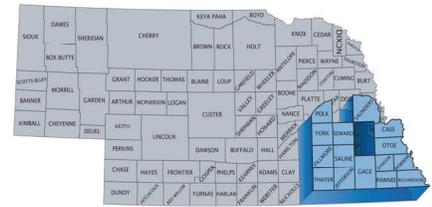


SEND D D

Southeast Nebraska Development District



Tecumseh Utilities/Hospital Receive \$300,000 USDA REDLG Award

The Tecumseh Board of Public Works and Johnson County Hospital have teamed up to utilize a USDA program that will result in a \$360,000 local economic development revolving loan fund. USDA announced on July 18th that the Tecumseh Board of Public Works has been granted \$300,000 from the USDA Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program (REDLG). Tecumseh BPW is matching that \$300,000 with \$60,000 of local funds and then lending that \$360,000 to the Johnson County Hospital to help finance equipment upgrades.

In pursuing this USDA Grant, Doug Goracke, Tecumseh Utility Superintendent and Economic Development Coordinator, saw the opportunity to create an additional \$300,000 in Economic Development Revolving Loan Funds. Once the Johnson County Hospital repays the \$360,000, then the Tecumseh BPW is able to make more traditional economic development loans from this fund.

Tecumseh BPW worked closely with Johnson County Hospital Administrator Diane Newman to document the initial need and to respond to USDA's grant application specifics. Diane points to the importance of keeping the JCH current with technology advancements as the reason JCH is making this investment in new health care management/information technology equipment and software upgrades.

Kevin Burnison of the SENDD staff worked closely with Bill Sheppard of USDA, Doug, and Diane to pull the application together so it could compete at the national level at USDA. Burnison notes that while the USDA REDLG program may not be a fit in many communities, that he expects to see an increased interest in pursuing these USDA REDLG funds. Those interested in learning more about the USDA REDLG program are encouraged to contact Bill Shepherd at USDA at 402) 371-5350 Ext. 1004 and/or contact either SENDD office.

These USDA REDLG funds are available to municipal utility providers (like Tecumseh Board of Public Works). USDA provides the grants to local utilities, which in turn, lend the funds to local businesses. The businesses then must repay the loan to the utility. The utility can then utilize the loan repayment funds for new/additional revolving loans to other local businesses.

We congratulate the Tecumseh Board of Public Works on their persistence in pursuing the funds and the award that will enhance their ability to provide economic development funds for businesses in the area for many years to come.

JUNE/JULY 2013 NEWSLETTER



STAFF

Dave Taladay

Executive Director
dtaladay@sendd.org

Sharon Taylor

Fiscal Officer
staylor@sendd.org

Ben Volz

Housing Rehab Specialist
bvolz@sendd.org

Jim Warrelmann

Housing Rehab Specialist
jwarrelmann@sendd.org

John Trouba

Development Specialist
jtrouba@sendd.org

Craig Eberle

Business Loan Officer
ceberle@sendd.org

Jen Olds

Development Specialist
jolds@sendd.org

Emily Bausch

Development Specialist
ebausch@sendd.org

Lincoln Office

2631 "O" Street
Lincoln, NE 68510-1398
Phone 402-475-2560
Fax 402-475-2794

Kevin Burnison

Development Specialist
senddhumboldt@windstream.net

Lisa Beethe

Development Specialist
senddlisa@windstream.net

Humboldt Office

P.O. Box 308
Humboldt, NE 68376
Phone 402-862-2201

NMPP Honors Tecumseh's Doug Goracke For Service



The Nebraska Municipal Power Pool (NMPP) awarded Doug Goracke, Utility Supervisor for the City of Tecumseh, NE, with the Bob Arraj Innovative Service Award at its 38th Annual Meeting and Conference in Lincoln, NE, March 27th.

The award is presented annually to an official or employee of a NMPP member utility system who has excelled in the area of service and/or used innovative technological changes in the utility industry. The award is a memorial tribute to Bob Arraj, former City Administrator and Utilities Superintendent of Kimball, NE. Arraj's years of knowledge, insight and expertise in the energy field allowed NMPP members to benefit from numerous innovative energy and service projects.

Goracke has demonstrated dedication by serving the city for more than 25 years in numerous roles. He currently oversees the city's utilities, street department and serves as economic development director.

The City of Tecumseh has been a member of NMPP since 1975. The award includes a \$350 gift that will be given to the City of Tecumseh to be used for community projects in Goracke's name.

Excerpts from NMPP Website: <http://www.nmppenergy.org/>

SEND D Membership Dues

SEND D membership packets were mailed out to all counties and municipalities in the 15-county SEND D district in May. SEND D staff would be happy to review our services with your county or municipal boards at any time. Just contact David Taladay, SEND D Executive Director, to request a presentation at your next meeting. We request that dues be paid by October 31st of each year. Let us know if you have any questions before taking action.

SEND D Receives USDA-Rural Business Enterprise Grant

SEND D has been awarded a Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) through USDA-RD to provide technical assistance and loan packaging services to small and emerging businesses in the SEND D 15-county service area. The RBEG will provide \$30,000 (leveraged with \$30,150) to support SEND D staff in promoting their business programs and providing direct loan and technical assistance to businesses. Contact Craig Eberle in our Western Field Office at ceberle@sendd.org or (402) 736-4417. The Southeast Nebraska Development District is an Equal Opportunity Provider, and Employer.

Fairbury and Dorchester Receive Planning Grants

The City of Fairbury was recently awarded a \$30,000 Planning grant from the NE Dept. of Economic Development for a Levee Certification Project, which is required by FEMA.

The Village of Dorchester also received a \$23,000 Planning grant from NDED for a new Comprehensive Development Plan, with zoning and subdivision ordinances.

Communities Apply for CDBG OOR Funds

SEND D staff has been working with 10 communities on CDBG Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation grant applications that were due by July 19th to NDED. Communities submitting applications are:

- ◆Fairmont and Geneva in Fillmore County
- ◆Hebron and Deshler in Thayer County
- ◆York in York County
- ◆Nebraska City in Otoe County
- ◆Crete and Dorchester in Saline County
- ◆Pawnee City in Pawnee County
- ◆Falls City in Richardson County

Awards are expected to be announced in late September. Good luck to all!

Public Works and Comprehensive Investment and Stabilization Grants

Other applications that SEND D has been preparing with member communities are for Public Works and Comprehensive Investment and Stabilization grants. The City of Peru has applied for a \$250,000 Public Works grant for the Park Avenue project. This project would enhance the entrance to the City of Peru and Peru State College by adding new curb/gutter and sidewalks along the entire 1/2 mile entrance to the city. Improvements to storm water drainage will also be a part of this project.

A new category of funding from the NE Dept. of Economic Development this year is the Comprehensive Investment and Stabilization grants. These grants are for communities with populations between 5,000-20,000 only. The cities of Plattsmouth and Nebraska City have submitted applications that would provide up to \$10,000 for a revitalization plan, and then receive up to 3 years of dedicated funding of \$150,000 – \$250,000 for projects that enhance housing and the living environment of neighborhoods within the communities.

Upcoming Meetings

Partners for Progress Meeting

The Southeast Nebraska Partners for Progress group will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, August 27 at the Auburn City Hall at 5:30 p.m. The 5 counties participating in the group are Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, and Richardson. Please RSVP to Stephanie Shrader at 402-873-4293 or by email at Director@NebraskaCityAreaEDC.org.