413,940 <u>164,000</u> 577,940
Homemaking Home Health Aide Assessment/Screening Treatment Transportation Respite Advocacy Information &	71,135 33,210 17,061 2,410 6,000 4,848 11,336		71,137 33,208 17,060 2,410 4,000 4,848 11,337	23,900 6,500 300 600
Assistance Education/Training Sub-Total	8,000 <u>3,345</u> 157,345		2,000 146,000	<u>1,115</u> 32,415
Legal Education Legal Cases Sub-Total	3,544 <u>15,456</u> 19,000		<u>250</u> 250	3,544 <u>15,456</u> 19,000
Frail Elderly	8,330			2,082
TOTAL	665,407	113,298	151,750	631,437

Several important projects and activities were either initiated or completed throughout the year. The 14th Annual Conference entitled "Humor...Health...and a Grrr..eat Future" was held in Staples. The keynote speaker was Merrilyn Belgum "Queen Mother of Comedy". Other workshop topics included: Coping Skills; Passing on Your Legacy; Protecting Your Future; Grandparents Rights; Outward Boundaries; Personal Safety for Seniors; and Osteoporosis.

Quarterly, the Region 5 Area Agency on Aging draws together the presidents of the County Councils on Aging, County Coordinators on Aging and other appropriate providers. The purpose of these meetings is to share information, coordinate our activities and form another necessary link between the Area Agency on Aging and the individual counties.

#### CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Region 5's Five Wings Arts Program awarded \$64,036 in grant monies in FY96. This amount includes \$9,996 of McKnight Foundation funds for semi-professional arts organizations and \$3,000 for Individual Artist grants. Five Wings also awarded \$51,040 of Minnesota State Arts Board grant funds for sponsorship activities and/or arts development in Region 5. The organizations which received funds are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

#### TABLE 1

#### MINNESOTA STATE ARTS BOARD FUNDS

AGENCY		COUNTY	AMOUNT <u>FUNDED</u>
Todd County Historica Royalton High School All School Reunion Co Todd County Soil & W Wadena County Histo Central Lakes College Stroia Ballet Company Wadena Area Concer Central MN Rural AlD Lindbergh Fresco Pro Sebeka Elementary S Brainerd Area Arts All Great River Arts Asso Brainerd Area Youth O St. Francis Music Cer Walker-Hackensack-A Messiah Community O Long Prairie/Grey Eag Heartland Plays Hole in the Day Playe Heartland Symphony ISD #2170, Staples/M Long Prairie/Grey Eag Deep Portage Conser Mid-MN Resource Ce Clarissa Centennial/R Heartland Plays Little Falls Community Brainerd Area Youth O Wadena/Deer Creek F	omt. ISD #786/Bertha ater Cons. District rical Society Band S Network ect chool ance ciation Orchestra ter keley ISD #113 Chorus le High School rs Orchestra otley le Community Ed. vation Foundation nter eunion Comt. H.S. Choir Orchestra Fine Arts Committee	Todd Morrison Todd Todd Wadena Crow Wing Morrison Wadena Morrison Wadena Crow Wing Morrison Crow Wing Morrison Cass Cass Todd Todd Morrison Crow Wing Todd Todd Todd Cass Wadena Todd Todd Cass Wadena Todd Todd Cass Wadena Crow Wing Wadena Crow Wing Wadena Crow Wing	$\begin{array}{c c} FORDED\\ \$ & 500\\ 200\\ 400\\ 500\\ 1,500\\ 700\\ 1,200\\ 800\\ 1,200\\ 500\\ 1,200\\ 500\\ 1,200\\ 500\\ 1,200\\ 500\\ 2,000\\ 1,500\\ 2,000\\ 800\\ 2,250\\ 700\\ 1,500\\ 2,000\\ 500\\ 500\\ 2,000\\ 500\\ 500\\ 2,000\\ 500\\ 500\\ 2,000\\ 500\\ 500\\ 2,000\\ 500\\ 500\\ 500\\ 500\\ 500\\ 500\\ 500\\$
Lamplighter Communi	ly meatre	Todd	300

