

NORTHEAST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INC. – NED, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2019 - 7:00 P.M.

City of Columbus Offices – 1st Floor Mayor’s Office, 2424 14th St, Columbus, NE 68601
City of Hartington Offices – Conference Room, 107 W. State St., Hartington, NE 68739
City of Norfolk Offices – Training Room, 309 N 5th St, Norfolk, NE 68701
West Point Chamber of Commerce – 200 Anna Stalp Ave, West Point, NE 68788
Northeast Housing Initiative – 110 E. 2nd St, Allen, NE 68710

MINUTES

I. Call to Order: The Northeast Economic Development, Inc. (NED, Inc.) Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong. Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong informed the public about the location of the Open Meetings Act LB 898 and that it is accessible to the public.

II. Roll Call: NENEDD Administrative Assistant Brittany O’Brien, read roll call.

Board Members Present:

Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, President, West Point Chamber of Commerce (West Point)
John F. Lohr, Vice President, NeighborWorks, Northeast Nebraska (Columbus)
Brad Albers, Secretary/Treasurer, Business Owner (Norfolk)
Megan Weaver, Wayne Community Housing Development Corporation (Allen)
Shannon Stuchlik, Midwest Bank of Pierce (Norfolk)
Mike Frank, Retired Northeast Community College (Norfolk)
Jerry Engdahl, Platte County Commissioner (Columbus)

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present:

Thomas L. Higginbotham, NENEDD (Norfolk)
Tina M. Engelbart, NENEDD (Norfolk)
Jeff Christensen, NENEDD (Call in)
Kristen Rosner, NENEDD (Norfolk)
Brittany O’Brien, NENEDD (Norfolk)
Dick Pfeil, NENEDD Chairman, Norfolk City Council (Norfolk)
Rich Jablonski, NENEDD Vice Chairman, Columbus City Council (Columbus)
Nadine Hagedorn, NENEDD Secretary/Treasurer, BankFirst (West Point)
Jim McCarville, NENEDD Board Member, Northeast Community College (Norfolk)
Dan Kathol, NENEDD Board Member, Hartington Community Development Corporation (Hartington)
Glen Ellis, NENEDD Board Member, Fremont City Council (West Point)
Judy Mutzenberger, NENEDD Board Member, Cuming County Commissioner (West Point)
Troy Uhler, Madison County Commissioner (Norfolk)
Jim Mejstrik, Colfax County Commissioner (Columbus)

III. Introduction of Guests: President Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong asked everyone attending the meeting to introduce themselves to the group.

IV. Secretary's Report

A. Consideration for approval of February 27, 2019 Agenda, and the February 6, 2019 Meeting Minutes:

NENEDD Fiscal Officer Brittany O'Brien Presented. Megan Weaver made a motion to approve the February 27, 2019 agenda, and the February 6, 2019 meeting minutes. John Lohr seconded the motion. **AYES:** John Lohr, Mike Frank, Jerry Engdahl, Shannon Stuchlik, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, Brad Albers and Megan Weaver. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. Motion carried.

V. Treasurer's Report

A. Consideration for acceptance of January 2019 Treasurer's Report:

NENEDD Fiscal Officer Kristen Rosner presented the report. John Lohr made a motion to accept the January 2019 Treasurer's Report. Megan Weaver seconded the motion. **AYES:** John Lohr, Mike Frank, Jerry Engdahl, Shannon Stuchlik, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, Brad Albers and Megan Weaver. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. Motion carried.

VI. Action Item

A. Consideration for approval for down payment assistance applicant #101545 in the amount of \$29,200. NENEDD Housing Loan Specialist Judy Joy presented. NENEDD staff has reviewed the application and is recommending approval for down payment assistance in the amount of \$29,200 for applicant #101545. Shannon Stuchlik made a motion to approve applicant #101545 for down payment assistance in the amount of \$29,200. Jerry Engdahl seconded the motion. **AYES:** John Lohr, Mike Frank, Jerry Engdahl, Shannon Stuchlik, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong, Brad Albers and Megan Weaver. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. Motion carried.

B. Consideration for approval of the appointment of Lori Schrader to replace Gene Rahn on the Northeast RLF Committee until the end of his term, June 2020, as recommended by the Northeast RLF Committee and NENEDD staff:

NENEDD Business Loan Specialist Jeff Christensen presented. The Northeast RLF Loan Committee is a 9-member group that reviews NENEDD, NED, Inc.'s and local community's business loans and makes recommendations for approval. It consists of three bankers, three business owners representing service, retail, and manufacturing, a city administrator, local economic development professional, and small business consultant. Each term is three years. Brad Albers made a motion to approve the appointment of Lori Schrader to replace Gene Rahn on the Northeast RLF Committee until the end of his term, June 2020, as recommended by the Northeast RLF Committee and NENEDD staff. Megan Weaver seconded the motion.

AYES: John Lohr, Mike Frank, Jerry Engdahl, Shannon Stuchlik, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong and Megan Weaver. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** None. Motion carried.

VIII. Discussion Items

A. NENEDD Executive Director Thomas L. Higginbotham, Jr. gave a brief update on the Nebraska Regional Officials Council (NROC) booth at the League of Nebraska Municipalities mid-winter conference; stating he and Tina Engelbart visited with several local elected officials explaining the services of the Nebraska Economic Development Districts and the impact they have on communities. Higginbotham also gave a brief update on NROC's legislative breakfast saying it was a great opportunity to visit with the Senators on community and economic development issues. Higginbotham congratulated the Greater Fremont Development Council (GFDC) on all the success they have had this past year. NENEDD staff attended the GFDC annual meeting on Wednesday February 27th.

IX. President/Board Comments:

- X. **Next Meeting Date:** The next Northeast Economic Development, Inc. Board of Directors meeting will be Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held via conference call at the following locations:

City of Columbus Offices – 1st Floor Mayor’s Office, 2424 14th St, Columbus, NE 68601

City of Hartington Offices – Conference Room, 107 W. State St., Hartington, NE 68739

City of Norfolk Offices – Training Room, 309 N 5th St, Norfolk, NE 68701

Northeast Housing Initiative – 110 E. 2nd St, Allen, NE 68710

Cuming County Courthouse – Downstairs Meeting Room, 200 S. Lincoln St, West Point, NE 68788

- XI. **Adjournment:** Brad Albers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Lohr seconded the motion. **AYES:** John Lohr, Mike Frank, Jerry Engdahl, Shannon Stuchlik, Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong and Megan Weaver. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Brad Albers. Motion carried. NED, Inc President Tina Biteghe Bi Ndong adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m.