

ANNUAL REPORT
1982



EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

HT 393 .M62 E18ax 1982



Serving Local Governments in Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Pine Counties

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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Full Commission

GLORIA HABECK, CHAIRMAN

Chisago County

Sheldon Porter Loren Jennings Barry Blomquist

Isanti County

Ray Stoeckel, Vice-Chmn. Lynn Becklin Ralph Bloomgren Laurence Collin David Dahlquist

Kanabec County

Lucille Schultz Dick Longworth Robert H. Anderson Bill Miller

Mille Lacs County

Gloria Habeck, Chrm. Kenneth Trimble Andrew Holzemer Owen Bass

Pine County

James Youngbauer James Tuttle Keith Selleck Wayne White Charles R. Matson

Executive Director Michael Sobota

This past year has been a particularly satisfying one for me. Sig E. Stene, Sec. Treas. I feel the Commission has accomplished many objectives that directly and indirectly benefit the local governments and constituents in east central Minnesota. I would like to give an overview of what I feel some of those accomplishments have been.

> The issues we, as local officials, must make decisions on are tough issues. The assistance provided by the Commission to our local units of government has grown in quality and quantity over this past year. This has helped the local units of government do a better job of managing their own resources. The assistance provided by the EC RDC has also helped our local officials cooperate more to solve common problems. Counties, cities, townships and school districts are facing new financial realities in providing governmental services. We, as local elected officials, are able to share ideas and develop relationships through the regional commission to help us do a better job in these difficult times.

The Commission members representing the various local units of government have been called upon to provide leadership and direction to the work of the EC RDC. I personally feel that the Board Members have done an outstanding job of contributing to the strength of the EC RDC. The over 100 advisory committee members on the Commission's 8 advisory committees have provided invaluable insight and recommendations to the EC RDC Board. A big "thank you" is in order to all who have participated in the EC RDC programs. This past year has been very successful and I look forward to this coming year.

This & Habeck

This report covers the period July 1, 1981 - June 30, 1982 and is submittted in accordance with MN Statutes 462.393 to the Minnesota Legislature.

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

TERM OF OFFICE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	SEX	RACL	REPRESENT/OCCUPATION
1/82 - 1/83	Robert H. Anderson (B&P)	600 McLean Mora, MN 55051	679-2571	М	W	Public Interests/ Insurance
9/79 - 6/83	Owen Baas	Pease, MN 56363	369-4197H 389-5851W	М	W	Public Interests/ Auto Salo Service-Private Business
7/81 - 3/83	Charles R. Matson	Rt. 1 Sandstone, MN 55072	245-2853	M	W	School Districts/ Finlayson Farmer
12/78 - 6/83	Barry Blomquist	726 Elm North Branch, MN 55056	674-4813W 674-7428H	М	W	Public Interests/Attorney at Law
1/81 - 12/82	Ralph Bloomgren	Route #1, Box 294 Cambridge, MN 55008	689-2198	М	W	County Board Commissioner/ Farmer
12/78 - 6/83	Laurence Collin	Rt. 2 Isanti, MN 55040	742-5650	М	W	Public Interests/Farmer
3/82 - 12/82	Lynn Becklin	615 S. Dellwood Cambridge, NN 55008	689-4494H 689-3774W	M	W	Municipalities/Small Bus. Furniture Store
12/78 - 12/82	Gloria Habeck (B&P) Chairman	Rt. 1, Box 140 Isle, MN 56342	676-8773	F	W	County Board Commissioner/ Homemaker, Farm Management
6/79 - 3/83	Andrew Holzemer	Rt. 1 Onamia, MN 56359	532-3296H 532-3137W	M	W	Townships/Forester, DNR
1/81 - 12/82	Loren Jennings	Rush City, MN 55069	358-4063	М	W	County Commissioner/Small Business
1/81 - 12/82	Dick Longworth	121 Villa Drive Mora, MN 55051	679-4677H 679-4114W		, W	County Board Commissioner/ Realtor
1/82 - 12/84	Bill Miller	Box 32. Grasston MN 55030	396-3681	М	W	Municipalities/Self Employ Contractor
5/79 - 3/83	Sheldon Porter	Rt. 2 Stanchfield, MN 55080	689-1088	M	W.	Townships/Store Owner Small Business
6/81 - 3/83	Lucille Schultz	Rt. 2 Mora, MN 55051			W	Townships/ Farmer Small Business
8/79 - 12/82	Keith Selleck	815 N. 2nd Ave. Pine City, MN 55063	629-2982	М	W	Municipalities-Mayor/ Retired
7/81 - 3/83	David Dahlquist	401 W. Central Dr. Braham, NN 55006			W	School Districts/ Braham Pine City AVTI Vocational Agricultural In
1/81 - 12/82	Sig E. Stene Sec./Treasurer	Lindstrom, MN 55045			W.	Municipalities-Mayor/ School Superintendent
1/76 - 3/83	Ray Stoeckel Vice-Chairman	Rt. 1 Zimmerman, MN 55398	856-2096	М	W	Townships/Farmer
1/81 - 1/83	Kenneth Trimble	630 - 2nd Ave. So. Milaca, MN 56353			W	Municipalities-Mayor/ State Gov't-Dept. of Rev.
12/78 - 3/83	James Tuttle	Rt. 1, Box 138 Willow River, MN 55795	838-3576	М	W	Townships/Farmer
2/82 - 2/83	Wayne White	Grasston, MN 55030	396-2137	м	W	Public Interests/Farmer
12/78 - 12/82	James Youngbauer	Rt. 2 Pine City, MN 55063	629-2332	M	W	County Commissioner/ Farmer
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OFFICERS

