Southwest Regional Development Commission

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Annual Report FISCAL YEAR 1986

PLEASE NOTE: A supplement to the annual report containing project review information for the fiscal year is available by contacting the SRDC Office, 2524 Broadway Avenue, Slayton, MN; PH:507/836-8549.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA

What's Inside

- Administration and Budget "Strengthening Commission Operations and Continuing Financial Stability"
- Economic & Community Development "Develop Public/ Private Partnerships for Job Creation and Community Stability"
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- SRDC Completes Self-Evaluation
- ▲ Legislative Program Produces Results
- Parks & Recreation "Committee Impacts Future Receration Needs"
- SRDC's Transportation Program "Impacting Regional Highway Issues"
- Southwest Solid Waste Management Task Force Develops New Technologies to Kick the Landfill Habit
- SW MN Initiative Fund Receives \$2.8 Million from McKnight Foundation

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The Southwest Regional Development Commission was created by and for the citizens of southwest Minnesota. It is composed of and managed by local elected officials and interested citizens of southwest Minnesota. origination and management when combined with a staff which is dedicated to the improvement of the quality of life in the area produces an organization which makes a difference in southwest Minnesota.

Through planning, management and technical assistance provided by the commission staff, accomplishments have been made by in the areas of aging, developmental disabilities, economic and community development, legislative affairs, transportation, parks, environmental issues, solid waste management and local issues. These accomplishments have caused an improvement in a quality of life in southwest Minnesota.

I wish to express my appreciation of the cooperation, participation and support of the local officials and interested citizens and the SRDC staff in the operations of the commission. Through the efforts of these persons, the Southwest Regional Development Commission will continue to make a difference in southwest Minnesota.

> Gary Graham Executive Director

SRDC COMMISSION MEMBERS

Ed Quiring, Mayor of Mountain Lake Cottonwood County Municipalities

	James Derickson	Cottonwood County Town Boards
*	F.A. "Jim" Miller	Cottonwood County Commissioners
	Roland Wray, Mayor of Heron Lake	Jackson County Municipalities
	Abner Brandt	Jackson County Town Boards
*	Milford Gentz, Vice-Chairman	Jackson County Commissioners
*	Norman Madsen, Mayor of Arco	Lincoln County Municipalities
	Eloise Hauschild	Lincoln County Town Boards
*	Carl Hauschild, Chairman	Lincoln County Commissioners
	Susan Kaye Bakke	Lyon County Municipalities
	Ed Paradis	Lyon County Town Boards
*	John Wreath	Lyon County Commissioners
	Jill McCord	Murray County Municipalities
	Leland Priebe	Murray County Town Boards
*	Paul Mettling, Treasurer	Murray County Commissioners
	Ronald Lawrence, Mayor of Adrian	Nobles County Municipalities
	Robert L. Feeken	Nobles County Town Boards
*	Gerald Mulder	Nobles County Commissioners
	Marlo Skurdal	Pipestone County Municipalities
	Joseph Stepanek	Pipestone County Town Boards
nt	Clayton Ihlen	Pipestone County Commissioners
*	W.F. "Woody" Kramer, Sec., Mayor of Vesta	Redwood County Municipalities
	Roy Syverson, Jr.,	Redwood County Town Boards
*	Darold Neperman	Redwood County Commissioners
	Berdell "Bud" Bush, Mayor of Hills	Rock County Municipalities
	Merten Peterson	Rock County Town Boards
*	Dennis Roning	Rock County Commissioners
	Robert Schlagel	
	Robert Demuth, Mayor of Worthington	
*	Loren Carlson	The second of the second secon
	Alvin Gruis	
	Rollin Haynes	
	Jim Veenhuis, Sr	
	Charles Cunningham	
	Dottie Bluestone	
	Karen Tommeraasen	Mainstay, Inc.

* Indicates SRDC Board Members



SRDC Chairman Carl Hauschild

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The Southwest Regional Development Commission was created by the people of southwest Minnesota to serve as a forum for the discussion and resolution of issues which are common to our area. As commissioners we are continuing to follow this purpose, while at the same time we are working to improve the quality of life in this portion of the State of Minnesota.

I attribute the vitality of the commission to its sensitivity to the needs and demands of the area. This response is made possible by a commission which is composed of and managed by local officials and citizens of southwest Minnesota. The result is that as the local issues change, so does and emphasis of the commission.

As Chairman of the Commission, I have attempted to provide leadership in such a manner that its basic purpose has not changed. Yet at the same time I have also endeavored to promote a setting in which new issues are continually discussed.

The purpose of this Annual Report is in partial fulfillment of the continuing program of the commission to inform the public of our activities over a year's span of time and to increase their understanding of the role and function of the Southwest Regional Development Commission. The following pages only highlight the accomplishments of the commission which were made during the previous year.

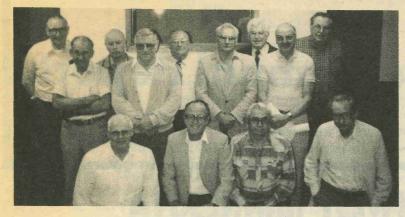
I wish to state again that the sole purpose of the Southwest Regional Development Commission is to serve the citizens of southwest Minnesota. I think upon your review of this report you will agree that through the efforts of the commissioners and staff; the SRDC is making a difference in southwest Minnesota.

> Carl Hauschild, Chairman Southwest Regional Development Commission

ADMINISTRATION AND BUDGET

"Strengthening Commission Operations and Continuing Financial Stability"

SRDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Pictured above are the SRDC Board of Directors. Front row L-R are Carl Hauschild, Robert Schlagel, John Wreath, & Jim Miller. Back row L-R are Loren Carlson, Norman Madsen, Gerald Mulder, Clayton Ihlen, Dennis Roning, Paul Mettling, Woody Kramer, Robert Demuth, & Darold Neperman. Not pictured is Milford Gentz.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Carl Hauschild, Chairman	Minneota
Milford Gentz, Vice-Chairman	Lakefield
Paul Mettling, Treasurer	Slayton
W.F. "Woody" Kramer, Secretary	Vesta

BUDGET & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

ı	Dennis Roning, ChairmanHills
ı	F.A. "Jim" MillerWindom
ı	Milford GentzLakefield
	Paul MettlingSlayton
١	Carl HauschildMinneota
ı	Clayton Ihlen
ı	Loren CarlsonHeron Lake
١	Alvin GruisRushmore
ı	Woody KramerVesta
ĺ	Robert Demuth
ı	Eloise HauschildMinneota
	John WreathBalaton
	Roy Syverson, JrTracy

POLICY SCREENING COMMITTEE

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ADMINISTRATIVE SUMMARY

Just as a business in the private sector must be stable in the areas of administration and budget management in order to function properly, the Southwest Regional Development Commission must do likewise. In 1986, the SRDC again demonstrated its ability to manage public resources and administer a wide range of human, physical and economic development programs, through sound administration and budgetary practices. Beyond this continual fiscal monitoring of operations; the SRDC in 1986 completed a classification and compensation plan. The purpose of this plan is to establish parameters for the relative difficulty of each staff position. Then pay parameters were affixed to various degrees of difficulty and a pay plan established. This and other various actions will continue to improve staff, programs and commission efficiency and effectiveness in the future.

In the aspect of budget management, the SRDC through top-notch budget administration was able to limit budget amendments, maintain proper reporting requirements, incorporate previous audit suggestions into its operation and utilize the computer as a management tool to monitor fiscal affairs. As a result of these efforts, the SRDC finished the fiscal year of 1986 at budget with no need to increase local funding support.

