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ANNUAL REPORT 1985



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EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Serving Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Pine Counties



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ray Stoeckel

Isanti County
Townships
Representative

The annual report gives me an opportunity to review some of the many activities of the East Central Regional Development Commission with you. We had an extremely busy year and have achieved many things.

In June of last year, the members of the Commission held a day-long retreat. The retreat was held to re-define the purposes and roles of the Commission. I am happy to report that the five purpose statements adopted by the Commission have been carried into action by our work activities this past year. In this report is a listing of the five purposes and some specific results achieved this past year.

I strongly believe that all Commission members have a good grasp of what we are trying to do. Ideas, discussion and input of all members have strengthened the Commission and helped us provide needed services to the local governments and citizens in the region. The many advisory committee members who volunteer their ideas, energy and time have assisted us greatly. We are all interested in making East Central Minnesota a better place to live.

The staff have presented us with information and carried out our directives. Not only do they assist us in our decision making, they spend the majority of their time providing technical assistance. Many leaders in local government, business and human services have come to know our staff and depend on the quality services they provide. The help they have provided has made a difference in developing plans, projects and programs of benefit to the region.

I am excited about the year ahead. The major problems with the economy and the scarcity of resources to solve problems are real challenges. However, the Commission members and staff have made a commitment to capitalize on opportunities that are presented. Through organization, planning and providing technical assistance the Commission will remain a valuable resource to the people of East Central Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Ray Stoeckel, Chairman

Kay Stoerfal

ABOUT THE ECRDC

The East Central Regional Development Commission (ECRDC) is a regional planning and technical assistance agency serving the counties of Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Pine. The Commission's governing body is comprised of 17 local elected officials and five public interest representatives from throughout the five counties. The ECRDC was formed in 1973 under Minnesota statutes and addresses planning and development issues which affect East Central Minnesota.

The Commission employs professional staff to provide planning and technical assistance to local units of government and organizations in the areas of physical planning and development, economic development and human services. In conjunction with its volunteer advisory committees, the ECRDC is designated as:

- * The East Central Area Agency on Aging
- * A Regional Census Data Center
- * An Economic Development District
- * A SBA Certified Development Company
- * The East Central Regional Arts Council
- * A Regional Clearinghouse for Review of State & Federal Grant Programs

The Commission also provides research, planning and training assistance to local governments and organizations on important issues facing East Central Minnesota.

THIS REPORT highlights some of the work done by the East Central Regional Development Commission for the period July 1, 1984 through June 30, 1985. It only summarizes a few of the many activities of the Commission and is intended to summarize only major projects. If you would like additional information about any of the programs or projects of the Commission, please feel free to contact us by PHONE at (612) 679-4065 or WRITE us at 100 South Park Street, Mora, Minnesota 55051.

PROGRAM PRIORITIES/HIGHLIGHTS 1985

In June, 1984 the members of the Commission held a day-long retreat to re-define the purposes of the EC RDC. As a result of the Retreat, five purposes were identified, ranked and agreed to. The work efforts of this past year focused on these five purposes listed below with the results outlined.

PRIORITY #1

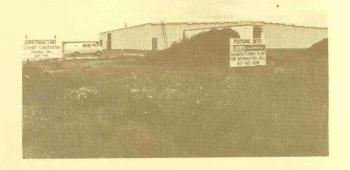
To provide technical planning, grantsmanship and training to local units of government.

Planning — The Chisago County Comprehensive Development Plan was developed for the county. Zoning and Subdivision Regulations are near completion. Comprehensive plans for the City of Princeton, Arthur Township, Dell Grove Township, Windemere Township, Kettle River Township and Norman Township were prepared. An Urban Service Area Plan was prepared for the City of Cambridge. Long term care plans are being prepared for Kanabec and Chisago Counties. The Commission also assisted the Isanti County Task Force on Battered Persons get organized and develop a plan of action. A group of interested citizens in Chisago, Kanabec and Isanti Counties were assisted in organizing to become certified as a chapter of Big Brothers/Big Sisters. A tax increment plan was prepared for Pine City.