Chairman Gloria Habeck Vice-Chairman Ray Stockel Sec./Treasurer Sig Stone Exec. Director Michael Sobota Dec. 22, 1980 - June 27, 1983 June 30, 1980 - June 27, 1983 March 22, 1982 - June 27, 1983 July 28, 1980 - Indefinite

COMMISSION MEMBERS TERMINATED DURING FY 82

	Term of Office		
	From	To	
Robert Mork	8/79	12,81	
Phil Gelhorn	12/78	3/82	

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION STAFF

Michael Sobota
Roger Ames
Tom Foley
Patrick Connoy
Gordon Heitke
Phil Schroeder
Kae Schroyer
Dorothy Anderson
Doreen Holland
Arliss Krawiecki

Executive Director
Human Services Planning Director
Housing/Transportation Planner
Economic Development Planner
Natural Resources Planner
Arts/Developmental Disabilities Planner
Human Services Program Planner
Human Services Program Assistant/Secretary
Bookkeeper/Secretary
Office Manager/Secretary

EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

HISTORY AND ORGANIZATION

The East Central Region encompasses an area of 3,450 square miles and had a 1980 population of 99,779 persons distributed throughout 5 counties, 40 cities, 88 townships, 18 school districts, and 10 special districts, for a total of 161 political subdivisions. Having grown by 31% since 1970, the East Central Region is the fastest growing region in the State.

The EC RDC is an organization made up of and controlled by local elected officials and provides a mechanism for united intergovernmental planning, policy-making, and action. It is a single agency which represents and serves the five counties through assessing needs, planning to meet those needs and setting priorities for the growth and development in the East Central Region.

The EC RDC normally meets on the fourth Monday of every month at 7:00 P.M. at its offices located in Mora at 119 South Lake Street. In 1982, the EC RDC held a regular monthly meeting at least once in the other four counties in an attempt to be more accessible to the region's citizens and elected officials.

PURPOSE AND ROLE

The purpose of the EC RDC is to serve as a forum wherein local government, public and private interests and citizens can come together to plan for the orderly economic, social, physical and governmental development of the region through:

- 1. Establishing goals, policies, and strategies which identify desired conditions for citizens living in the Region.
- 2. Coordinating the public and private sectors designed to avoid unnecessary duplication and improve the effectiveness of public programs.
- 3. Developing a research center for data collection, storage and information distribution for use by local governments and citizens.
- 4. Combining and decentralizing certain State and Federal programs for multi-county planning into a single regional organization so as to eliminate duplication, achieve economies of scale and to increase local decision-making capabilities.
- 5. Providing technical and management assistance to local units of government in the conduct of local planning and grantsmanship activities.
- Supporting local, state or federal plans, policies, or programs which are consistent with EC RDC goals, policies and plans.

ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

REGIONAL PLANNING

The EC RDC serves as the comprehensive regional planning agency for the five counties of East Central Minnesota. A Comprehensive Development Plan for the Region was adopted in 1980. The Plan serves as the foundation for commission work activities.

The Comprehensive Regional Growth and Development Policy Plan:

- 1. Identifies local and regional problems and priorities and the organizations having responsibility for taking actions necessary to address these problems and priorities.
- 2. Establishes policy guides for use by the EC RDC and other organizations in both general and specific planning projects.
- 3. Guides EC RDC decisions when it reviews grant applications for State and Federal funding and when it reviews plans proposed for adoption by local units of government or independent boards, agencies and commissions.
- 4. Establishes funding priorities and allocation systems for use by State and Federal agencies when they make final decisions on grant applications.
- 5. Identifies areas within the region which are experiencing rapid growth and development, and specific strategies for use in managing this growth and development.
- 6. Provide a reference source and policy guide for investment and development decisions of the public and private sectors.
- 7. Enhance local elected officials and public monitoring of how effective certain programs are in meeting local needs and and problems.
- 8. Identify legislative issues related to the region for our State and Federal elected officials.

PLANS, REPORTS, STUDIES & WORKSHOPS

During 1982, the EC RDC published several plans, reports and studies. The Commission also held workshops for local officials on various issues and programs. Listed below is a synopsis of each.

Regional Capital Improvements Plan

The plan adopted in October 1981 contains an inventory of all proposed capital improvements being considered by local units of government for State and Federal financial assistance. The plan identifies factors and priorities for the proposed projects. The plan is intended to be used by having elected officials in East Central Minnesota identify their own priorities for State and Federal Capital Investment Programs.