The SRDC over the past year has continued to strengthen its operation, and further increased its accountability to the citizens of southwest Minnesota.

FISCAL YEAR 1985 AUDIT SUMMARY

The State Auditor's opinion stated that the SRDC's Fiscal Year 1985 general purpose financial statements fairly disclosed our financial position as of June 30, 1985. The schedules of the Commission's first cost allocation plan were also found to be fairly presented. There were no material weaknesses in our internal accounting procedures or noncompliance legal items found.

The Commission had no items to resolve from the Fiscal Year 1984 audit.

PROJECT REVIEWS

During Fiscal Year 1986 the Southwest Regional Development Commission reviewed 102 projects from within the Region to avoid duplication and insure wise use of public funds. If you are interested receiving a listing of the project reviews for FY'86 please contact the SRDC Office.

SRDC Revenues and Expenditures

REPORTING PERIOD BUDGET (Fiscal Year 1986) Revenues by Fund

Tax Levy	\$113,300
State Appropriation	44,983
Minnesota Board on Aging	69,700
Economic Development Administration	40,000
Minnesota Developmental Disabilities	34,250
Minnesota Department of Transportation.	15,000
Contracts	30,000
Interest Earned & Miscellaneous	14,000
Reserves for Equip. Acquisition (Cars).	4,490

\$365,723 TOTAL

WORK PLAN AND BUDGET REPORT

As indicated by this report, the SRDC followed very closely the objectives of its 1986 work plan. In this plan nineteen (19) objectives or work elements were present. The SRDC is proud to report that all of these work elements were completed and/or exceeded. Copies of the past year's detailed work progress report are available from the SRDC. The accomplish- Actual Expenditures ments were achieved with no increase in staff and through good financial management, the commission expects to end the fiscal year at the projected budget.

The Work Plan and Budget for Fiscal Year 1987 were prepared by utilizing the input from the various functional committees of the commission and integrating work elements with budget considerations. The Budget and Personnel Committee of the commission organized, evaluated, amended and finalized the Work Plan and Budget for Board of Directors and Commission consideration. In presenting the Fiscal Year 1987 budget, Budget and Personnel Committee Chairman Roning Dennis that the budget will require no increase in the local mill levy over the amount authorized in Fiscal Year 1986 and that no use of reserve funds is anticipated.

On May 27, 1986, the Southwest Regional Development Commission approved the Work Plan and Budget for Fiscal Year 1987. Copies are available from the SRDC office in Slayton.

REPORTING PERIOD BUDGET (Fiscal Year 1986)

Salaries and Fringe	\$209,976
Staff Travel	16,860
Rent	15,000
Committee Expenses	38,399
Postage	8,083
Telephone	9,946
Printing/Publication	12,820
Supplies	4,518
Insurance	1,622
Depreciation	5,366
Audits	5,969
Computer/Displaywriter	3,586
DD and Aging Workshops	• 2,742
Equipment	14,703
Other	4,015

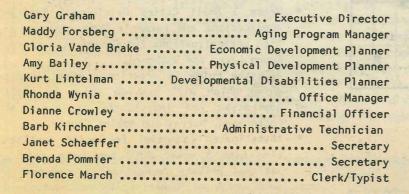
TOTAL \$353,605

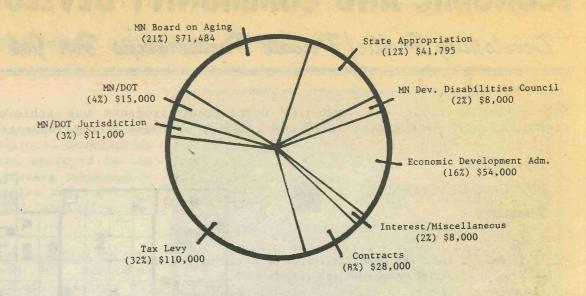
FISCAL YEAR 1987 REVENUES



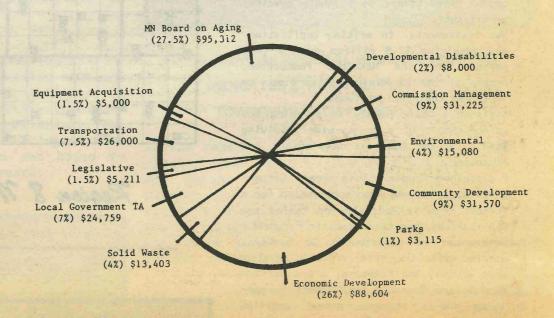
Pictured above are FY'86 SRDC Staff Members. Front row L-R are Janet Schaeffer, Barb Kirchner, Florence March & Rhonda Wynia. Back row L-R are Amy Bailey, Gloria Vande Brake, Gary Graham, Maddy Forsberg & Dianne Crowley.

SRDC STAFF MEMBERS





FISCAL YEAR 1987 EXPENDITURES



DOCUMENTS, STUDIES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1986

- SRDC 1986 Legislative
- Recommendations
- City of Jackson Needs Assess-
- City of Round Lake Needs
- Assessment
- City of Rushmore Needs Assess-
- The Southwest Regional Resource Directory for Small Business
- Consumers Guide to Nursing Homes of Southwest Minnesota, December 1985
- Area Plan for Programs on Aging Amendment
- "The Golden Pages" a Directory of Services for Older Persons, revised July 1986
- Profiles of the Elderly Population for Region Eight and each of the 9 counties
- -- Prairieland Economic Development Corporation brochure
- -- Fiscal Year 1986 Annual Report
- -- Fiscal Year 1986 Work Program
- -- Fiscal Year 1985 Audit Report
- -- Fiscal Year 1986 Indirect Cost Plan
- -- SRDC Classification Compensation Plan

OLDER AMERICANS ACT FUNDS FOR THE REGION'S ELDERLY

Older Americans Act funds are awarded to local units of government and non-profit agencies to help develop needed services and fill the gaps in existing services. A total of \$619,589 was awarded in FY86, in federal, state and foundation funds.

Funding priorities are established by the Aging Advisory Council and the SRDC, based on needs assessments conducted throughout the Region. If you are interested in seeking Older Americans Act funds to expand or develop a service contact, Maddy Forsberg, Aging Program Manager at the SRDC office.

Grants Awarded During Fiscal Year 1986

DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS

FUNDED JULY 1, 1985		FUNDED JANUARY 1, 1986		
Legal and Paralegal Services\$	20,000	Southwest Ombudsman Program	23,102	
WESCAP Transportation	40,000	WESCAP (Congregate) Federal	241,033	
Senior Citizens Program Developer	13,561	WESCAP (Congregate) State	98,085	
Redwood County Hospice	10,000	WESCAP (Home Delivered) Federal	56,944	
Prairie Home Hospice	12,000	Peer Counseling Services	25,383	
Peer Counseling Services	13,399		Marin and	
Region 8 North Homemaker	15,537	FUNDED APRIL 1, 1986		
FUNDED OCTOBER 1, 1985		Murray County Transportation	500	
		Pipestone County Transportation		
Worthington Multipurpose Senior Center	24,245	The state of the s	1,000	
		TOTAL DIRECT SERVICE AWARDS -	\$595,449	

FOUNDATION GRANTS

MCKNIGHT SENIOR CENTERS

FUNDED JULY 1, 1985

1,369
1,085
1,876
1,070
2,714
2,000
580
3,500
2,069
2,500
2,723
563
2,091

TOTAL FOUNDATION AWARDS

\$24,140

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

"Developing Public | Private Partnerships For Job Creation And Community Stability"

Substantial economic and community development progress was achieved during the year by the SRDC on behalf of local organizations. Highlighted below are a number of these accomplishments:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY



- Provided assistance to 71 businesses in 35 cities in financial management and aspects of business planning.
- * Spoke to over 20 community organizations, chamber of commerces, and economic development corporations on economic development issues.
- * Was instrumental in writing application and receiving \$2.8 million over 2 year period from the McKnight Foundation. Member of the SW MN Initiative Fund to implement the McKnight funds.
- * Assisted Lincoln County in pursuing the establishment of a county-wide revolving loan fund for business development and expansion.
- * Prairieland Economic Development Corporation approved one loan application for a funeral home in Marshall and tabled two applications from businesses in Marshall.
- * Developed and distributed to bankers, elected officials, local economic development groups, and chambers, a brochure on Prairieland Economic Development Corporation and a resource manual entitled "Southwest Regional Resource Directories for Small Businesses."
- Two Small Cities Economic Development projects were written and approved:
 \$250,000 for Windom creating 10 jobs at
 Caldwell Packing and leveraging
 \$1,315,000 in Ag-Res/private funds.
 \$15,000 for Chandler creating 15 jobs at
 Huisken Meat Center and leveraging
 \$120,693 in private funds.
- * One MN Fund Special Assistance application of \$500,000 was written and approved for Huisken Meat Center in Chandler creating 30 full-time jobs and 10 part-time jobs and leveraging \$147,000 in private funds.
- * Assisted Slayton, Jackson, Redwood Falls in their short and long range planning and labor surveys for the Star City Program.

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Region 8 Map

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Milford Centz, ChairmanLakefield
Woody Kramer, Vice-ChairmanVesta
Karen Tommeraasen
Burdell "Bud" Bush
Ed QuiringMountain Lake
Norman MadsenArco
Paul Mettling
Susan Kay Bakke
Dottie BluestoneMorton
Ronald LawrenceAdrian
Robert SchlagelMarshall
Marlo SkurdalPipestone

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY



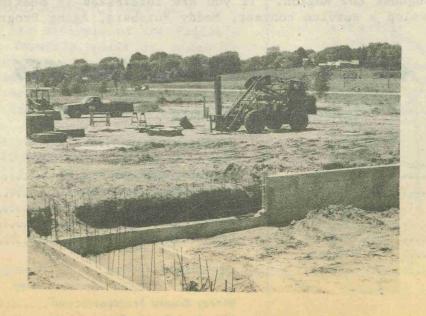
- * Conducted community needs assessment for City of Jackson, Round Lake and Rushmore.
- * Provided specific assistance to 18 counties, cities, schools or non-profit organizations.
- * Spoke to 34 cities and community groups, on issues relating to community development.
- * Administered Small Cities Economic Development Grants for Edgerton and Chandler.
- * Wrote 3 Small Cities Development Program applications and Farmer's Home Administration preapplications for Cities of Jackson, Round Lake, and Rushmore.
- * Assisted Fulda in creating a rural credit union which will provide loans to small businesses and individuals in parts of Cottonwood, Murray and Nobles County.
- * Investigated potential for joint application with 3 other RDCs for funds from a national private foundation to meet health care needs of underinsured and uninsured persons.
- * Completed Rural Development Strategies Report and distributed report to 100 agencies, legislators, and individuals.
- * Conducted nine county-wide meetings of city councils which were attended by 93 representatives from 41 city councils and 6 county boards to discuss common needs and problems and potential cooperative efforts.
- * Held 6 Economic/Community Development Committee meetings to review progress of activities.
- * Provided assistance to 7 county interagency teams of health, family services and educators to review services for handicapped children from birth to four years old.

WINDOM AND SRDC

HELP PAMIDA CREATE 25 NEW JOBS

During the last months of 1985 the staff from the City of Windom and the SRDC started working together to provide a new building and 25 new employees for Pamida. The City of Windom revised their tax increment plan to purchase 14.8 acres of undeveloped land in the northern part of Windom and to sell 6.8 acres to Pamida. The Pamida expansion project provided \$200,000 in tax increment funds and over \$1 million in private funds. The new building will open in September or October, 1986.

"The SRDC really assisted the City of Windom by writing the amended plan," claimed Doug Uhrhammer, Windom's economic development planner, "so that we could work out the details between the city and Pamida. I believe larger cities and their staff in the region need to link with the SRDC so that all possible funding sources are examined to determine the best program for the business expansion."



Construction work begins on the new Pamida building located in Windom, MN

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

The SRDC over the past few years has provided a variety of assistance to small businesses. The SRDC assists businesses in developing expansion plans, determining market strategies, reviewing management concerns and determining the best funding source for business development and expansion. SRDC can also assist businesses in the development of their final business plans.

Upon request from the business, the SRDC can write their loan application and business plan for the minimal fee of \$750.

County Profiles On Aging Programs

The Minnesota Board on Aging (MBA) was asked by Assistance Commissioner Al Hanzal, Department of Human Services (DHS), to develop a profile of each county's aging program.

The profiles included: (1) an inventory of aging services, service providers, an estimate of persons served, and services needed; (2) observations on community program areas in each county, and (3) information on "community systems", designed to collect information on the status of the comprehensive and community-based system of delivering services to older persons. The MBA will use the profiles and reports to help carry out its responsibilities under the Older Americans Act for a "comprehensive, coordinated, community based system" of services. The information will also help the Board to carry out its responsibility under state law "to advise the Governor and heads of state departments and agencies on policy, programs and services affecting the aging".

The Southwest Regional Development Commission's (SRDC) Aging Program will use the profile and reports to develop their 1987-1990 "Area Plan on Aging". This Plan will address the comprehensive and coordinated system of services for the 9 counties in southwest Minnesota.

The preliminary report showed of the 31 aging services included on the county profiles, 20 are available in all nine counties. Eight counties have Adult Foster Care and Personal Care services. Seven counties have Home Nursing, Emergency Placement, chore services, six counties have respite and hospice, five counties adult day care, four escort and two counties have "other" ombudsman services.

The current needs by county showed: Cottonwood - Day Care, Respite, Hospice and Home Nursing on a limited basis. Additional transportation to the rural elderly.

Jackson - Transportation (handicapped accessibility and more volunteer drivers).

Lincoln - (1) Adult Day Care (2) Respite Care (3) Transportation (handicapped and special needs) (4) Advocacy (5) Information (6) Counseling.

Lyon - (1) Day Care (2) Congregate Housing (3) Adult Foster Care (4) Transportation (handicapped or special needs) (5) Homemaker More Respite (7) Shared Housing (8) Advocacy (9) Intergenerational Programming (10) County Coordinator on Aging (11) Information (12) Counseling.

Murray - (1) Adult Day Care (2) Respite (3) Transportation (emphasis on handicaps and special needs) (4) Advocacy (5) Information (6) Counseling.

Nobles - (1) Legal Guardianship/Conservatorship (2) Transportation (3) Living Arrangements other than Nursing Homes (4) Respite.

Pipestone - (1) Formalize Companionship Program (2) Service Providers that would provide outreach (3) Volunteer for Guardianship Services (4) Adult Foster Care and/or Board and Care Assistance (5) Adult Day Care (6) Respite Care (7) Transportation (8) Advocacy (9) Information (10) Counseling.

Redwood - None stated.

Rock - (1) Respite (2) Guardianship (3) Money Management.

Although some services, such as transportation are available in all counties, seven of the nine counties show additional need for transportation, especially for handicapped or special needs. Six counties stated a need for respite care. Three for guardianship and information.

