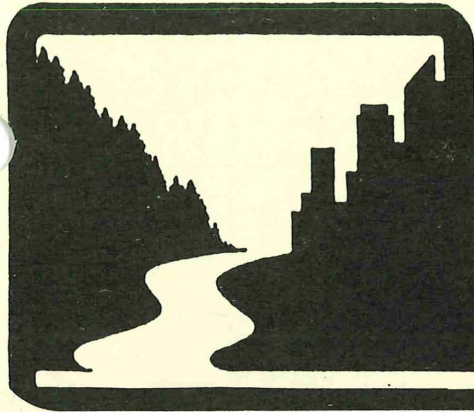




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EAST CENTRAL

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

ANNUAL REPORT

AUGUST 1, 1997

COMMISSION HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING ADOPTS BUDGET & WORK PROGRAM ELECTS OFFICERS

During the afternoon of June 23 members, staff and guests of the East Central Regional Development Commission (EC RDC) gathered at the Springbrook Golf Course Club House in Mora for the annual business meeting and banquet. Following a public hearing the EC RDC adopted a budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1st totalling more than \$1.4 million. The budget includes funds to support services provided to the region's elderly by the area agency on aging, resources to be provided through the East Central Arts Council program, transportation planning and technical assistance, as well as resources to be provided through the commission's community and economic development programs. Commission officer elections were also held and, following county caucuses, appointments were made to the commission's personnel and budget committee. Guests in attendance included advisory committee members, legislators and others. During the meeting Lenore ("Cookie") Karash, chair of the East Central Arts Council, presented

Nora Holt, who had recently resigned as commission liaison to the arts council, with a plaque commending Nora for her support and interest in the arts council and its programs. Wally Goldsmith, EC RDC member from Kanabec County, replaces Nora as commission liaison to the arts council.



Turn to page 2 to see the ECRDC Membership and Legislative guests who attended the Annual Meeting.

Commission Officers elected for the next fiscal year are:
(L-R) Nora Holt, Secretary/Treasurer, Dick Jackson, Vice-Chairman and Laurence Collin, Chairman.

Annual Meeting Continued...

EC RDC Membership

ISANTI COUNTY



(L-R)
Clell Bone, George Larson, Melvin Larson, Laurence Collin,
Phil Rodriguez

MILLE LACS COUNTY



(L-R standing)
Steven Long, Ross Kutil (temp. for Art McMullen)
Dick Jackson, Edie Brady

KANABEC COUNTY



(L-R)
Pat Fredrick, Bill Hallstrom, Ralph Voge, Dick Nehring.

PINE COUNTY



(L-R)
Frank Skaff, Frank Grundmeier, Bill Jokela & (not pictured)
Irene Sandell.

CHISAGO COUNTY (not pictured)

Tom Delaney, Nora Holt, Gene Olson, Evelyn Lindh (to be appointed 8/25).



Representative Rostberg

TRANSPORTATION EDUCATION TIF STADIUM WELFORM REFORM



Senator Stevens

Legislators talked with commission members and guests about their positions on bills and issues that came before the 1997 Legislative session, as well as what they believe were accomplishments and shortcomings of the session. Both legislators also noted their support of action by the legislature reaffirming the importance of RDC's through passage of the Regional Development Act of 1997.

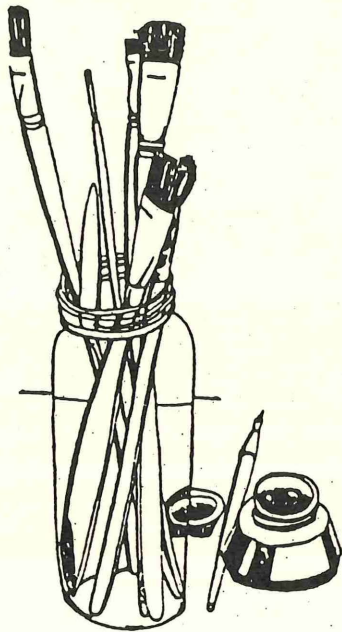


Image '97

The 11th East Central Regional Art Exhibition

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, October 17, 18, 19

Trailview Middle School, Mora
Hosted by the Kanabec County Art Association

Call for Entries



(L-R) Commission Member Nora Holt,
Arts Council Chair Cookie Karash,
Staffer Mary Minnick-Daniels.