Grantsmanship — The following projects were developed by the EC RDC during the past year: City of Isanti Industrial Park - \$161,000 funded; Askov

CDBG water supply - \$325,517 funded; Pine City economic development -\$193,000 funded; Stacy economic development - \$103,000 funded; Braham economic development - \$209,000 funded; Ogilvie CDBG - not funded; Cambridge Park Development (pending); Princeton economic development -\$225,000 funded and withdrawn; Subtronics SBA loan - \$156,000 approved; Food Resources Inc. Minnesota Fund loan - \$220,000 approved. The following projects were assisted during the past year: Mille Lacs County Transportation Mini Bus Grant (funded); Kanabec County Park Vasaloppet Loops (not funded); Isanti County Seniors Mini Bus (funded).

Training Workshops — Training workshops developed by the EC RDC during this past year are as follows: Aging Training Conference, 200+ attendees; Parks Grant Workshop, 25 attendees; Arts in Education Workshop, 15 attendees; Transit Workshop, 8 attendees.



The EC RDC packaged financing for the new KAJO manufacturing facility in Pine City.



Funding for the new Foreston Fire Station was packaged by the EC RDC with a housing rehabilitation program.



Economic Development Advisory Committee Member John James, Taylors Falls, addressing a workshop on Economic Development Finance. The EC RDC provides current information to local leaders on available resources and methods to promote economic development.

PRIORITY #2

To collect data, conduct research, and disseminate information that will help evaluate the needs of the Region.

Collect Data — The EC RDC subscribes to "Datanet", a computer data base which is easily accessible through the EC RDC Computer system. A Transit Needs Study is being developed by the Transportation Advisory Committee. The Overall Economic Development Plan was updated with increased emphasis on data. A major telephone needs assessment (6,000 phone calls) on the needs of the elderly was developed and implemented.

Conduct Research — A Housing Development Plan is currently being prepared on housing needs. A three year

Aging Plan was developed. An Environmental Assessment was prepared for the City of Sandstone.

Disseminate Information — Increased emphasis was placed on disseminating information through workshops as follows: Foundation Grants Workshop, 60 attendees; Economic Development Financing Workshop, 65 attendees; Census Data Workshop, 25 attendees. Presentations on economic development opportunities were given to Chisago City, Onamia and Taylors Falls groups. Over 200 requests for information were fulfilled.

PRIORITY #3

To communicate the EC RDC purposes, market various services available through the EC RDC and bring about closer coordination between the Commission and local units of government.

Communication and Marketing — The Commission developed formal technical assistance policies to target assistance to areas of greatest need. The management structure was revised including quarterly work programs to respond rapidly to project needs. Com-

munication methods have been studied, a new logo has been developed and increased emphasis placed on workshops. Through the state association, a brochure was developed highlighting RDC impacts statewide.

Coordination with Local Governments — A Commission meeting was held in each of the five counties during the year, over 80 elected officials attended. Increased contact with local policy makers is planned for next year.

PRIORITY #4

To identify regional development problems and issues pertaining to the use and preservation of land, human resources and economic development and recommend solutions and policies which address identified problems.

'. Identify Regional Issues — The Commission organized a major "Regional Issues Forum" to identify rural development problems and strengths of East Central Minnesota. Over 70 leaders from all walks of life participated in the Forum. The results will be used to develop projects for the Governor's Council on Rural Development and the McKnight Foundation.

Recommend Solutions - The Commission played a major role in

organizing the East Central Solid Waste Planning Commission. The Solid Waste Commission is a joint powers board of all five counties that is currently developing a joint Solid Waste Management Plan to reduce the dependence on landfills. The Commission also completed the first Highway Jurisdiction Study in the state which identifies a process for roadway re-assignment.



Commission members touring a proposed site for a historical interpretive site near Sandstone. The EC RDC is conducting a feasibility study to determine the possible uses of the site.

PRIORITY #5

To develop and maintain a Regional Comprehensive Plan which includes a clear statement of purpose, assists in the orderly development and use of the region's social, economic, physical and environmental resources which recommends policies and actions which can be taken to foster a proper balance between conservation of our natural resources and the economic development of the region.