Solid Waste Management Report

The Commission completed a study of the five county area on solid waste management. The Report recommends specific strategies to county boards for reducing the dependence on sanitary landfills for disposal of solid wastes. Commission staff will provide follow-up assistance to counties during the next year to implement the specific recommendations.

Comprehensive Plan Review Manual

In April 1982, the Commission adopted the manual to serve as a technical assistance and review guide for local units of government comprehensive plans. The EC RDC is responsible for reviewing all plans of local governments and special districts. The review manual identifies commission policies and methodologies of reviewing these plans. The document also provides local governments with an outline of what elements should be considered in their comprehensive plans.

Small Business Administration (SBA) 503 Application

The Commission helped establish the Eastern Minnesota Economic Corporation, a non-profit organization. The Corporation is seeking certification by the SBA for the five counties under the 503 business loan program. The EC RDC wrote the application to SBA at the request of the Corporation.

1982 Area Plan for Aging

The Plan outlines needs and funding priorities for services to the elderly. Contained in the plan are specific goals and priorities for Older American's Act funds. The plan was put together by local officials and citizens from all counties in East Central Minnesota.

Consumers Guide to Long Term Care

The Commission published this guide to enable the elderly and their families to become aware of the services offered and options available for long term care.

Special Report on Congregate Nutrition Site Utility Costs

This report is aimed at researching ways of reducing costs at congregate dining facilities.

Bremen Township Comprehensive Plan & Zøning Ordinance

The plan and ordinance were adopted by Bremen Township to control the growth in this Pine County jurisdiction.

City of Braham Growth Management System

The document adopted by the City includes a Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations.

City of Pine City Draft Growth Management System

The Commission is working with the City Council & Planning Commission towards adoption of a Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations and a Capital Improvements Program.

Directory of Subsidized Rental Housing in East Central Minnesota

(5th Edition) - The directory has been updated to list all subsidized rental housing in Region 7E as of August 1, 1981. The report is designed for use by housing authorities and human service agencies to aid people on limited incomes in locating decent housing at a modest rent.

Ranking of State Highway Improvements

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended a set of priorities for investing state highway funds in the East Central Region over the next twenty years. Citizens have asked that the priorities be revised before they are adopted by the East Central Regional Development Commission. Adoption of the rankings is expected in the Fall of 1982.

RECYCLE - A poster-sized directory of recycling and redemption centers in or near east central Minnesota was prepared. The poster has been distributed to local groups and individuals who are interested in promoting the recycling of discarded materials such as paper, glass, aluminum cans and clothing.

Training Conference on Aging

The Commission sponsored this Conference in October of 1981 to promote more understanding of the needs of elderly pepole. The Conference was attended by elected officials, service providers and citizens.

Seminar on Development Finance in the 80's

The Commission developed a day long seminar on local development finance. Local government staff and elected officials attended the seminar.

Parks & Recreation Grant Workshop

Commission staff held a workshop in May 1982 to assist nine communities in the region develop parks and recreation grant applications.

Shared Services Survey

The Commission surveyed all 40 cities to identify joint projects that cities facing strained budgets could implement. Counties and school districts will be surveyed this next year.

Newsletters & Public Information

The Commission published 10 regional reports and 2 special reports to keep local officials current on development activities in the Region.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

About 25% of the EC RDC's staff time went towards providing technical assistance to local governments, agencies, and citizens in the Region. This assistance falls into three categories and is only available when requested.

Planning

Involves working with local planning commissions, councils and boards in preparing comprehensive plans, economic development plans, zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations and capital improvement programs to better enable local officials to deal with their future growth and development.

Grantsmanship

Involves writing grant applications, providing information or conducting workshops which lead to the submission of a grant application.

Over \$1,000,000 has been awarded to local governments in the past year which can be directly attributed to EC RDC staff grantsmanship assistance. "The EC RDC maintains close working relationships with funding agencies and local governments to target specific assistance to specific needs."

Special Projects

EC RDC staff has the expertise to carry out various special studies. During 1982, the EC RDC assisted Rural Ventures, Inc. develop a Small Farm Commercial Vegetable Growing Project. The project trained and assisted 21 farmers to grow cauliflower, broccoli and cabbage commercially during the summer of 1982. The Commission also assisted the City of Lindstrom with the review of a major subdivision, the City of Mora establish a Commercial/Industrial Development Commission, and the City of Foreston adminster a Housing Rehabilitation Program. Other projects were completed during the last year that directly enable local governments to better manage their own resources.

HUMAN RESOURCE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

EAST CENTRAL ARTS COUNCIL

An advisory committee to the East Central Regional Development Commission, the East Central Arts Council provides services to local arts organizations and artists, reviews proposals requesting funds for local/regional arts activities, and participates in direct programming efforts that encourage the growth and development of the arts in East Central Minnesota. The Council encourages local grass roots organizations to develop the cultural resources of their area.

In the last year, the Arts Council and RDC approved 17 arts development grants for a total of \$16,162.00. Projects funded included: An art fair and school residency in Pine City; a series of art lectures and demonstrations in Cambridge; a keyboard workshop in Mora; performances by Storytalers, the Childrens' Theatre, Dudley Riggs, Chimera Theatre, St. Paul History Theatre, St. Paul Barbershop Chorus, and the East Central Jazz Ensemble; an artist residency in Milaca; history theatre workshops and productions in Center City; and community theatre productions in Braham and Princeton.

