



## NEW CDBG PROJECTS AWARDED ACROSS THE REGION

Several communities throughout the region will receive funding to help complete a variety of improvement projects. The funding comes from the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program administered by the Kansas Department of Commerce.

The City of Beloit will receive \$400,000 for a housing rehabilitation and demolition project. Other sources of funds will contribute \$42,000 to the project.

The City of Ellsworth will receive \$380,500 for a housing rehabilitation and demolition project. Other sources of funds will contribute \$19,500 to the project.

The City of Longford will receive \$360,000 for a housing rehabilitation and demolition project. Other sources of funds will contribute \$12,000 to the project.

The City of Chapman will receive \$300,000 for a street and drainage

improvement project. The city will provide a match of \$200,000.

The City of Sylvan Grove will receive \$157,490 for a street improvement project. The city will provide a match of \$156,190.

The City of Cuba will receive \$312,000 for a water system improvement project. The city will provide a match of \$579,523.

To receive CDBG funds, local government units must meet at least one of three program objectives: benefit low and moderate-income persons, prevent or eliminate slums and blight, or resolve an urgent need where local resources are not available to do so.

One community in the region will benefit from Kansas Small Towns Environment Program (KAN STEP) funding. The KAN STEP program also is administered by the Kansas Department of Commerce. Dickinson County will receive \$299,998 to

renovate an obsolete school building in the unincorporated town of Navarre. The improved building will continue to serve as the focal point of this rural community, sponsoring 4-H meetings, family reunions, Coop meetings and other activities. KAN STEP funds will be used in conjunction with volunteer labor and donated equipment to complete the project.

Planning for FY 2015 CDBG funding is well underway. Program eligibility for the categories of Community Facilities, Water & Sewer, Housing, KAN STEP, Commercial Rehabilitation, and Urgent Need, was discussed at the CDBG Annual Application Workshop, which took place in Lyons on April 17. NCRPC staff attended the workshop and is ready to help with your project planning needs. Contact the NCRPC for assistance. Application deadlines are listed on page 2.

## Organization Changes with Retirement of Two

Two long-time NCRPC staff members, Connie Cyr and Jeff Maska, retired this spring.

Cyr started work with the NCRPC in 1980. Her first assignment with the NCRPC was as Weatherization Program Coordinator. She was promoted to Weatherization Program

Director in 1982. As the NCRPC moved into housing rehabilitation, she assumed the directorship of all housing programs offered by the organization in 1992. In December 2007 she stepped down from her director role, but continued to ad-

*(Continued on page 3)*



Connie Cyr



Jeff Maska

## Leadership : NCRPC Executive Board

### Chair:

Tim Vandall, City of Ellsworth

### Vice Chair:

Frank Ryttych, Republic Co.

### Secretary/Treasurer:

Brian Eilert, Mitchell Co.

### Executive Board Members:

Karen Brumbaugh, Ottawa Co.  
Craig Chamberlin, Dickinson Co.  
Tom Claussen, Mitchell Co.  
Johnita Crawford, Cloud Co.  
Dwight Frost, Jewell Co.  
Randall Hardy, City of Salina

Heather Hartman, Mitchell Co. Comm. Dev.  
Gerald Huehl, Lincoln Co.  
Gary Ouellette, Washington Co.  
Kermit Rush, Ellsworth Co.  
Hannah Stambaugh, Saline Co.  
Sonya Stohs, Marshall Co.  
David Thurlow, Clay Co.

## FY 2015 CDBG Housing Program has Changes

Two important changes are being implemented for the housing category of the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for FY 2015 applications.

First, applicants will have the opportunity to make application at one of two maximum levels. The maximum grant amount is \$300,000 for a single-family/owner-occupied or rental rehabilitation and/or demolition application. The maximum grant amount is \$400,000 if an applicant wishes to explore other opportunities and submits an application that expands outside these basic activities.

The second change is that five points will now be deducted from the applicant's score if they did not attend a Housing Inter-agency Advisory Committee (HIAC) meeting in the last two years. When the HIAC was first introduced, attendance was encouraged but not required. The core group of the HIAC consists of federal and state agencies involved in the financing of housing including Kansas Department of Commerce, Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, and U.S. Department of Agriculture/Rural Development. The HIAC typically meets monthly from March through July. A community must submit a Housing Profile and a completed Housing Assessment Tool (HAT) to Commerce before an appointment will be scheduled.

## NCRPC Executive Board Welcomes Hardy

Randall Hardy joined the NCRPC Executive Board in May 2014 as a representative of the City of Salina. He was elected to the Salina City Commission in 2013 and has served on a variety of city and local boards. Now retired, Randall's past work experience includes President at Construction Rental, Inc., Executive Vice President at Reece Construction Co., Inc., and sales at American Hospital Supply Corporation.

He received a bachelor's degree from Oral Roberts University and an MBA from the University of Kansas.



Randall Hardy

Courtesy Photo  
Originally from Charlotte, North Carolina, he has three sons and four grandchildren.

Randall replaces Jon Blanchard, who served

on the board from the City of Salina for the past year. We welcome Randall and thank Jon for his service.

## Executive Board Travels to Marshall County

Members of the NCRPC Executive Board took a field trip to Marshall County on April 24.