On the county profile questionnaire, respondents had an opportunity to identify the major barriers to the delivery of services to older people in their counties. As far as access to service three counties stated transportation was lacking, four that service levels were inadequate. Other barriers to the delivery of service mentioned were inadequate or insufficient funding for needed services in seven counties; service provider "turfism"/conflict preventing coordination six counties; inadequate knowledge/ awareness of available benefits and attitudes/ pride regarding services/"welfare" stigma, problem in locating/identifying target at risk elderly in five counties; fiscal year discrepancies and conflicting policies regulating services in four counties.

The overall impression is that a fairly comprehensive system exists with some notable gaps apparent. Most counties indicate that planning is based on needs assessment with a high degree of input from older people themselves and elected officials. While linkages between private and public agencies are informal, a lack of long range planning and county coordinators on aging at the local level point to opportunities for improvement.



Aging Network Meeting

RESOURCE MATERIALS AVAILABLE FREE

FROM THE SRDC AGING PROGRAM

- ** List of Physicians and Suppliers who Accept Medicare Assignments
- ** The Golden Pages A directory of resources and services for older persons.
- ** Consumers Guide to Nursing Homes of Southwest Minnesota
- ** Variety of films, slide / tape programs and videotapes related to Aging
- ** Library of resource materials and publications on Aging
- ** Demographic Profiles of the elderly by county and the region

AGING NETWORK MEETINGS

Convening Aging Network meetings every quarter has been a very successful element of the work program of the Area Agency on Aging.

During this fiscal year meetings were held on "Care of Older Persons: Family Roles and Responsibilities." October, the Regional Conference on Aging was held in Tracy with around 200 participants attending workshops on: Preserving Family History, Safety in the Home, Hearing Impairments and Aging, Making Your Home Energy Efficient, the DRG's the Hospitals and Patient Rights, and Effective Communication for Professionals.

In January, 1986 the Network meeting held on "Guardianship" with a panel consisting of representatives from Legal Services, Veterans Services, the County Courts System, a nursing home social worker, and a county social worker. Guardianship, Conservatorship, power of attorney and durable power of agreements attorney were explained and questions and answers on the types of procedures that work best for certain situations.

The last quarters network meeting was on "Transportation Problems of the Elderly" to discuss problems of funding, coordination of transportation services, insurance problems, contributions and fees, training, fundraising, and Working with volunteers.

All services providers of aging services are encouraged to attend these network meetings to share ideas. Currently invitations are sent to over 150 providers of services in the nine county area of the SRDC. If you are a provider or are interested in attending these meetings and currently do not receive the information. Contact Maddy Forsberg, Aging Program Manager at the SRDC office to be put on the mailing list.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES 'Seeking

Greater Independence for Persons With Disabilities'

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUMMARY

The Southwest Developmental Disabilities Committee directs the SRDC DD Program and is composed of: parent representatives, disabled persons, representatives of Developmental Achievement Centers, sheltered workshops, county family services, residential facilities, employers and others. The DD Committee is responsible for monitoring and providing input in the DD Program as well as serving as a resource on all issues affecting persons with disabilities.

The DD Program received \$43,197 from the State Developmental Disabilities Office. With this award the program focused on placing adults with disabilities in permanent, part-time or full-time supported work. The program also concentrated on placing special education students in part-time jobs.

The DD Program also offered a workshop to participating agencies on "Rural Employment Strategies" presented by Myron Elg, who is a former Community Work Supervisor at the Murray County DAC.

The DD Program has also loaned out 15 books from the DD Resource Library.

SOUTHWEST

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COMMITTEE

Dan Zimansky, Chairman, rep. DVRWorthington Ron Sandness, Vice-Chairman,

consumer with cerebral palsyMarshall Catherine Hill, Secretary,

SUPPORTED WORK PROGRAMS GROWING



For Sandy Hejl, a client of Worthington's The Achievement Center (TAC), the road to a job was greatly assisted by the job coach that was available to help Sandy with training for her job.

The Achievement Center is one of seven agencies in the region who are currently participating in the Southwest Developmental Disabilities Program at the Regional Development Commission. The other participating agencies are: Canby DAC, Canby, Murray County DAC, Slayton; Redwood County DAC, Redwood Falls; Rock County DAC, Luverne; and Swan Lake DAC, Windom.

The DD Program provides technical assistance and training to the agencies as well as funds reimbursing them for support services for the clients on the job.

During the past year almost \$4,000 dollars have been awarded as reimbursements to these agencies.

The funds covered a broad range of services including supervision, client job training, fringe benefits, transportation and other costs associated with the obtaining and maintaining of jobs.

While all of the participating agencies enjoyed successful experiences with their supported work programs, the experiences pointed out the importance of job coaching and the basic necessity of continued funds for the relatively high cost of providing these services.

Ruth Rusche, job placement coordinator at TAC, stated that the business community has been very supportive of the supported work program. Ruth stated that possibly the reason was twofold, "the employers basic satisfaction with the individuals jobs performance, and also, when placements are made the committment of assistance in the future of and when the employer deams it necessary."

TAC's Sandy Hejl, after a few weeks of job coaching, was employed in the laundry operations at Fulda Public School. Sandy had this job for the 1985-86 school year and hopes to resume her duties when school starts this fall. When asked how she feels about the job Sandy stated that "I like the work, and also it's nice to have the money."

The emphasis for the remaining grant period will be to work with the Region's secondary schools special education programs and teachers to develop community based or supported work positions on a part-time basis.

SRDC COMPLETES SELF-EVALUATION

During the 1980 legislative session, the Regional Development Act was amended to require each Commission to conduct a self- evaluation prior to August 1, 1981 and every five years thereafter. The purpose of the evaluation is to "issue a report assessing its performance in fulfilling the purposes of the Regional Development Act of 1969". In June, 1986 the Southwest Regional Development Commission completed its self-evaluation report of both local units of government/public interest groups in Region 8 and SRDC Commission members.

Questionnaires which solicited opinions in regards to familiarity and frequency of contact by commission members and staff; frequency and helpfullness of assistance and succuess of programs were mailed to local units of government and non-profit interest groups. Of the questionnaires mailed, approximately 59 percent were returned.

Specifically of those solicites, 89 percent (8:9) county commissioners responded; 53 percent (43:81 cities; 68 percent (30:44) of the school districts; 48 percent (79:163) of the townships; and 58 percent (26:45) of the public interest groups completed the questionnaire.

Regarding the survey mailed to the SRDC Commission members approximately sixty-six percent of the surveys were returned (24:36). The questionnaire requested information concerning membership status, level of public interest in programs, programmatic rating, local government satisfaction with the SRDC, usefulness of particular programs, level of involvement in particular programs, and general opinion questions.

If you are interested in the results of the self-evaluation surveys please contact the SRDC office for a complete copy.



"The growth of Huisken Meat Center," claimed Cliff Albertson, Vice-President of Finance and Sales, "has been steadily increasing during the past years, especially in the snack foods and patty products. We had the opportunity to increase our production and were glad that the SRDC could help us find the resources to do this."

In fall, 1985 the SRDC assisted the City of Chandler amend its Small Cities Economic Development Program to loan an additional \$15,000 to Huisken's, thus creating 15 more jobs and leveraging an additional \$122,953 in private funds.

"We were ready to expand again in spring 1986," continued Albertson from Huisken's, "and so contacted the SRDC and the City of Chandler to help us. After going through a bumpy road, we were able to identify the MN Fund Special Assistance Program for this year's expansion. The SRDC put the loan application together within a couple weeks."

The MN Fund Special Assistance Project provided \$500,000 to expand the production and storage facility in Chandler and purchase equipment. The project leveraged \$147,000 in private funds and will create 30 full-time jobs and 10 part-time jobs.