SUB-TOTAL MSAB FUNDS

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\$ 31,490

## MN STATE ARTS BOARD FUND (Continued)

AGENCY	COUNTY	AMOUNT FUNDED
SUB-TOTAL FROM PAGE 7 Emily Community Learning Center Bertha-Hewitt ISD #786 Madhatters, Inc. Staples Area Men's Chorus St. Francis Music Center Hole in the Day Players Heritage Festival Concert Comt. Northwoods Arts Council Walker-Hackensack-Akeley Music Dept. Grey Eagle Elementary School Great River Arts Association Winter Wonderland Figure Skating Club Crosslake Art Club The Art Connection Bertha-Hewitt ISD #786 Prairie Days Association Long Prairie/Grey Eagle High School Long Prairie/Grey Eagle High School Long Prairie/Grey Eagle High School Brainerd H.S. Acappella Choir	Crow Wing Todd Wadena Todd Morrison Morrison Todd Cass Cass Todd Morrison Morrison Crow Wing Crow Wing Todd Todd Todd Todd Todd Todd	<ul> <li>\$ 31,490</li> <li>1,500</li> <li>500</li> <li>2,300</li> <li>1,200</li> <li>800</li> <li>700</li> <li>500</li> <li>2,000</li> <li>550</li> <li>800</li> <li>800</li> <li>700</li> <li>300</li> <li>400</li> <li>300</li> <li>400</li> <li>300</li> <li>500</li> <li>450</li> <li>1,500</li> <li>1,500</li> <li>1,000</li> </ul>
Heartland Symphony Orchestra	Crow Wing	1,250

## TOTAL MSAB FUNDS

\$51,040

# TABLE 2MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION FUNDS

AGENCY		AMOUNT FUNDED
Central Lakes College	Crow Wing	\$2,000
ISD #2170 Staples/Motley CAPP	Todd	2,000
Brainerd Area Youth Orchestra	Crow Wing	2,000
St. Francis Music Center	Morrison	296
Eagle Valley CAPP Committee	Todd	1,200
Northwoods Arts Council	Cass	1,000
Heartland Symphony Orchestra	Crow Wing/Morrison	1,500

### TOTAL MCKNIGHT FUNDS

\$9,996

#### MCKNIGHT INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS

APPLICANT	COUNTY AMOUNT FUNDED	
Carlos Stroia	Morrison \$ 150	
Richard Lozier	Morrison 150	
Ramon Rangel	Morrison 300	
Warren Woodworth	Morrison 300	
Raya Hunt	Crow Wing 500	
Stephen Lubovich	Crow Wing 225	
Adelle Erickson	Crow Wing 150	
Sara Hanlon	Crow Wing 300	
Thomas Dunn	Todd 400	
Margaret Werlinger	Todd 225	
Bruce Bellows	Wadena <u>300</u>	

#### TOTAL MCK. INDIVIDUAL ARTIST FUNDS

\$3,000

The Five Wings Arts Program also received funds from the Minnesota Center for Arts Education for an Artist/Mentor Program. In the past year Five Wings was able to provide 10 area students with an opportunity to work one-on-one with a practicing artist in their area of art.

The Five Wings Arts Program staff also provides technical assistance to individuals and groups on such matters as grant writing, availability of funds, arts resources, and other arts project assistance. In addition, Five Wings produces a bi-monthly newsletter which addresses arts concerns, opportunities, and activities throughout the region.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Region 5 provides technical assistance in the areas of land use planning, housing, grant writing including the preparation of small cities development block grants.

Comprehensive plans were completed for the cities of Garrison and Manhattan Beach. A community survey was completed for Thomastown Township.

A survey of Region 5 lenders was conducted to find out what the needs were in the Region regarding housing education. As a result a housing workshop titled, Developing a Community Lending Program was held in cooperation with Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, Rural Development (formerly FmHA) and local lenders, realtors and housing professionals.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The North Central Economic Development Administration, Inc., administrator of the Region 5 Business Loan Fund, approved nine (9) loans totalling \$344,000 for local business development.

Businesses, individuals, development corporations, and local units of government in Region 5 were assisted to structure financial packaging and development strategies to foster business start-up and expansion activity.

The Region 5 Overall Economic Development Plan (OEDP) Annual Report was completed.

Staff presented information on the Region 5 Business Loan Fund and the Region 5 Economic Development Program to several economic development organizations and local units of government.

Staff updated the business financing resource guide and distributed it to local economic development organizations and businesses.

Staff facilitated several Network 5 meetings. Network 5 is a group of economic development practitioners that provide services in Region 5.

Staff is working with the East Central Regional Development Commission, St. Cloud Area Economic Development Partnership and the Technical Colleges to conduct a labor study of the 14 county Central Minnesota Challenge Grant Region.

Staff is exploring options to recapitalize the Revolving Loan Fund.

Staff authored a pre-application for funding assistance through the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to recapitalize the Revolving Loan fund. Region 5 is applying for a \$350,000 grant which was to be matched with \$116,667. Thus far, staff has raised over \$70,000 for the local match.

#### PHYSICAL RESOURCES

Several activities took place during FY 1996 regarding the Transportation Planning Work Program.