Chairman Collin (seated right) visits with
long-time acquaintance Gordon Heitke,
Cambridge City Administrator.
Also seated are ECRDC staffers Nancy
Hoffman & Bob Bollenbeck.

ECRDC...24 YEARS OF SERVICE TO UNITS OF GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENS OF EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA

ECRDC STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

Roger J. Ames, Executive Director
Dorothy Jones, Controller/Administrative Assistant
Trish Rydlund, Secretary/Census Data Center Manager
Jane Anderson, Secretary, Receptionist

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Herman Bakker, Director

EAST CENTRAL ARTS COUNCIL

Mary Minnick-Daniels, Arts Program Manager
Michelle Carlson, Arts Program Assistant

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING/TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

Bob Bollenbeck Senior Planner

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Nancy Hoffman, Senior Planner
Mary Minnick-Daniels, Community Development Planner

ANNUAL REPORT

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Year Ending June 30, 1997

	<u>FY 1997 ADOPTED BUDGET</u>	<u>FY 1997 ACTUAL UNAUDITED</u>	<u>FY 1998 ESTIMATED BUDGET</u>
REVENUES:			
Taxes	\$ 158,653	\$ 161,532	\$ 158,653
MN Board on Aging (includes pass-through funds)	544,157	604,173	602,490
EDA	50,750	51,769	51,000
State Arts Board (includes pass-through funds)	84,513	84,513	143,708
State Transportation	37,000	37,000	50,000
RLF/IRP-County/Local Support	38,750	22,500	85,000
RLF/IRP-Federal	85,555	4,608	212,686
RLF/IRP-Interest/Fees	22,259	23,088	26,200
RLF/IRP-Repayments	30,695	107,243	42,314
Contracts for Services	10,000	6,000	15,000
Interest/Other	11,870	12,256	8,900
McKnight Foundation	26,417	26,407	20,000
Transit	2,200	2,200	2,622
Blueprint-State/PTC/CMIF	18,751	18,751	7,830
MN/DOT-Scenic Byways	7,200	4,049	0
Registrations	860	860	0
TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,129,630	\$1,166,949	\$1,426,403
EXPENDITURES:			
Personnel	\$ 198,904	\$ 199,004	\$ 249,915
Fringe	43,321	42,219	55,418
Telephone	5,050	4,430	6,000
Postage	8,850	7,705	9,400
Misc. Legal	380	701	0
Printing/Publications	7,021	5,881	7,200
Copying	3,000	1,611	3,000
Audit	8,500	8,500	9,500
Vehicle Expense	2,000	1,183	2,500
Insurance/Bonds	5,100	5,129	5,300
Office Supplies	4,500	4,369	4,000
Maintenance of Equipment	500	210	500
Staff Travel	14,377	13,244	16,200
Registration/Conference Fees	2,900	1,817	3,200
Legal Notices/Advertising	100	111	100
Miscellaneous	4,012	3,881	2,550
Rent	15,333	15,036	16,224
Service/Tech. Consultants	4,000	3,850	2,850
Advisory Committee	6,000	6,308	6,600
Commissioner's Expense	10,000	8,858	10,000
Membership/Subscriptions	6,300	6,108	6,800
Annual Meetings	1,250	855	1,250
Capital Outlays-Equipment	9,662	9,188	9,000
Lease of Equip-Copier/Computers	6,718	6,718	3,900
Lease-Car	4,390	4,390	4,390
Recruitment	1,500	1,684	500
Aging Conference	1,000	842	0
Contracted Services	32,960	32,508	5,488
RLF-Attorney/Filing Fees	500	905	2,000
IRP/RLF Loans	155,000	90,000	340,000
Aging - Pass-thru Grants	481,140	543,430	533,644
Arts - Pass-thru Grants	57,535	58,750	89,637
Labor Study	19,896	19,896	0
RLF Miscellaneous	0	2,405	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,121,699	\$1,111,726	\$1,407,066
Excess of Revenues over Exp.	7,931	55,223	19,337
Prior Fund Balance/Deficit	14,882	14,882	22,813
Fund Balance	\$ 22,813	\$ 70,105	\$ 42,150