The Arts Council has continued publishing the <u>East Central Arts</u> <u>Quarterly</u>. The Arts Quarterly is an eight page newsletter which contains information on the Arts Council's and other programs, profiles artists in the Region, highlights resources available to artists and arts organizations, and covers unique and significant projects in the east central area.

The Arts Council received a grant from the McKnight Foundation of Minneapolis. The funds were awarded for three main purposes:

1) to expand the Council's current programs in communication;

2) to assist the Council in long range planning, and 3) to have additional grants money available to high quality, regionally significant arts organizations. With the assistance of the McKnight grant, the Arts Council published a directory of regional artists.

The Council is also continuing its "Arts Showcase Program" which gives local artists the opportunity to participate in arts activities in their home or area communities. This past year, the arts were "showcased" in Cambridge, Mora, Sandstone and Milaca.

Arts Council Members Include: Margaret Fait, Chairperson; Gloria Habeck, Jay Andersen, Pat Becker, Ian Dudley, Maurice Boudreau, Val Arrowsmith, Donna Olson, Mildred Wahlstrom, Lloyd Hackl and Doug Davis.

REGION VII AREA AGENCY ON AGING

During December of 1981, the U.S. Congress reaffirmed its strong support for "a program that works" by extending the Older American's Act for three years, while at the same time rejecting administration attempts to reshape major parts of the act, which is the only Federal legislation focused solely on providing services for America's elderly population. The EC RDC has responsibility for planning, coordinating and assisting in funding of needed services for older people residing within Region 7E and 7W.

Since becoming an Area Agency on Aging, the EC RDC, based on the work and recommendations of its advisory committee, has updated the Areawide Plan for aging twice. In 1980, a three year (1981-83) Areawide Plan was developed and amended during 1982. Under these Plans, the AAA has had available a total of \$2,454,285 in state and federal funds which has been made available to local units of government, agencies and organizations to provide services identified in the Areawide Plan as priority needs of older persons in Region VII. In addition to these funds, the AAA has approved projects to develop senior centers utilizing funds made available by the McKnight Foundation.

RESULTS - Any program must ultimately be judged on the basis of its impact on the region's population. The EC RDC Advisory Council on Aging believes the Area Agency on Aging (RDC) has accomplished some tangible results for the area, namely: 1) allows local elected officials and consumers of services the opportunity to identify their own needs and expend funds according to local policies, 2) allows local consumers of services the opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of services in a meaningful way. As a result of Area Agency on Aging activities, older consumers and policy makers have been directly involved in planning and funding projects which currently serve more than 10,000 older persons providing services which might not have otherwise been possible. These include needed transportation services, legal services, in-home and community health services, nutrition services and health education services. In the past year, over 195,000 nutritious meals have been served to elderly persons through congregate and home delivered programs. Over 2,000 older persons have been served by other projects funded by the EC RDC, including legal services, transportation, home/health care and counciling.

Members of the EC RDC Aging Advisory Committee are: Clifford Anderson, A.A. Richner (Tony), Trudy Swedberg, Grace Palm, Lyle Hancock, Fred Wahlstrom (Chairperson), Ray Cash, S.R. Sonnichsen (Sidney), Ruth Nash, Pearl Olesen, Madeline Miller, Richard Ebnet, Stephen Olson, Elaine Lucht, Janice Usher, Connie Strandberg, Clara Marihart, Charles Cluka, and Keith Selleck.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Developmental Disabilities (D.D.) Advisory Committee designs and implements activities which meet the technical assistance, public information and coordination needs of agencies and consumer organizations which are involved in the delivery of services to persons with developmental disabilities in the East Central Region. During 1982, the program had a successful year implementing its objectives.

A developmental disability is a chronic mental or physical disability of a person which is likely to continue indefinitely and result in substantial functional limitations in at least three of the following areas of major life activity: self-care; speech; learning; mobility; self-direction; capacity for independent living; and economic sufficiency.

- In partnership with school districts included in the Rum River Cooperative, the D.D. Committee implemented a program to educate elementary students about various disabilities. Over 2,500 children have seen the program.
- o The Committee and staff have assembled information files, a service inventory, and a resource library pertaining to developmental disabilities. They also are distributing the State DD Program's "Policy Analysis Series" reports.
- o In their efforts to improve cooperation among advocacy groups and service providers, the Committee convened a special meeting with the Kanabec County Association of Retarded Citizens and is represented on the Cambridge State Hospital Advisory Committee, the State Council for the Handicapped and the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities.
- By providing technical assistance and through A-95 review and comment, the DD Committee assisted in the development of two group homes, respite projects in Isanti and Chisago Counties and responded to other requests for assistance in keeping DD persons in the community as opposed to state institutions.
- Staff completed a survey of staffing levels in DACs and group homes to assist the State DD Program in developing staff training and educational opportunities for those working in community settings.
- D.D. Committee Members Include: Richard Revak, Chairman; Marlys Revak, Bruce and Sandi Bohaty, Jerry Wedlund, Margaret Lindquist, Fred Hoffman, Betty Scharn, Ruby Wicklund, Yvonne Lind, and Alan Olson.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Providing affordable housing and correcting deficient public facilities are the major concerns of the Community Development Advisory Committee.

