



July 2018



WCNDD News & Events Now Available on Facebook

West Central Nebraska Development District, Inc. (WCNDD) has made a lot of transitions in the month of July. For starters, all upcoming deadlines and WCNDD related news will now be available on the WCNDD Facebook page as we will be discontinuing our monthly newsletter. We feel like Facebook will be an effective tool that will help us achieve our goal of keeping our communities in the know. Be sure to stop by and like our page to continue to receive project updates and upcoming deadlines, <https://www.facebook.com/WCNDDINC/>

Deputy Director, David Kling attended the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Certification training in late June. David is officially a CDBG Certified Administrator. WCNDD now has three full time staff members available to assist our communities with grant administration.

WCNDD would also like to announce that Jason Tuller is now the Chairman of the WCNDD Board of Directors. Jason has been working in economic development in Southwest Nebraska for over 10 years. As a small business consultant with the Nebraska Business Development Center he helped his clients start over 60 new businesses which included more than \$35 million in investments and employed more than 350 people. Currently, he is the Community Development Director for the City of Imperial. In this capacity he has assisted in bringing more than 20 homes to the Cornerstone Development Park in addition to selling several commercial lots. He has also assisted in the first TIF projects in the City of Imperial and has won several grants to help the community. Jason has served on the WCNDD governing board for four years. WCNDD would like to thank Mike Tuttle for his service as the previous board chairman and his continued service on the governing board.



USDA Offering Loan/Grant Funds for Water Systems and Wastewater Treatment Plants

LINCOLN, Nebraska, July 12, 2018 — USDA's Rural Utilities Service has more than \$4 billion in Direct loan funds and \$1 billion in grant funds available for rural community water and wastewater system improvements. In Fiscal Year 2018 Congress provided a historic amount of resources for this type of infrastructure.

The funding is available for small towns (populations of 10,000 or fewer) to construct a water tank, install new water or sewer lines, or build a wastewater treatment plant along

with a myriad of other projects. USDA's Water and Environmental Program (WEP) offers long-term low-interest loans and grants.

"Reliable infrastructure is a necessity for any community to thrive and when we address this need, many other challenges in rural places become much more manageable," said USDA Rural Development State Director Karl Elmshaeuser. "I encourage rural communities to utilize the funds available to help strengthen their water and wastewater systems."

Rural community leaders can apply electronically by using our interactive RDApply application or for more information about USDA's funding or contacts visit www.rd.usda.gov/ne.

USDA WEP eligibility information is available at

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program/ne>.

Avoid Cash Flow Problems in Small Businesses

In order to keep your business going it is necessary to have a certain cash flow available. Without appropriate spending money available it is difficult to retain quality employees and necessary inventory. Here are five tips that can be implemented to avert potential cash flow problems.

1. Develop a minimum viable budget- Being able to find the right balance to continue operating through very profitable years and through slow times. When in doubt continue to operate on a tighter budget even if you think you have excess funds that month.
2. Protect your credit- Delaying monthly bill payments and gambling with who you pay on time can directly have a negative impact on your credit. Showing financial inconsistencies can also decrease the availability to receive loans from financial institutions.
3. Manage your inventory- It is essential to know what items you have in stock and readily available. Poor inventory can result in excessive rush delivery fees, wasted staff time, and most importantly unsatisfied customers.
4. Have cash reserves- Once again balancing the companies growth to ensure you have the necessary finances to endure rough times. Being prepared for tough economic times can not only allow you to



remain operational through hardship, but can also give you the financial capability to retain quality employees.

5. Hire an accountant or CPA- Continual oversight of the books should prevent any unexpected financial issues. It is best practice to know exactly how financially stable your company is at all times.

The key to running any successful business is great money management and cash flow. For more information, <https://www.score.org/blog/1-reason-small-businesses-fail-and-how-avoid-it>



#whatshappeningWCNDD

What are you doing this year? Send us your pictures to mburke@west-central-nebraska.com with the hashtag #whatshappeningWCNDD and we might feature them in our newsletter. Meanwhile, see if you can guess where this is ...

Recycling Equipment Available

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Equality has recycling equipment available for redistribution. The Department will be taking applications to redistribute the equipment to other interested individuals. The awarded applicants will be responsible for picking up the equipment from its current location in Garland, Nebraska. Applications will be accepted until August 31, 2018.

Available Equipment: 2015 Pro-Tainer 16 cubic yard Recycling Trailer Model PRTB-16 with 8 two cubic yard poly/aluminum bins

If your community has interest in this opportunity, contact Holly Adams at 402-471-2480 or holly.adams@nebraska.gov

Important Deadlines:

CDBG Planning Application Cycle 1	August 30, 2018
Recreation Trail Program (RTP) Grant Application Deadline	August 31, 2018
Recycling Equipment Redistribution Deadline	August 31, 2018
Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Application Deadline	September 7, 2018
CDBG Downtown Revitalization Application	September 30, 2018
CDBG Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Application	October 5, 2018
CDBG Water & Waste Water	Open Cycle