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FY97

Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

The EC RDC serves as the designated AAA for the five counties included in Region 7E. The program is served by an active advisory committee which is directly involved in the identification of needs of the older population, development of an area plan to meet those needs, and the grant-making and evaluation process. During the past year the AAA became involved with changing to a contract basis of providing funds for services as opposed to grants for some kinds of services. During 1997 a total of \$443,272 in federal and state funds were approved for twelve contracts/grants. Additionally, local funds were provided to meet match requirements. Services funded included congregate and home delivered meals, transportation, hospice and legal services, to name a few.

Transportation Planning and Technical Assistance

The ECRDC and its transportation advisory committee (TAC) continued to play a critical role in transportation planning during FY97. Staff, commission members and TAC members worked with MN/Dot and area-wide transportation partnerships (ATPs) in the solicitation and prioritization of needed projects within the region. The result was inclusion of Region 7E projects totalling more than \$27 million in federal funds for projects included in the 1998-2000 State-wide Transportation Improvement Program of MN/Dot. The transportation planning section of the EC RDC is expected to continue to be very important in FY98, as evidenced by increased funding by MN/Dot.

Community and Economic Development

During FY97 the EC RDC continued to operate its EDA funded revolving loan fund. To date a total of fifteen loans have been made to businesses and manufacturing firms within the region. More than \$1 million in private investment has been leveraged for projects that have created 95 jobs within the region. During 1997 the commission submitted an application to the United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD) requesting \$1 million to establish an intermediary relending program. The application was approved and during the upcoming year the commission expects to expand its RLF program to serve all five counties within the region. Other activities carried out through the community and economic development program included co-sponsorship of a regional forum with Congressman Oberstar, other agencies concerned with economic development, educators, local elected officials and others. The conference, named "Shared Prosperity Alliance", brought together individuals with varied backgrounds and interests to look at needs of the region, its strengths and weaknesses relative to economic growth. An "Alliance" of agencies and individuals grew out of the conference and continued meetings are held to develop strategies to promote the region. Technical planning and grantsmanship services also continued to be provided to local units of government, business and industries pertaining to growth and development.

East Central Arts Council Program (ECAC)

Fiscal year 1997 was an exciting year for the ECAC. Staff support was increased to enable more involvement of the ECAC in program development with the addition of Mary Minnick-Daniels to EC RDC staff. Along with this, a 47% increase in funding for the arts was approved by the legislature and signed into law by Governor Arnie Carlson. As a result, nearly \$144,000 will become available for programs of the ECAC during Fiscal Year 1998, up from \$78,000 for FY97. During the past fiscal year 32 arts organizations were provided grants to carry out various arts activities. Additionally, \$7,000 in McKnight Foundation Funds were awarded to individual artists and eleven scholarships were provided to K-12 children.

REGION 7E

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EC RDC COMMITTEE/COUNCIL MEMBERS

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ON AGING

Lorene Anderson
Vivian Bordwell
Edie Brady
Leroy Browen
Dorothy Hanson
Dick Jackson
Alice Jaloszynski
Jack L'Heureux
George Larson
Art McMullen
Steve Moss
Lolita Paquette
Irene Peno
Heidi Schmidt
Roger Sellman
Erv Skaar
Connie Strandberg
Fran Strodman
Wendy Thompson
Robert Walz

EAST CENTRAL ARTS

COUNCIL

Robert Briscoe
Jerelyn Delak
Linda Evans
Wally Goldsmith
Pam Jambeck
Lenore "Cookie" Karash
Sara Longworth-Koehn
Patrice Lindstrom
Rosemary Riskin
Beverly Robinson
Rebecca Utecht

OEDP/RLF LOAN COMMITTEE

Dennis Cunningham
Milan DeWitt
Wesley Geurkink
Arleen Heins
Greg Hohlen
Dick Jackson
Tom Lambrecht
John Sparling

TRANSPORATION ADV.

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Ralph Bloomgren
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