The East Central Regional Development Commission adopted its first Regional Capital Improvement Program on October 26, 1981 based on recommendations of the Community Development Advisory Committee. The adopted report will provide local officials and citizens with increased influence on decisions concerning the award of state and federal financial assistance.

In the future, the Regional Capital Improvement Program will be used to assist local governments in performing an analysis of local fiscal capacity to finance necessary capital improvements including the impact of various financing methods on the public.

Since adoption of the Regional Capital Improvement Program, a number of capital improvement projects have been funded. The city hall/fire hall complex for the City of Isanti was funded by the Farmers Home Administration through a \$428,000 loan. This project received the highest regional ranking and will benefit the City of Isanti and six surrounding townships by providing improved fire protection service. Another loan of \$100,000 was made by the Farmers Home Administration to complete the conversion of an old building in North Branch for use as the Chisago County Senior Center. Two subsidized elderly apartment projects were funded under the Farmers Home Administration Rural Rental Housing Program since July, 1981. They are a 12-unit project in Askov and a 25-unit project in Princeton. Finally, the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency funded a 24-unit family rental apartment project in Rush City.

The EC RDC staff also was hired by the City of Foreston to run a local housing rehabilitation project funded under a Small Cities Grant provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The project resulted in twenty homes owned by lower income people being repaired.

Committee Members:

Barry Blomquist, North Branch (Chairman)
Wallace Carlson, Lindstrom
Donald Peterson, Isanti
Dorothy Dahlin, Mora
David Elling, Mora
Morris Eastlund, Mora
Albert Vanderwaal, Isle
Jim Tuttle, Willow River
William Jokela, Sandstone

PHYSICAL RESOURCE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Natural Resources and Conservation Advisory Committee

The Natural Resources and Conservation Advisory Committee is responsible for addressing issues related to the physical development of the Region concerning the natural resources and land use. "The Committee is responsible for the development and implementation of the EC RDC Physical Development Policies regarding the Region's physical environment."

The Natural Resource and Conservation Advisory Committee reviews and comments on local government and agency plans, grant and loan requests, proposed legislation, legislative studies and prepares reports concerning regional issues when needed. Technical assistance related to land use and natural resources of the Region was provided to local governments by assisting in the preparation of environmental reviews, comprehensive plans and growth management ordinances.

The physical development policies of the EC RDC were further implemented through the Committee's regional review process. Advisory reviews conducted by the Committee in the past year include:

- 3 Land Use Planning Grant Applications
- 10 Park and Recreation Grant Applications
 - 2 HUD Mortgage Insurance Applications
 - 1 Historical Preservation Grant Application
 - 2 Comprehensive Plans of Local Governments
 - 4 Environmental Assessment Worksheets
 - 1 Environmental Impact Statement

The Committee discussed the existence and status of proposed legislation regarding uranium development, local planning legislation, local water management, and the preservation of agricultural lands. The issue of agricultural land preservation and conservation was discussed at a meeting with Senator Charles Davis, co-sponsor of the recently passed Agricultural Preservation Act. This legislation was discussed in addition to the need for further legislation to implement the new state policy. The Committee was asked for ideas and comments on methods of implementing agricultural preservation and conservation on a statewide basis and at the local level. A special informational meeting was initiated by the Committee with the Environmental Quality Board, Kanabec County and Hillman Township to address environmental concerns relating to a major rural residential development. Concerns of the various government units and agencies were addressed and problems were resolved as a result of this meeting.

Natural Resources & Conservation Advisory Committee Members Include: Fred Ahlgren, Roger Bergman, Laurence Collin, Marvin Erickson, Howard Froberg, Robert Hoefert, Everette Koecher, Richard Larson, Robert Peterson, Art Schultz, and Jim Tuttle.

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Reduced funding for needed highway improvements in east central Minnesota became the principal focus of the Transportation Advisory Committee during this past year. The Committee attempted to rank proposed improvements on state highways for the next twenty years. With the knowledge that available funds for such improvements were severely limited, the Transportation Committee emphasized small projects while postponing several expensive projects until additional funding is provided. Citizens attending public meetings on the proposed highway rankings indicated their support for major-projects such as the Cambridge and Milaca Bypasses and a four-lane highway between Milaca and Onamia. The Transportation Committee will be revising its rankings to reflect the citizens' views and will be forwarding the recommendations to the East Central Regional Development Commission in the Fall of 1982.

The concern for additional funding to make transportation improvements led to support by the East Central Regional Development Commission for passage of two proposed amendments to the State Constitution in November, 1982. Constitutional Amendment No. 2 will remove the limit of five percent on interest paid for issuing highway improvement bonds and remove the limit of \$150 million as the amount of highway bonds that can be issued by the State of Minnesota. Constitutional Amendment No. 4 will allow the State of Minnesota to issue up to \$200 million in bonds to repair existing rail lines. Passage of both amendments is considered as beneficial to the East Central Region by providing funds to make necessary transportation improvements.