The Region 5 Transportation Council continued to monitor regional transportation issues and provide recommendations to the Commission. The Region 5 Transportation Council developed a Regional Transportation Improvement Program as part of the Area Transportation Partnership process. Region 5 also assisted in the review of Enhancement projects in District 3.

Region 5 received a grant from the Central Minnesota Initiative Fund for the development of a regional tourism map. Mn/DOT is assisting in the development of the base map. A final map will be completed in FY 97.

Region 5 continued to monitor Section 5310 transit vehicles. Region 5 completed onsite visits to all Region 5 grantees. A final report for FY 95 was submitted to Mn/DOT Office of Transit. Region 5 continued to provide technical assistance in the area of transit planning.

Region 5 received a Solid Waste Management Grant through the USDA, Rural Utilities Service to implement a waste reduction educational project in the Region 5 counties of Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena. Richardson, Richter and Associates was hired by Region 5 as consultants for this project. The project will consist of workshops and onsite visits for businesses, information packets on waste reduction, a media campaign and county displays.

Census information was provided to businesses, local units of government, organizations and individuals as part of Region 5's responsibilities as a Census Data Affiliate. Region 5 continues to provide information through DATANET, an online service through Minnesota Planning.

Region 5 provided information to local units of government on funding for tree planting projects. Region 5 assisted in the review of ReLeaf projects, which consisted of plantings for energy conservation.

In addition, information was provided on wetlands regulations, solid waste management and water quality.

#### TECHNICAL PLANNING

Planning in the areas of transportation and land use, with transportation planning coordinated through the Transportation Council with an emphasis on township transportation issues, and with Land Use planning geared to technical planning and mapping for townships and small cities such as Land Use Plans, Zoning Ordinances, Land Use Maps, and Community Surveys.

The Township Road Recording Program assists townships in the proper recording of town road easements. A spin-off benefit to townships is the development of improved methods of governing based on Township Association guidelines. Specific projects are completed on a contract basis.

Planning and Zoning Map projects have been completed as requested. Interest in planning and zoning at the township level has created interest in calls for information and advice regarding technical processes used for decision-making on zoning needs.

General cartography service continues to coordinate mapping projects with all other Region 5 program areas.

Our program efforts toward townships are greatly enhanced by the working relationship with the Minnesota Association of Townships. Staff continues to offer consultation to other Regional Development Commissions regarding township issues

and state-wide township programs. In addition, Region 5 staff is coordinating with the Association in developing useful guideline materials as needed for township management.

Staff anticipates holding workshops dealing with Gravel Road Maintenance. Township Planning and Zoning Issues research leading to a potential workshop or Township Land Use Issues is being carried out. Work continues on the development of a Town Road Construction/Maintenance - Re-Construction/Materials Guideline Manual.

ARFY96.ADM/ss

## Region 5 Development Commission Fiscal Year 1997 Budget

05/23/96

Revenue Comparison Current FY96R1 and Proposed FY97			
Revenues	Approved Budget	Proposed Budget	Difference
Technical Assistance	10,000	10,000	0
Local Levy	134,000	153,000	19,000
Interest Income	10,500	10,500	0
In-Kind	9,400	7,800	(1,600)
EDA Planning	54,500	52,000	(2,500)
MN State Arts Board	39,172	42,712	3,540
McKnight Foundation	2,100	2,730	630
MN Board on Aging Administration	93,217	86,828	(6,389)
RECD (Formerly FMHA)	40,768	44,214	3,446
Community Health Services	0	0	0
North Central EDA, Inc.	29,695	34,301	4,606
MN Center for Arts Education	8,750	8,750	0
MN Department of Transportation	37,000	50,000	13,000
Urban Mass Transit Administration	5,795	3,103	(2,692)
East Central RDC (7E) (DTED)	700	0	(700)
Central MN Initiative Fund	2,500	2,500	0
Region 5 I & A Grant (AAA)	4,636	7,009	2,373
Subtotal Program Revenues	482,733	515,447	32,714
Direct Granting Assistance			
Area Agency on Aging	772,150	772,150	0
Five Wings Arts	69,956	59,564	(10,392)
EDA Revolving Loan Fund	0	0	0
Subtotal Granting Assistance	842,106	831,714	(10,392)
TOTAL AGENCY REVENUES	1,324,839	1,347,161	22,322