We are glad that Huisken Meat Center is able to continue expanding," noted Paul Mettling, Chairman of Murray County Commissioners and Treasurer of SRDC Board. "Huisken's is one of the county's largest employers and is a stable company, employing over 125 persons from a four-county area."

SMALL CITIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM APPLICANTS

Although over a dozen communities were initially interested in applying for grant funds under the Small Cities Development Program, only 5 cities in the region competed for the reduced federal funds.

Of the 5 new applicants for SCDP funds, only Round Lake received \$294,000 in grant funds for their wastewater treatment facility.

The other cities applying for grant funds include: Lake Benton requesting \$267,000 for utility improvements and Minneota requesting \$973,000 for their comprehensive city improvement project.

The staff assisted Jackson and Rushmore in their applications. Jackson requested \$193,800 for their con-

taminated wells project and Rushmore requested \$71,600 for sanitary sewer improvements. Even though Jackson and Rushmore did not receive grant funds for their well and sanitary sewer projects, SRDC staff are assisting them in pursuing alternative funding, including Farmers Home Administration loans.

Communities interested in applying for SCDP funds next year and utilizing SRDC resources should begin working on their applications this summer and fall, 1986. They should contract for engineering services, schedule the public hearing and conduct and low to moderate income survey by November 15th of the grant cycle to allow the maximum time possible for quality grantwriting.

AG-MARKETING ANNUAL REPORT

Agriculture is the basis of the economy in southwest Minnesota. The Commission is examining agricultural marketing in three primary areas which are: (1) the development of "spot" markets for agricultural goods produced in the area; (2) value added by manufacture by developing agricultural products processing plants in the area; and (3) the examination and encouragement of production of potential alternative crops for marketing which have a higher cash value and lower production costs than those which are presently produced.

ROUND LAKE RECEIVES SCDP GRANT

In May, 1986 the City of Round Lake received \$294,000 in Small Cities Development Program grant funds to construct a wastewater treatment facility and its collection and conveyance system at a total project cost of \$839,200. MN Pollution Control Agency is providing \$321,900 and the city is applying for a \$190,300 loan from Farmers Home Administration as well as providing \$30,000 in cash.

"We are very pleased with the work of the SRDC," exclaimed Mayor Walter Wiese. "The SRDC wrote the application which was funded and we contracted with them to finish writing the Farmers Home Administration loan application and to administer the entire wastewater treatment project."

After careful evaluation of alternatives, the city has approved the stabilization pond system which consists of two 5.3 acre primary cells and one 5.3 secondary cell. The lift stations will be equipped with energy-efficiency submersible pumps.

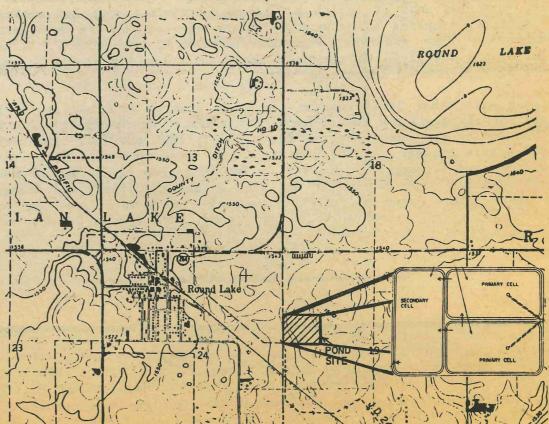
The city plans to have its plans and specifications approved by MN Pollution Control Agency by January 1, 1987 and construction is scheduled for summer, 1987.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES

The SRDC offers many services free of charge to counties, cities, and nonprofit organizations. technical These assistance services include information on potential public and private funding, and census data information, comparison on other city water and sewer rates, plus other rates, plus other general information. The SRDC will also assist communities in developing their own community needs which assessment identifies prioritizes projects to be implemented during the next five years.

Because of the intensive work required for individual grant writing services, the SRDC now charges for these various ser-For Small vices. Development Cities and UDAG Program applications, the SRDC charges \$750 to pay for secretarial copying, postage and other related costs. The Commission will continue to write Farmers Home Administration pre-applications for cities at no charge but will require a contract with the city for Stages II, III, and IV whereby the SRDC provides free 1/3 of total hours of professional service to a maximum of 100 free hours while direct and indirect charges are fully paid by the





SRDC'S AGING PROGRAM

"In Touch With The Region's Elderly"

AGING PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Aging Program during FY 1986 is seeing the end of its three-year planning cycle for the Area Plan for Programs on Aging, and the beginning of planning on a new four-year plan for 1987 - 1990.

The Area Plan is the "work plan" for the Aging Program. The three-year plan had nine objectives to achieve. These objectives address the areas of Advocacy, Service Development and System Development.

Under the advocacy goal the Aging Program organized a formal legislative advocacy program. The advisory council legislative subcommittee along with members of AARP and the Senior Federation met monthly during the legislative session to review and comment in legislation. The Aging Program also planned and co-sponsored a Long Term Care Conference to inform legislators, county commissioners, health and social service administrators, consumers and other service providers of the critical issues in social policy for the long term care of adults. The Consumer's Guide to Nursing Homes with assistance from the Long Term Care Ombudsman was updated. The Aging Program along with the Minnesota Board on Aging sponsored hearings on issues affecting older people. Attending these meetings were about 150 persons, Governor Perpich, Commissioners on Veterans Affairs and Health and Human Services.

Under the Service Development goal the Aging Program worked with and funded the expansion of Homemaker program in Rock County through the family service center and Murray, Lincoln and Lyon Counties through Region VIII North Welfare. Home Delivered Meals Programs were expanded to Iona and Morgan by WESCAP's Senior Nutrition Program funded by Older Americans Act dollars. Assistance was also given to senior centers to improve programs and activities in their senior centers by periodic informational meetings and yearly visits to all the Multi-Purpose Senior Centers.

The Aging Program also gave technical assistance in the development of a county coordinator on aging, which was funded July 1, 1986.

A Peer Counseling Program was funded to improve mental health services to older people in Rock, Pipestone, Nobles and Cottonwood counties through the Southwest Mental Health Center.

The last goal in the plan was Systems Development. The objectives accomplished improving coordination on aging services by convening quarterly aging network meetings, conducting an analysis of the continuum of care for the elderly, and forming a Funding Policy Task Force to review funding policies and the possible county allocation of Older Americans Act funds.

The Aging Program also has a technical assistance role which included input in the development of CSSA and CHS plans; publishing a list of physicians who accept medicare assignments; compiled demographic profiles on aging for the region; participated in regional food bank study; met with Congregate Housing developers to discuss services, marketing, etc; participated in Health Fairs; convened meetings to improve services to Older Veterans; obtained a Humanities Program which is available to libraries and senior clubs; provided training resources to nursing homes, hospitals and community ed programs; informed seniors and communities on the pros and cons of Health Maintenance Organizations; and worked with hospitals, counties and community action agencies on the development of adult day care programs, expanded home care, and advocacy programs. Assistance was given to senior citizens and community groups in applying for 501(c)3 Federal tax exempt status.