The Commission had completed draft revisions to the Comprehensive Develop-

ment Guide initially adopted in 1980. The draft revisions included updated

policies and coordination mechanisms to promote orderly growth.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The EC RDC encourages the participation of citizens and elected officials in commission activities through the use of advisory committees. Members of advisory committees provide the Commission and its staff with valuable insight to local and regional problems and opportunities. Members serve as volunteers and represent many points of view that are needed to solve area wide issues. The advisory committees provide recommendations to the EC RDC on issues, needs and opportunities as well as regional reviews of significant proposals effecting regional development.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

TRANSPORTATION

Al Baxter Bob Betsinger Ralph Bloomgren Harold Eklund Greg Furzland Don Hubert - MN/DOT Jim Tuttle Alton Jacobson Dorothy Jolstad Richard Larson

Greg Nikodym Harry Peetz Gerald Peterson Dave Rholl Chester Steeves Bob VandeKamp Doug Weiszhaar



Senator Florian Chmielewski and members of the Aging Advisory Committee. Committee members identify needs and assist the Commission with setting priorities for project funding.

HUMAN **SERVICES**

Marge Alden Eric Errickson James Gaughan Sheldon Porter

Esther Tatley Marina Vork Henry Winkels

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

George Ball Calvin Clark David Dahlquist Robert Filson

Philip Gelhorn John James Loren Jennings Tim Nelson

ARTS

Jay Andersen Linda Bergerson Alice Boudreau Morris Engler Joanne Frank Kevin Hofstad

Gail Jackson Donna Olson Karen Schlenker Lucy Schultz Sue Thue

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Fred Ahlgren Roger Bergman Barry Blomquist Laurence Collin Robert Hoefert

Everette Koecher Bob Peterson Art Schultz Jim Tuttle

AGING

Mary Andersen Clifford Anderson Ray Cash Phyllis Christianson A.A. Richner Richard Ebnet Elaine Lucht Clara Marihart Madeline Miller Ruth Nash

Pearl Olesen Stephen Olson Grace Palm S.R. Sonnichsen Connie Strandberg Janice Usher Fred Wahlstrom

STAFF **MEMBERS**

Michael Sobota, **Executive Director**

Roger Ames Human Services Program Director

Gordon Heitke Physical Development Program Director

Phil Schroeder Human Services Planner III Senior

Bill Coleman Economic Development Planner III Senior

Don Kush Physical Development Planner III Senior

David Sainio Human Services Planner II Intermediate

Melinda Coleman Physical Development Planner II Intermediate

> Mary Schwartz Office Manager

Dorothy Barnard Finance Officer

Carri Gilbertson Support Staff II

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

CHISAGO COUNTY

Bob VandeKamp, County Board Sig Stene, Cities Sheldon Porter, Townships Barry Blomquist, Public Interests

ISANTI COUNTY

Glenn Johnson, County Board Clell Bone, Cities Ray Stoeckel, Townships Laurence Collin, Public Interests

KANABEC COUNTY

Mel Pearson, County Board Dan Norberg, Cities Lucy Schultz, Townships Dale Dunstan, Public Interests

MILLE LACS COUNTY

Bill Field, County Board Phyllis Christianson, Cities Vacant, Townships Owen Baas, Public Interests

PINE COUNTY

Jim Youngbauer, County Board George Ball, Cities Jim Tuttle, Townships Wayne White, Public Interests Gerald Peterson, School Districts

OFFICERS

Ray Stoeckel, Chairman Sig Stene, Vice Chair Glenn Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer

FINANCES

AUDITOR'S OPINION

Mr. Ray Stoeckel, Chairman
East Central Regional Development
Commission
119 South Lake Street
Mora, Minnesota 55051

We have examined the general purpose financial statements of the East Central Regional Development Commission as of and for the year ended June 30, 1985, as listed in the table of contents. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, accordingly, included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly the financial position of the East Central Regional Development Commission at June 30, 1985, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year, except for the change, with which we concur, in fund reporting described in Note 3 to the financial statements.