In other business, the five County Highway Engineers helped to provide information on load limits for county roads that was used in preparing the Five County Solid Waste Plan. This information will be used to locate potential sites for new sanitary landfills when they are needed.

Committee Members:

Ralph Bloomgren, Cambridge (Chairman)
*Boyd Paulu, Mora
Vincent Ryan, Pine City
*Rodney Lofquist, North Branch
Alton Jacobson, Cambridge
Richard Larson, Milaca
Douglas Weiszhaar, Center City
Keith Selleck, Pine City

*Former Member

SOLID WASTE PLAN TASK FORCE

A nine-member task force was organized in December, 1981 to guide the East Central RDC staff in the preparation of the Five County Solid Waste Management Report. The study was completed in June, 1982. It describes current solid waste management practices and problems and evaluates future alternative measures for handling solid waste in the five-county region. The report is intended to serve as the basis for preparing county solid waste management plans.

Task Force Members:

Ralph Bloomgren, Cambridge (Chairman)
Carolyn Drude, Cambridge
Sarah Mold, Harris
Cameron Strand, Wyoming
Douglas Buckley, Mora
Marvin Erickson, Mora
Gloria Habeck, Isle
Douglas Lien, Milaca
Everette Koecher, Kerrick

ECONOMIC RESOURCE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development Advisory Committee

The Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) is responsible for preparing and updating the region's Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP) Plan. With approval by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) in early 1980, the region has received designation as an Economic Development District (EDD).

The EDAC recommends actions to the EC RDC on economic development policies, programs and projects. The EDAC provides policy guidance for staff actions in the operation of the Economic Development Work Program. During 1982, the EDAC took several steps toward implementing comprehensive economic development projects which are regional in scope.

In the agricultural sector, the EC RDC assisted Rural Venture, Inc. design the East Central Small Family Farm Vegetable Enterprise Project. The program was funded by the Minnesota Private Industry Council, the Minnesota Governor's Council on Rural Development and Cenex Corporation. The EC RDC is now involved with the monitoring of this project and staffs the project's steering committee. The economic development program has also continued to provide information on biomass resources to interested parties in the region.

In the areas of industrial attraction, Industrial Park Profiles have been prepared for Milaca, Mora, Princeton, Hinckley and Rush City. Funding to establish the Economic Development Administration's Industrial Location Service was obtained from the Minnesota PIC (this project has not been successfully completed). A contract was negotiated between the EC RDC and the City of Mora for Industrial Development Assistance. A major project for small business financial assistance was developed. The EDAC guided the establishment of the Eastern Minnesota Economic Corporation, and the Corporation's efforts to seek U.S. Small Business Administration designation as a Certified Development Company. The Corporation has not yet submitted its final certification application to SBA. The EC RDC also assisted the Mora CETA Center prepare and obtain funding for its Small Business Assistance project.

Technical assistance was provided to the Cities of Askov and Milaca to prepare Urban Development Action Grants and assisted other communities with development requests. The Commission also worked closely with the Mora CETA Center and Pine Technical Institute to involve more private sector employers in training.

Economic Development Advisory Committee Members Include: Andrew Holzemer, Michael Parent, Patricia Peterson, Dick Longworth, Roger Bergman, LeRoy Nagle, John James and Darwin Bremer.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Regional Employment and Training Advisory Committee (RETAC) is responsible for planning and review of regional employment and training programs. The RETAC plan is 1) an index and guide to coordinated employment and training service; and 2) communication of local goals and objectives to state and national levels.

The RETAC's goals are 1) identification of natural characteristics and capacity for employment, 2) assessment of future employment needs, 3) prioritization of those most in need of temporary assistance to employment, and 4) a plan for coordinated employment and training services.

During 1982, the RETAC directed a survey of 1500 small business operators in the Region. The survey identified training needs for small business owners and employees. The results of the survey were used to develop the 1983 Employment & Training Plan.

The RETAC also developed a trade fair for small businesses in Chisago County. The trade fair will be held in September 1982. If the project is successful, trade fairs will be developed in other parts of the Region. A major part of the event is training sessions on topics of interest to small business operators.

A special employment project for women was developed by the Mora CETA Center with assistance from the EC RDC. By encouraging cooperation and coordination of the educational and employment services community, the RETAC has increased the effectiveness of training programs in the region.

Regional Employment and Training Advisory Committee (RETAC) Members Include: Andy Holzemer, Harlan Hanson, Roger Canfield, Doug Schumacher, Tom Hilson, Garland Kotek, Joyce Belford, Dave Dahlquist, Rick Visser, Deb Benedicksen, Michelle Salmonson, Jeffry Kenkel, Evelyn Healy, Duange Bouschee, Gene Reynolds, Bill Haglund, Marilyn Honstrom, Pat Gessler and Janet Johnson.

REGIONAL (A-95) REVIEW

The EC RDC was designated by the Governor of Minnesota as the "Regional non-metropolitan clearinghouse" for the five counties of Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Pine in March 1975.