Along with other SRDC Programs the Aging Program also had staff changes and loss in staff due to cut-backs in funding. On re-organization of the SRDC office the Aging Program saw a change from one full-time Director, 90% Grants Manager and 80% administrative assistant with SRDC financial officer and secretarial support; to one full-time Aging Program Manager, Minnesota Board on Aging Policies and Southwest Area Agency on Aging policies. In subsequent meetings the task force reviewed Historical distribution of funds, analysis of the aging population and the per capita expenditures by

7	
	Aging Quiz Question: In the Old Comic Strip (20's - 30's) "The Grumps", who was Andy's Millionaire brother?
7	

SOUTHWESTERN AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Russ Brewster, ChairpersonTracy
William BrakkeLuverne
Everett CollinWindom
Mary G. HeeryRedwood Falls
Mildred JensenLucan
Ethel KrukemeyerBrawster
Larry ClausonMarshall
Ray NelsonHills
lone TracyMountain Lake
George VeenhuisJackson
Victor MillerFulda
Mary SprauLake Wilson
Robert StaefflerEllsworth
Frank Swedzinski
Ralph WoehleBalaton
Morris Vande KolkEdgerton
Jill McCord, SRDC representative
Dorothy Reker (ex-officio)RSVP
Helen Western (ex-officio)Senior Nutrition Services



Russ Brewster, Chairperson, Aging Advisory Council.

FUNDING POLICY TASK FORCE

In 1985 the SRDC appointed a task force to study the issue and feasibility of a county allocation method of distributing Older Americans Act funds. Appointed to the task force were Carl Hauschild, Chairman of the SRDC; Darold Neperman, SRDC Commissioner, Redwood County; F. A. "Jim" Miller, SRDC Commissioner, Cottonwood County; Russ Brewster, Southwestern Area Agency on Aging (SWAAA) Chairperson; Ione Tracy, SWAAA; Jerry Fiola, Director, Worthington Community Education; Allyson Ashley, Director, SW Mental Health Center; Ann Moorhaus, District PHN, Marshall; and Chuck Olson, Director, Rock County Family Services.

In February of 1986 the task force met for the first time and reviewed the Older Americans Act, Minnesota Board on Aging Policies and Southwest Area Agency on Aging policies. In subsequent meetings the task force reviewed Historical distribution of funds, analysis of the aging population and the per capita expenditures by county, the presentation of Region II's Allocation System, and other options for a fair allocation of aging funds. At the May Task Force meetings the task force recommended that no formal county allocation system be implemented at this time, but that aging staff should become more pro-active in informing all counties and working closely with the under funded counties before budgeting funds for programs.

The task force will meet again to review progress and other funding policies.

"SRDC Legislative Recommendations Produces Results"

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The 1986 Legislative Recommendations of the Southwest Regional Development Commission was prepared by the Legislative Committee and approved by the Full Commission on January 29, 1986. The sixteen legislative recommendations were considered to be the top priorities of the region and represent region-wide, non-partisan concerns by the majority of SRDC Commissioners.

The SRDC Legislative Committee met with six state representatives and senators from the region on February 8, 1986 in Marshall, MN. Additionally, Commissioners and staff met privately with eight state senators and representatives in St. Paul in mid-March and with U.S. Senator Durenberger and Congressman Vin Weber in April. Phone calls and letters were also sent to the State and Federal legislators throughout the session on legislative concerns in the region.

The following chart indicated the results of the sixteen legislative recommendations. Of the sixteen issues, 12 or 75% were partially successful or fully successful. This success rate is admirable but it could not have been accomplished without the hard work of the Legislative Committee and Commission members and full cooperation of the area legislators. The legislators were courteous, interested, and helpful during the legislative contacts. The SRDC greatly appreciates this cooperation and hopes to build on this legislative partnership during the upcoming years.

LEGISLATIVE BOX SCORE

Listed below is a brief summary of the SRDC's 1986 Legislative Agenda and the results achieved:

Issue	Topic	Action
#1	-Monitor Licensing Standards and Requirements for Elderly Home Health Care	Partially Successful
#2	-Lower Worker's Compensation and Unemployment Insurance Costs	Partially Successful
#3	-Support Economic Development Assis- tance to Distressed Rural Areas	Partially Successful
#4	-Retain Tax-Exempt Municipal Financing Options	Successful
#5	-Provide Solid Waste Management Assistance	Partially Successful
#6	-Review Pending Solid Waste Regu- lations and Empower Regional MPCA Officials with greater Policy- making Discretion and Authority	Partially Successful
#7	-Consolidate Water Boards and Agencies	Partially Successful
#8	-Support Local Water Management Planning	Unsuccessful
#9	-Review Waste Tire Abatement Fund Criteria to allow Eligibility for Small Waste Tire Collection Programs	Partially Successful
#10	-Limit Local Government's Liability and Retain Current Caps under the Present Tort Liability Law	Successful
#11	-Retain the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Transfer from General Fund to High- way Fund	Unsuccessful
#12	-Consider Highway Jurisdiction Issues	Partially Successful
#13	-Designate a Ten-Ton Route on the Primary State Highway System	Successful
#14 #15	-Extend the Bridge Bonding Program	Unsuccessful
	-Support an increase in the present Developmental Achievement Center Service Day Cap	Unsuccessful
#16	-Support the establishment of a state insurance pool for DACs and	Successful

sheltered workshops

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

F.A. "Jim" Miller, ChairmanWindom
Berdell "Bud" BushHills
Charles CunninghamPipestone
Milford GentzLakefield
Alvin GruisRushmore
Carl HauschildMinneota
Woody KramerVesta
Jill McCordSlayton
John WreathBalaton
Karen TommeraasenSlayton
Irene Holmquist

SURVEY ON FEDERAL REVENUE SHARING INDICATES STRONG SUPPORT AMONG TOWNSHIPS, CITIES AND COUNTIES

At the request of the Cottonwood County Commissioners when the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate were considering eliminating the Federal Revenue Sharing Program, the Southwest Regional Development Commission distributed a survey to counties, cities and townships regarding their support or non-support for federal revenue sharing.

"If we do not receive federal revenue sharing funds," noted Rosella McGinty, City Clerk of Holland, "we will have to discontinue the police protection we now have."

Charles Louwagie, Chairman of Fairview Township in Lyon County stated that "the total revenue sharing funds were used for subsidizing the fire contract."

Frederick G. Gruis, Chairman of Summit Lake Township in Nobles County noted that federal revenue replaced a bridge, purchased a grader, rebuilt a ball diamond and renovated a community center and that future funds are needed to replace the roof on the community center.

Kenneth Fletcher of Dewald Township in Nobles County emphasized, "If the township does not receive revenue sharing dollars, it means more taxes for the township."

Within one week 8 counties, 44 cities and 94 townships in southwest Minnesota responded with strong letters of support. The townships, cities, and counties agree that general revenue sharing dollars ensure local decision-making and have the least amount of administrative overhead costs in any federal program. If the federal revenue sharing program was eliminated, the average governmental unit would have to increase its levy 8-12%.

Based on the results of that survey, the federal revenue sharing funds in southwest Minnesota have been used during the past years for hospitals, law enforcements, senior citizens, parks, swimming pools, libraries, handicapped programs, child care centers, sewer improvements, water improvements, fire and ambulance services, sidewalks, roads, bridges and economic development activities.

"I believe that the survey conducted by the SRDC," noted Jim Miller of the Cottonwood County Commissioners, "did help convince our Congressman and Senators that the federal revenue sharing program is vitally important to local units of government."

appropriately if percent were returned.

PARKS AND RECREATION

"Committee Impacts Future Recreation Needs"

PARKS AND RECREATION SUMMARY

During Fiscal Year 1986, the SRDC Parks and Recreation Committee continued its involvement with the states park and recreation program. This included monitoring legislation and contacting the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources in order to provide input on the future recreational needs for Region Eight as well as proposing a restructuring of the existing system for awarding park grant funds through a regional base rather than at the state level. The SRDC also continued its assistance to local units of government in preparing grant applications.