## **Region 5 Development Commission**

Fiscal Year 1997

05/23/96

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Expenditure Comparison Current FY96R1 and Proposed FY97			
	Approved	Proposed	
Expenditures	Budget	Budget	Difference
Salaries	** 141,485	151,751	10,266
Leave Allocation @ 17.57%	** 24,853	26,656	1,803
Total Salaries & Leave	*** 166,338	178,407	12,069
Fringe Benefits @ 28.22%	42,050	50,353	8,303
Subtotal Personnel	208,388	228,760	20,372
Compensatory Time	12,609	12,640	31
Commission Benefits	1,308	1,308	0
Consultants/Mentor/etc.	24,000	32,250	8,250
Staff Travel	20,748	21,010	262
Consultant Travel	2,061	1,950	(111)
Commission Travel	8,750	8,750	0
Commission Per Diem	13,250	13,250	0
Council Travel	4,595	4,525	(70)
Reproduction and Printing	7,673	11,435	3,762
Telephone	1,250	1,250	0
Rent	6,158	7,057	899
Staff Car Usage	2,200	2,000	(200)
Postage	1,326	1,250	(76)
Supplies	1,225	1,325	100
Insurance - Office	3,644	3,644	0
Equipment	10,625	5,000	(5,625)
Maintenance - Equipment	645	645	0
Books, Reports & Memberships	2,617	2,817	200
Workshops/Conferences	6,700	7,700	1,000
Miscellaneous Expense	2,608	4,803	2,195
Subtotal Direct Costs	342,380	373,369	30,989
In-Kind	9,400	7,800	(1,600)
Total Direct Costs	351,780	381,169	29,389
Indirect Costs @ 59.62%	153,133	137,283	(15,850)
TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS	504,913	518,452	13,539
Direct Granting Assistance		* *	
Area Agency on Aging	772,150	772,150	0
Five Wings Arts Program	69,956	59,564	(10,392)
EDA Revolving Loan Fund	0	0	0
Subtotal Granting Assistance	842,106	831,714	(10,392)
TOTAL R5 AGENCY BUDGET	1,347,019	1,350,166	3,147
Excess Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(22,180)	(3,005)	19,175
Fund Balance Actual 7/1/95 & Proj 7/1/96	173,506	151,326	(22,180)
Fund Balance Projected 6/30/96 & 6/30/97	151,326	148,321	(3,005)

\*\* As Leave Budgeting is a new format, the portion of the FY96 budget which

would be leave has been estimated for comparison purposes.

\*\*\* Equals Salaries budget from FY96R1

## Beinhorn & Company, Ltd.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

#### Independent Auditor's Report

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL STRUCTURE BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Commission Members Region 5 Development Commission Staples, MN 56479

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of Region 5 Development Commission as of and for the year ended June 30, 1995, and have issued our report thereon dated January 9, 1996.

We have conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the provisions of Office of Management and Budget Circular A-128 "Audits of State and Local Governments". Those standards and OMB Circular A-128 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement.

The management of Region 5 Development Commission is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgements by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control structure policies and procedures. The objectives of an internal control structure are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Because of inherent limitations in any internal control structure, errors or irregularities may nevertheless occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of the structure to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of the design and operation of policies and procedures may deteriorate.

In planning and performing our audit of the general purpose financial statements of Region 5 Development Commission for the year ended June 30, 1995, we obtained an understanding of the internal control structure. With respect to the internal control structure, we obtained an understanding of the design of relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation,

and we assessed control risk in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the general purpose financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control structure. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

We noted certain matters involving the internal control structure and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in our judgement, could adversely affect the Commission's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the general purpose financial statements.

#### SEGREGATION OF DUTIES

<u>Criteria</u> - Good internal controls are essential to achieving the proper conduct of government business with full accountability for the resources made available. These controls also facilitate the achievement of management objectives by serving as checks and balances against undesired actions. An entity's internal control structure consists of the policies and procedures established to provide reasonable assurance that specific entity objectives will be achieved.

<u>Condition</u> - The entity's internal control structure lacks a proper segregation of duties.

<u>Effect</u> - Accounting functions that are not compatible (i.e.: th person reconciling bank statements should not be the same person that writes checks, makes deposits, or posts to the journals and ledgers) are performed under one persons immediate control.

<u>Cause</u> - The size of the entity does not justify the cost that would be required to implement controls that would allow for proper segregation of duties.

<u>Recommendation</u> - The Commission members should be aware that the condition does exist and that it is not cost justifiable to correct it. As such, ongoing interaction with management and reviewing monthly transactions should be standard procedure.

<u>The Entity's Response</u> - The Region 5 Commission and management understand the conditions and the fact that the cost to correct it outweighs the benefits. They will continue to interact regularly and the Board of Directors and Commission will continue to review monthly transactions.

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or irregularities in amounts that would be material in relation to the general purpose financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Our consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might be reportable conditions and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also, considered to be material weaknesses as defined above. However, we believe none of the reportable condition described above is a material weakness.

This report is intended for the information of the Commission, the Commission's management, and the federal and state funding agencies. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

Beinl & Congany, Sid.

January 9, 1996