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# ANNUAL MEETING

BENKELMAN, NEBRASKA • JUNE 21, 2017

May 2017

TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS ♦ REGIONAL IMPACT

## WCNDD Annual Meeting

The West Central Nebraska Development District Annual Meeting will be held on June 21, 2017 in Benkelman, Nebraska. This event will begin with a facility tour at 4:30 pm MST at Valley Farm Industries, a local custom trailer manufacturing facility. Owners Rod Damrow and Mike Aldridge are looking forward to showing off their facilities and taking an inside look at all the working components that make their trailers unique.

The Annual Meeting will kick off at 5:30 pm MST at Skyline Grill, following dinner, the annual meeting will commence with a brief summary of WCNDD's current projects and services. The general membership will be voting on WCNDD board members and to approve the 2017/2018 budget. Community and County officials are encouraged to attend. To assure seating, please contact our office directly at 308.284.6077 by June 16th.



### Meet Cody Fenwick, WCNDD's Newest Hire

Cody Fenwick, a California native and longtime resident of Ogallala, has recently joined the WCNDD team as a Community Economic Development Specialist. She will focus primarily on nuisance abatement and transition into CDBG administration after she completes her training in June.

We believe Cody's experience in customer service and ability to quickly adapt to adverse situations will make her a valuable asset to the WCNDD team.

Outside of work, Cody is an active lake enthusiast who

enjoys taking her paddle board out on Lake McConaughy. Cody and her husband, Zane, like to spend their spare time traveling the globe in search of tropical destinations.

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## Brady Awarded \$14,921 for Scrap Tire Cleanup

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Director Jim Macy announced the state is awarding \$1.71 million to support 100 tire recycling and cleanup projects across the state.

WCNDD was able to assist the Village of Brady with an application for the 2017 Waste Reduction and Recycling Tire Grant. Brady and the surrounding communities of Maxwell and Gothenburg were awarded \$14,921 for the removal of 125-ton of scrap tire.



"The agency received many outstanding applications from across the state," Macy said. "These funds will provide needed support to local efforts which effectively deal with scrap tires in Nebraska."

The grants support local efforts to clean up tire piles and conduct community scrap tire collections. In addition, funds will be used by schools and organizations across the state to provide partial reimbursement for playground mulch, synthetic turf fields, running tracks, and other recycled rubber projects that were made from scrap tires.

The grants are part of NDEQ's Waste Reduction and Recycling Grants program, and are funded by a \$1 fee on new tires purchased in Nebraska.

To see all of the projects that were funded, <http://deq.ne.gov/Press.nsf/pages/PR051617>

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## Considerations Before Starting a Business

Starting a business can be one of the most exciting and nerve-wracking occasions of your life. While no exact formula for success exists, you can take a few steps to improve the odds of your business survival.

Every industry will be different, a couple of things that will not change is the importance of knowing who you will be competing against, as well as how strong the market is for your product. With all of the business competition out there, it is essential to produce and develop a product that is going to stand out. Your product needs to offer value that cannot be found anywhere else and it needs to target a specific audience. Understanding who your target audience is helps you allocate your resources and marketing efforts in the most effective way.

By doing research and carefully crafting your business plan before you dive into your new business, you can reduce the chances that you overlook a key detail that sets your business behind or puts the business at risk for growth.

For more information,

<https://www.score.org/blog/9-questions-smart-entrepreneurs-answer-starting-business>

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# #whatshappeningWCNDD

What are you doing this spring? Send us your pictures to [mburke@west-central-nebraska.com](mailto:mburke@west-central-nebraska.com) with the hashtag #whatshappeningWCNDD and we will share them on our Facebook page. Meanwhile, see if you can guess where this is ...

## CDBG Public Works Opportunities

The Public Works program within CDBG recognizes the importance of the availability and condition of infrastructure and community facilities. Funded projects shall develop the state's communities and counties by providing residents with basic infrastructure and/or facilities with the opportunity to maximize energy efficiency and provide a suitable living environment.

To be eligible, applicants must either be a Nebraska incorporated municipality or a Nebraska county. Another eligibility requirement for CDBG funds is the community/county must be considered low-to-moderate income (LMI) per the HUD income limits. A multitude of projects are included as eligible activities within the Public Works program, see below:

### Facilities

- Community Center
- Senior Centers exclusively for persons aged 62 and over
- Nonprofit centers for day care, dependent care, primary health, and mental health care outpatient clinics
  - Excluding shelters defined as: hospitals, nursing homes, convalescent homes, battered spouse shelters, shelters for the homeless, halfway houses, group homes, temporary housing;

- Remodel shelter facilities for the homeless (excludes costs for operation)
- Accredited public libraries
- Neighborhood parks
  - A new facility/improvement or a quantifiable increase of an existing facility/improvement;
- Single- or multi-service fire/rescue buildings
  - Fire trucks are specifically considered “public facilities” and thus eligible;
- Removal of architectural barriers for accessibility;
- Tornado-safe shelters in manufactured home parks
  - Containing not less than 20 manufactured housing units that are within such proximity of shelter to be of use in a tornado.

## Infrastructure

- Street improvements including curb, gutter, and sidewalk;
- Storm sewer improvements;
- Flood control designed to influence or affect the flow in a natural water course such as a river, stream, or lake;
- Removal of architectural barriers for accessibility;
- Drainage improvements (e.g. retention ponds or catch basins);

The maximum grant amount for a Public Works project is \$250,000. No more than \$8,000 may be used for construction management, and no more than 10% of the amount of the grant may be used for general administration. The CDBG cost per beneficiary cannot exceed \$3,000, except for daycare centers where it cannot exceed \$5,000.

The application deadline for Public Works projects is July 30th, 2017. Contact our office today to discuss potential projects and eligibility.

More information is available at

[http://opportunity.nebraska.gov/files/crd/cdbg\\_guidelines/2017/Chapter4-PublicWorks.pdf](http://opportunity.nebraska.gov/files/crd/cdbg_guidelines/2017/Chapter4-PublicWorks.pdf)

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## Important Deadlines:

Nebraska LEAD 37 Application

June 15, 2017

CDBG Public Works

July 30, 2017

CDBG Pre-App Housing

August 4, 2017 (Pending)

CDBG Water & Waste Water

Open Cycle

2018 Nebraska Passport Application

December 2017