REGION RECEIVES EIGHT GRANT APPLICATIONS

This years LCMR/LAWCON Grant Cycle yielded eight applications from Region. applications written by the SRDC for the Cities of Currie and Hadley. The staff also assisted Fulda in preparing their application. Other applications were received from the cities of Redwood Falls, Heron Lake, and Pipestone: and two more were submitted by Jackson County. On June 10, members of the SRDC Parks Committee, local citizens, and staff toured the grant application sites with MN DEED representative Cindy Wheeler. Notification of grant funding will be later this

SRDC SUBMITS RECREATIONAL PRIORITIES

In a response to the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources development of priority natural resource areas in the State of Minnesota, the SRDC submitted its natural and recreational priorities for Region Eight. The SRDC recognizes the importance of developing natural resource priorities for the State, but insists that it is also important to address individual regional priorities. The following table identifies the natural and recreational priorities for Region Eight.

Bicycle & Walking Paths Campgrounds Lake Restoration Water Fowl Hunting Areas Picnic Grounds Athletic Fields

Zoos
Designated Canoe Routes
Horseback Trails
Downhill Ski Areas
Dirt Bike Areas
Swimming Beaches
Basketball & Tennis Crts.
Colf Courses

MODERATE

Fishing Piers
Nature Study Centers
Hiking Trails
Cross Country Ski Trails
Nature Park-Like Areas
Upland Game Hunting Rinks
Public Boat Access

LOW

Foundations and Gardens Rifle and Archery Ranges 3 & 4 Wheel Drive Areas Skeet and Trap Ranges Historical Interpretive Facility Snowmobile Trails Swimming Pools

TRANSPORTATION

"Impacting Regional Highway Issues"

TRANSPORTATION SUMMARY

The Southwest Regional Development Commission continued its coordination with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) in the planning and development of a comprehensive transportation system in southwest Minnesota. The SRDC Transportation Committee held meetings with both the Willmar and Mankato Districts in order to discuss the market artery study and the upcoming jurisdiction study. The SRDC also continued its role in impacting Mn/DOT trunk highway improvement programs.

SRDC RECEIVES 16 (B) (2) APPLICATIONS

The SRDC received four grant applications for the Mn/DOT 16(B)(2) Elderly and Handicapped Vehicle Assistance Program. The applications were submitted by the Rock County DAC, Swan Lake DAC, Pipestone American Legion The Crippled Children's School. The SRDC assisted Rock County and Pipestone in preparing their applications. Notification of grant funding will be later this summer.

SRDC BEGINS ROAD JURISDICTION STUDY

The SRDC has begun its analysis of the Region's State, County and Township roads in order to determine whether or not the present jurisdiction of specific roads should be turned back to another governing body. The reason for the study stems from the 1985 Legislature which directed Mn/DOT to coordinate Regional Jurisdiction Studies and to utilize them to complete a statewide Jurisdiction Plan by March 1988. The SRDC's study will include: a review of the present system; development of measurable criteria for the jurisdiction divisions; estimated changes in financing; funding recommendations and methods for agreeable transfers.

The SRDC has a Regional Task Force overseeing the entire study, while each county has an individual task force. The county task force's is comprised of members from the county, city and township levels of government as well as the county highway engineer.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Loren Carlson, Chairman	Heron Lake
Roland Wray	Heron Lake
Susan Bakke	Russell
Leland Priebe	Hadley
Charles Cunningham	Pipestone
James Derickson	Lamberton
Merten Peterson	Hardwick
Eloise Hauschild	Minneota
Roy Syverson, Jr	Tracy
Robert Feeken	Rushmore

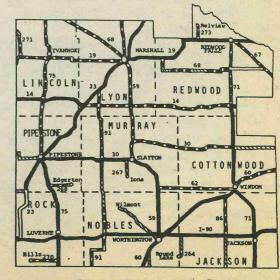


SRDC Park/Rec Chairman, Loren Carlson and Jackson Co. Parks Planner Gordon Olson review the Loon Lake Grant Application with DEED representative Cindy Wheeler.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Loren Carlson, Chairman	Heron Lake
Ed Quiring	Mountain Lake
Jim Miller	
Carl Hauschild	Minneota
Ed Paradis	
Paul Mettling	
Rollin Haynes	
Robert Feeken	
Joseph Stepanek	
Darold Neperman	
Woody Kramer	
Merten Peterson	
Ronald Lawrence	
Eloise Hauschild	
Robert Schlagel	
Marlo Skurdal	
Mario Skurdai	ripestone

REGION 8 1986 TRUNK HIGHWAY SEASONAL WEIGHT LIMITATIONS



10 TON TON 7 TON 5 TON

REGION'S 10 TON SYSTEM UP 27%

LAND USE

"Preparing Today's Region For Tomorrow"

LAND USE SUMMARY

During the 1986 Fiscal Year, the SRDC continued its land use and environmental planning program. The Land Use Committee held quarterly meetings to discuss various issues such as water management planning. The SRDC also fulfilled its contract with the City of Adrian for the purposes of developing a Land Use Plan. The SRDC will continue its involvement with the Region's communities to ensure that future developments are environmentally sound.



Luverne Planning/Zoning Commission Members Olson, Weise and Nelson identify possible future changes in the City's Land Use.

LUVERNE INITIATES COMP PLAN UPDATE

The City of Luverne is presently contracting with the SRDC to update its comprehensive plan. The plan will provide Luverne with a guideline in determining the future present and needs in areas such as: economics, housing, community facilities, transportation, physical features. The plan is expected to be completed and approved in August, 1986.

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## LAND USE/SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

| Carl Hauschild, ChairmanMinneota |
|----------------------------------|
| Abner BrandtLakefield            |
| Norman MadsenArco                |
| Paul Mettling                    |
| James Veenhuis                   |
| Gerald MulderRushmore            |
| Robert FeekenRushmore            |
| Clayton IhlenPipestone           |
| Joseph StepanekRuthton           |
| Darold NepermanLamberton         |
| James DericksonLamberton         |
| Dennis Roning                    |
| John WreathBalaton               |
| Ed ParadisBalaton                |
| Ed QuiringMountain Lake          |
| Roland WrayHeron Lake            |
|                                  |

## SLAYTON CONDUCTS HAZARDOUS WASTE PROJECT

On June 21, the City of Slayton conducted a household hazardous waste pick-up project. The project is part of the LCMR's program to assemble data on how much household hazardous waste exists, and what is presently going to the landfill instead of being extracted from the wastestream. The MN Pollution Control Agency has been directed to conduct the demonstration projects.

One of the main reasons Murray County was selected for the program was because the major economic base for the county is agriculture. The MPCA wanted to obtain wastes from an agriculturally based county in order to see whether or not farmers would participate by bringing in hazardous chemicals. Although the participation was not as high as expected, the MPCA did receive quite a bit of volatile materials such a 50 gallon drum of DDT. All of the waste collected was transported out of the state since Minnesota presently does not have a landfill suited for hazardous waste disposal.

# SOLID WASTE "Developing New Technologies To Kick The Landfill Habit"

## SOLID WASTE SUMMARY

During the 1986 Fiscal Year, solid waste management continued to be an important issue for the SRDC. With existing and new regulations being mandated to the counties; it became evident that the SRDC continue its technical assistance in this area. The SRDC assisted in the formation of the Southwest Solid Waste Management Task Force in order to develop county solid waste management plans. The SRDC also assisted the City of Slayton with their Household Hazardous Waste Project.