"As a regional clearinghouse, the EC RDC is required by the Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under Circular A-95 to encourage the coordination of state, regional and local planning and development efforts." The EC RDC is given A-95 responsibility for reviewing and commenting on project proposals for approximately 200 federal programs to see that all proposals are consistent with local and regional plans, goals and policies.

The Regional Development Act of 1969 broadened the EC RDC's review responsibility by giving it the authority to:

- 1. Review and comment on long-term comprehensive plans of local governmental units within the Region;
- Review plans of independent boards and commissions and suspend such plans where potential conflict with regional plans exists; and
- 3. Review all applications for federal and state grants or loans made by governmental units, independent commissions, board or agencies within the Region.

The Regional (A-95) Review System is used by the EC RDC in carrying out its "clearinghouse" responsibilities. Upon receipt of a project notification, the EC RDC staff contacts agencies or individuals who may be affected by or interested in the project and requests their comments. EC RDC staff and advisory committees also submit comments after which the final EC RDC comments are made and sent to the applicant and to the funding source.

"In most cases, the Regional (A-95) Review Process does not guarantee or deny the funding of a project, but will inform the funding source whether the project is consistent with existing and proposed projects and plans in the Region."

The following pages identify the 58 projects reviewed by the EC RDC during 1982 and the action taken.

CHISAGO COUNTY

APPLICANT	TITLE	APPLICATION TYPE	FUNDING AGENCY	EC RDC ACTION
Chisago Co. Board on Aging, Inc.	Chisago Co. Multi-Purpose Senior Citzens Center	L	USDA-FHA	Positive
Chisago County	Chisago Co. Mini-Bus Program (continuation	n) G	US DOT	Positive
Chisago Lake Community Housing	Chisago Lakes Community Housing	L S Sign	USDA-FHA	Positive
Chisago City, City of Lindstrom	Chisago City & Lindstrom Waste Water Facility Plan - Step I	G & P	MPCA	Positive
Taylors Falls	Taylors Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan	G & P	MPCA	Positive
Imperial Estates	Imperial Estates	0	HUD	Negative
Therapeutic Community Residence, Inc.	Therapeutic Community Residence, Inc.	0	CMHSA	Positive
City of Shafer	Shafer City Park	G	DEPD	Positive
City of Branch	Harder, Northwoods Park	G	DEPD	Positive

L - Loan

G - Grant

0 - Other

P - Plan

ISANTI COUNTY

APPLICANT	TITLE	APPLICATION TYPE	FUNDING AGENCY	EC RDC ACTION
U S Postal Service	Isanti Post Office Relocation	0	USPS	No Comments
Cambridge Nursing Care Center	Cambridge Nursing Care Center	0	HUD	No Comments
Isanti Estates	Isanti Estates Isanti County	0	USDA-FHA	Positive
The Menkveld Company	Bradford Estates Isanti County	0	HUD	Submittal of EC RDC & Isanti Co. Develop- ment policies related to project
Isanti Co. Historical Society	West Riverside School Preservation	G	MHS	Positive
Fridlund Associates	Meadows Edge Housing	L	USDA	No Comment
City of Braham	Braham Park	G	DEPD	Positive
City of Isanti	Isanti Unity Park	G	DEPD	Positive

L – Loan G – Grant O – Other P – Plan

KANABEC COUNTY

APPLICANT	TITLE	APPLICATION TYPE	FUNDING AGENCY	EC RDC ACTION
Housing Development Associates	Ogilvie Square Apartments	L	USDA-FHA	Positive
Ogilvie Estates	Ogilvie Estates Apartments	L	USDA-FHA	Positive
Ridgewood Properties, Inc.	Happy Hollow Farm-Ann Lake 1st Addition	0	HUD	Rejected by HUD
City of Grasston	Land Use Planning Grant	G	DEPD	Positive
Comfort Township	Land Use Planning Grant	G	DEPD	Positive
U S Postal Service	Ogilvie Post Office	0	USPS	Positive
Kanabec County	Kanabec County Bridges	G	MN /DOT	No Comment
City of Mora	Mora Community Park	G	DEPD	Positive
City of Ogilvie	Ogilvie Community Park	G	DEPD	Positive

L - Loan

G - Grant

O - Other

P - Plan

MILLE LACS COUNTY

APPLICANT	TITLE	APPLICATION TYPE	FUNDING AGENCY	EC RDC ACTION
City of Milaca	Downtown Revitalization & Construction of Downtown Shopping Mall	G	HUD	Positive
Community Mercy Hospital	Community Mercy Hospital - Renovation and Remodeling , Onamia	L	FHA	Positive
City of Princeton	Princeton Motors, Financial Assistance in Relocating and Expansion	G	HUD	Negative
Community Involvement Program, Inc.	Stepping Stones Group Home, Inc., Milaca	0	DPW	Positive
City of Princeton	U S Distilled Products Co. Financial Asst. in Purchasing Machinery & Equip.	G	HUD	Positive
City of Milaca	Milaca Square Development Project	G	HUD	Positive
Barthel Contruction	Riverside Apartments, Princeton	L	USDA-FHA	Negative
City of Milaca	Milaca City Park	G .	DEPD	Positive