Our examination was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information listed in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Commission. The supplementary information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the examination of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

We have also examined the schedules of direct and indirect costs, included in the supplementary information referred to above, for the year ended June 30, 1985. In our opinion, the schedules are fairly presented in accordance with the Commission's cost allocation plan, which has been approved by the Minnesota Department of Planning.

ARNE H. CARLSON, State Auditor October 4, 1985

Services by Technical Consultants

Aging Direct Services Grants Arts Direct Services Grants

Contracts with Others

Sub-Total

MN DEED

EC RDC ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET Fiscal Year 1985

RECEIPTS

Fiscal Year

1985

19,062 4,280

2,641

24,800

11.937

893.674

18,700

\$ 1,255,770 \$ 1,306,665

1,761

Revised Act.

Fiscal Year

1984

Legislative Appropriations	\$ 43,876	\$ 44,695
Dept. of Energy & Economic Devel.	12,000	16,000
Developmental Disabilities	15,625	3,906
MN State Arts Board	15,000	16,000
MN Dept. of Transportation	20,000	20,000
MN Board on Aging	80,906	124,845
Economic Devel. Admin. (EDA)	50,000	50,000
Contracts Local Government	32,750	35,000
EC RDC Tax Levy	69,205	70,169
nterest Income	4,034	4,000
Sub-Total	\$343,396	\$384,615
Aging Direct Serv. (St., Fed. Private)	893,674	897,250
Arts Direct Service (State Private)	18,700	24,800
TOTAL	\$ 1,255,770	\$ 1,306,665
	EXPEND	TURES
	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year
	1984	1985
Staff Salaries	\$ 190,348	\$ 197,147
Staff Benefits	38,187	39,880
Advisory Committees	4,000	4,000
EC RDC Per Diem Expense	8,500	11,250
Employee Devel. & Recruit.	100	750
Memberships & Subscriptions	2,769	1,610
Telephone	8,781	10,000
Postage	3,830	4,000
Legal Notices	100	100
Printing & Publication	3,319	4,000
Copying	6,880	6,500
Audit	5,000	7,000
Vehicle Maintenance	3,402	3,400
nsurance & Bonds	775	1,200
Purchase of Equipment	17,300	3,000
Office Supplies	4,680	4,750
Maintenance of Equipment	500	1,000
Staff Travel	11,900	12,750

CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW

The EC RDC is responsible for reviewing State and Federal loan and grant applications proposed for facilities and services in the region. The intent of the reveiw is to reduce duplication and waste of public expenditures through encouraging communication and cooperation between applicants and funding agencies. Complete information about the number of applications received for review and action taken by the Commission is available by contacting the EC RDC Office.

REVENUE SOURCES — FY '86 General Fund:

State Appropriations	. 8	44,806
Levy 1/6 Mill		71.954
Interest		7,000
Interest		7,000
	8	123,760
Outside Revenues:		
MN Arts Board	. \$	17,500
MN Board on Aging		80,438
MN/DOT Regular		15,000
MN/DOT Transit		6,000
*MN/DOT Special Study		15,000
*Economic Devel. Admin	*	50,000
*CDBG T.A.		10,000
IISAC		2,500
*Local Contracts		40,000
Governor's Council	¥.	5,000
Region 7W Aging		1,600
*DEED Energy	•	20,000
	\$	263,038

		1,600 20,000
		263,038
EXPEN	IDITURES General Fund	
Required Match:		
Aging		19,600
EDA		16,700
MN/DOT		2,500
Arts		2,000
	Subtotal	40,800
Unrestricted		19,000
Reserve		10,000
		69,800
Local Funded Programs		53,960
	Total General Fund Expenditures	
	AGENCY WIDE	
Personnel		3223,600
Fringe		44,191
Indirect Costs		64,816

ersonnel \$223,600 ringe 44,191 ndirect Costs 64,816 pirect Costs 51,950 Total Expenses \$384,557 Total Revenues \$386,798

(\$ 2,241)