## SRDC MEETS WITH STATE AGENCIES ON WASTE TIRES MANAGEMENT

Since the ban on waste tire disposal one year ago, the issue of developing a facility to process the waste tires has been a controversial one. One facility has been funded by the state to process waste tires, but its location to southwest Minnesota is cumbersome. Many interested parties thought that this warranted the possibility of having a facility located in this part of the state. In order to further investigate this issue, the SRDC sponsored a meeting with state staff from MPCA, DEED, SPA and WMB. The meeting was also attended by public officials, private organizations and the general public. The purpose of the meeting was to obtain information from the state staff regarding their involvement with the waste tire issue.

Essentially, the state staff were supportive of the project, but added that in order for it to progress, an indepth feasibility study must be conducted to see whether or not such a facility could be maintained here in Region Eight. One suggestion is to incorporate this issue into the solid waste management plans and perhaps continuing work with the consultants for the purposes of developing a feasibility study as well. The SRDC will continue its involvement in resolving the waste tire management dilemma.

## COMMISSION ADDRESSES WATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING

In an effort to begin addressing the issue of water management planning, the SRDC invited Bob Finley, from the Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Association to speak at the May Board of Directors meeting. Finley apprised the Board that under the 1985 Water Management Act, a county will be responsible for preparing a plan that will address problems with existing watershed units and groundwater systems. It will also be important for the counties to coordinate with one another since groundwater does not always cooperate by governmental boundaries.



MPCA Officials and Slayton Citizens sort househousehold hazardous waste materials for disposal.

## TASK FORCE DETERMINES FUTURE FOR SOLID WASTE

The Southwest Solid Waste Management Task Force, which is comprised of Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, and Rock counties is continuing their development of county solid waste management plans. The Task Force officially formed in January and has been meeting monthly throughout the project's timeframe. The Task Force hired Hickok & Associates of Wazata, MN to conduct the mandated studies and are anticipating completion of the plans this fall. At that time, the plans will be submitted to MPCA for approval. It is also required that the counties implement their solid waste plans which will be developing programs that will deter from present landfilling. Such programs include recycling, composting, and incineration.

## SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA INITIATIVE FUND

## "Improving The Region's Economic Self-Reliance And Overcoming Human Distress"

#### **SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA RECEIVES \$2.8 MILLION**

#### FROM MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

After one and a half years of planning and hard work, the Southwest Minnesota McKnight Task Force members were very pleased when Russ Ewald from the McKnight Foundation announced in March, 1986 that Southwest Minnesota would receive \$2.8 million during the next two years. Over \$15 million dollars in grant funds were awarded to 6 rural areas throughout Minnesota and Southwest Minnesota received the second largest award.

"I'm ecstatic about the potential of the Initiative Fund" exclaimed Gloria Vande Brake from the Southwest Regional Development Commission. "The \$2.8 million dollars will leverage additional private and public dollars into southwestern Minnesota and assist in creating new jobs and providing needed services so that individuals and families can continue to live and work in rural southwestern Minnesota."

Two programs will be operated under the Fund: (1) a revolving loan program to provide financing for new or expanding businesses which will create jobs for rural individuals and families and (2) human services grants to encourage more creative, efficient, and effective delivery of social services, health and educational resources; and to assist rural people suffering as a result of the economic crisis.

The Southwest Minnesota Initiative Fund serves an eighteen county region in southwest Minnesota including the counties in Regions 6E, 6W and 8. Two citizen advisory committees have been established to review the loan and grant requests, make recommendations to the board, and assess regional problems and priorities. Applications for the loan and grant programs will be accepted beginning in August, 1986.

Over \$700,000 is initially available for business requests for new or expanding businesses including land and building acquisition, renovation, machinery and equipment, and working capital. Loan applications must create new jobs and the Fund will consider direct loans, loan guarantees and interest-buy downs. The Fund will be a supplementary source of financing for business loans after lending institutions and other federal and state loan programs. Businesses should consult existing experts in the economic development field including the regional development commissioner, the state's business finance specialists, local or county development authorities and small business development centers.

The human services program has over \$480,000 available the first year to provide better methods for meeting the effects of the current economic decline. Funding requests should bear a strong relationship to the effect of the rural economic crisis or to lessen its burdens. The Fund will consider proposals in several categories which represent potential service delivery methods: (1) partnership and cooperative programming which will build long-term cooperation among organizations, communities or counties, (2) methods which foster organizational communication among regional interests or which engage in advocacy to solve the causes of human distress in the region and (3) programs which continue to serve people experiencing transition caused by the agricultural and rural economic crisis. Funding requests must document the need for the project and show how the proposed project differs from similar projects within the service area. The project should leverage other public and private funding sources.

The Board has hired Thomas Keaveny as the Executive Director of the SW MN Initiative Fund. Keaveny, formerly the director of the Renville County Human Services Department, was born near Redwood Falls and attended school at Morton. David Leckey, a recent graduate of the HHH Institute has been hired as the Associate Director/Economic Development Planner.

## SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA INITIATIVE FUND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| Robert Carothers, President, Southwest State University                  | Marshall    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Kent Gustafson, Vice-President, MN Extension Service                     |             |
| Mark Loftus, Secretary, Countryside Council                              | Marshall    |
| Elroy Burgeson, Treasurer, Southwestern Vocational Technical InstituteCr | anite Falls |
| Margaret Preska, Mankato State University                                | Mankato     |
| Gloria Vande Brake, Southwest Regional Development Commission            | Slayton     |

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN DISTRESS

| Members From Region 8 Include:       |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Allyson Ashley, Mental Health Center | Luverne  |
| Pam Barrows, Hospital                | Marshall |
| Jerry Fiola, Community Education     |          |
| Carl Hauschild, Farmer,              |          |
| County and SRDC Commissioner         | Minneota |

County and SRDC Commissioner ......Minneota
Paul Horn, Human Services Supervisor ......Slayton
Leo Grossman ......Wabasso
Frank Jungas.

Retailer and County Commissioner ..... Mountain Lake Mary Matthiesen, Assistant City Clerk ...........Jasper

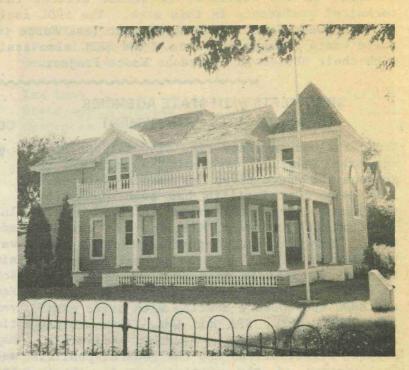
#### ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC SELF-RELIANCE

## Members From Region 8 Include:

Deborah Castle, Mgr. of Restaurant/Motel ...Redwood Falls Loren Epp, Retailer and Star City member ...Mountain Lake Marilyn Flanigan, Senior Center Coordinator ....Pipestone Milford Centz, Farmer,

County and SRDC Commissioner .....Lakefield Marlowe Nelsen, Farmer,

Job Service and WCC Board member ......Worthington
Marsha Woolhiser, Accounting Student ......Marshall



The office of the Southwest Minnesota Initiative Fund will be housed at the Volstead House in Granite Falls. "We are pleased by Granite Falls' attractive offer", stated Mark Loftus of Countryside Council and Secretary of the Fund. "But perhaps more important, we are impressed by the historical symbol which the Volstead House represents. Andrew Volstead was a U.S. Congressman from Granite Falls and was a key supporter of the early cooperative movement. We aim to administer the Initiative Fund in the same spirit of rural cooperation and in the hope that the initiative of residents in southwest Minnesota can be tapped to solve many of our present problems."