L - Loan G - Grant O - Other P - Plan

MULTI-COUNTY

APPLICANT	TITLE	APPLICATION TYPE	FUNDING AGENCY	EC RDC ACTION
MN Dept of Economic Security BOS-CETA	MN BOS FY 1982 Comprehensive Employment & Training Plan	G	Dept of Labor	Positive
Lakes & Pines CAC	Rehabilitation Loan Program	G	MHFA	No Comment
Tri-Cap Family Planning Ctr.	Tri-Cap Family Planning Ctr.	G	MN Dept. of Health	Negative
Chisago-Kanabec Community Health Services Plan	Chisago-Kanabec Community Health Servic Plan	es G	MN Dept. of Health	Positive
Isanti-Mille Lacs Board of Health	Isanti-Mille Lacs Community Health Service Plan 1982-83	es G	MN Dept. of Health	Positive
Lakes & Pines CAC	OSCC Grant-Sp. Needs/Handicapped Yout	h G	Dept of Labor	Positive
Central District CETA	OSCC Grant-Job Club Concept	G	Dept of Labor	Positive
Central MN Health Systems Agency	Designation as Health Systems Agency for Central Minnesota	G	DHEW-Public Health Serv	
State of MN, Dept. of Economic Security	FY'83, MN BOS Preapplication for Prime Sponsorship under CETA	G	Dept. of Labor	Positive
Lakes & Pines CAC	Project Head Start	G ,	Health & Human Serv	Positive with v. comments

L - Loan

G - Grant O - Other

P - Plan

PINE COUNTY

APPLICANT	TITLE	APPLICATION TYPE	FUNDING AGENCY	EC RDC ACTION
MN Dept of Transp.	S A P #58-599-14 Pine County		MN DOT	No Comment
MN Dept of Transp.	Pine County Bridge Replacement #1596		MN DOT	No Comment
City of Hinckley	Hinckley Wastewater Facilities Plan	P	MPCA	Positive
City of Sandstone	Financial Asst. for the construction of a new 10,000 sq. ft. Grocery Store	G	HUD	Positive
City of Askov	Comprehensive Plan for Askov	Р		Positive
Bremen Township	Bremen Township Comprehensive Plan	Р		Positive
MN Dept of Transp.	S A P 58-597-95 Pine County		MN DOT	No Comment
Pine Co. Family Health Clinc	Rural Health Initiative - Pine Co.	G	HHS	Positive
City of Rutledge	Land Use Planning Grant Application - Rutledge	G	DEPD	Positive
City of Askov	Downtown Business Development-Askov	G	HUD	Positive
Crescendo	Vossevangen II	L	USDA-FHA	Positive
City of Pine City	Pine City Community Recreation & Recreational Park	G	DEPD	Positive
MN Dept of Transp.	Bridge #58517 - Pokegama Creek	G	MN DOT	No Comment
Sandstone Area Hosp.	Sandstone Area Nursing Home-HUD #092-4	3004 O	HUD	No Comment

L – Loan G – Grant

O - Other P - Plan

EC RDC ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

Fiscal Year 1982 Actual Fiscal Year 1983 Estimated

	RECEI	PTS
	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year
	1982	1983
MN DEPD	\$	\$
Legislative Appropriations	67,650	43,876
Dept. of Housing & Urban Dev. 701 - R.P.	11,315	0
Dept. of Housing & Urban Dev. 107 - T.A.	8,250	4,000
Army Corps of Engineers	0	9,950
Developmental Disabilities	17,839	15,625
MN State Arts Board	15,558	15,000
MN Dept. of Transportation	5,400	29,700
MN Board on Aging	102,002	66,620
MN Pollution Control Agency (Solid Waste)	16,272	0
MN Dept. of Econ. Security	41,504	3,800
Econ. Dev. Admin. (EDA)	41,833	31,000
Contracts Local Gov't	24,153	32,750
EC RDC Tax Levy	20,175	61,409
Interest Income	1,531	0
Direct Service Interest Income	780	0
Waste Management Board	1,250	0
Misc. Income	590	0
TOTAL	\$376,102	\$313,730
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		EXPENDI	TURES
		Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year
		1982	1983
Staff Salaries		\$179,204	\$181,049
Staff Benefits		53,842	45,261
Advisory Committees		5,341	4,000
EC RDC Per Diem & Expense		10,563	9,000
Empl. Dev. & Recruit		45	250
Memberships & Subscriptions		1,400	1,000
Telephone		10,875	10,000
Postage		5,438	5,000
Legal Notices		48	250
Printing & Publications		6,096	2,500
Copying		12,192	8,000
Audit		3,889	3,500
Vehicle Maintenance		1,847	500
Insurance & Bonds		569	900
Purchase of Equipment		1,535	5,000
Office Supplies		3,513	3,000
Maintenance of Equipment		358	500
Staff Travel		15,243	10,000
Reg. & Conference Fees		2,041	1,500
Rent		14,616	16,280
Services by Technical Consultants		10,663	6,240
Contracts with Others		32,005	0
Contingency		4,779	0
	TOTAL	\$376,102	\$313,730