The day began with lunch at Our Daily Bread located in nearby Barnes. The board was joined by Legislative guests Rep. Sharon Schwartz and Ashley Howard, a representative for U.S. Rep. Tim Huelskamp.

The first tour was of Sharp Manufacturing, Blue Rapids, and was led by owners Rob and Karen Swearingen. The business manufactures enclosed trailers. The final tour



Board members toured Sharp Manufacturing in Blue Rapids. Members are pictured with special guests Rep. Sharon Schwartz, Ashley Howard, a representative for U.S. Rep. Tim Huelskamp, and Sharp Manufacturing owners Rob and Karen Swearingen.

was of Landoll Corporation, Marysville, and was facilitated by owner Don Landoll. The business manufactures and markets products and services for agriculture, transportation, material handling, and government.

## looking ahead : Meetings, Deadlines, and More

### Thursday, May 29, 2014

NCRPC Executive Board Meeting  
Beloit Main Office, 2 p.m.

### June 9-10, 2014

Rural Grocery Summit IV  
Manhattan, KS

[www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/ruralgrocery/](http://www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/ruralgrocery/)

### FY 2015 CDBG Grant Deadlines

Housing — Aug. 29, 2014  
Water and Sewer — Sept. 30, 2014  
Community Facilities — Nov. 3, 2014  
KAN STEP — Aug. 15, 2014  
KAN STEP — Feb. 16, 2015  
Economic Development — Open  
Window Jan. 1-Dec. 10, 2014



Contact Us:  
**North Central Regional  
Planning Commission (NCRPC)**

109 N. Mill Street • PO Box 565  
Beloit, KS 67420 • 785-738-2218

[www.ncrpc.org](http://www.ncrpc.org)

Send newsletter suggestions to  
[lthielen@nckcn.com](mailto:lthielen@nckcn.com).

# Regional Homeland Security Councils Remain Active Across Kansas

Have you heard about Regional Homeland Security (RHS) Councils? Do you know who represents your county on your council and what work is being done to help your county prepare for disaster, disaster response and community economic recovery? It is storm season, but a lot of other economic and community continuity concerns are on the front burners of our lives, as well.

RHS Councils were developed in late 2006 during the Federal Fiscal Year 2006 funding cycle as a way to maximize the productivity of the Homeland Security dollars coming into Kansas. This enabled a regional approach for risk assessments and to greatly aid with disaster response and recovery capabilities.

The multi-disciplinary council in each region has representatives from fire/hazardous-material agencies, emergency medical services, law enforcement, emergency management, public health, hospitals, public works, emergency communications, agriculture, non-profit volunteer agencies and counties across the region. The North Central Regional Homeland Security Council includes the following counties: Smith, Jewell, Republic, Osborne, Mitchell,

Cloud, Clay, Ottawa, Lincoln, Ellsworth, Saline and Dickinson. Washington and Marshall counties are part of the Northeast RHS Region. The RHS Councils are tasked with identifying the Homeland Security priorities for each region and what funding can be used to assist with those activities.

The NCRPC acts as the Fiscal Agent for six of the seven designated Homeland Security Regions in Kansas and has been an active partner in all of the North Central RHS Council planning activities. Most of the county emergency managers in the North Central region have been active in the regional planning process, meetings and decisions that develop the funding priorities and projects for the region.

Ask your Emergency Manager about past projects and on-going sustainment of current projects in our region. With the assistance of the



Carlos Rodriguez, Hazardous Material Specialist of the Wichita Fire Department, led a Hazardous Material IQ training at the NCRPC office in January 2013. Training is one of the many activities of the Regional Homeland Security Councils.

## On the Web...

Contact and meeting information for each of the RHS Councils is available at the Kansas Adjutant General's Department website at: [www.kansastag.gov/KSHLS.asp?PageID=303](http://www.kansastag.gov/KSHLS.asp?PageID=303)

NCRPC, the councils will continue to use this forum to update your county officials in the future. Contact Doug McKinney, Sherry Angell or Lisa Peters at the NCRPC with questions and they will forward them to the appropriate person.

*(Continued from page 1)*

minister housing rehabilitation projects on a part-time basis. During her tenure Connie received the Partnership Appreciation Award from Kansas Department of Commerce, recognizing her work in helping communities in the region recover from the 1993 flooding.

Maska began working at the NCRPC in 1991 as a Housing Inspector. The majority of his work included inspections for Housing Quality Standards (HQS), weatherization, asbestos, and risk assessments for lead-based paint. Maska, who lives in Hays, logged many miles performing contracted inspections

for several different agencies. Jeff was recognized by the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation for his years of service to the Weatherization Assistance Program during an April 22 retreat in Topeka. Jeff will resume work in July on a part-time basis to provide inspections in the western part of the state.

Carol Torkelson, NCRPC Housing Director, says the two have a vast amount of experience in housing.

"Connie and Jeff were instrumental in developing our Housing Department," Torkelson says. "Many across the state recognize their expertise and they have been mentors to a number of individuals as well."

## New 50-Year KS Water Plan Being Developed

Many across the region participated in meetings this spring that were hosted to gather feedback for the new 50-Year Kansas Water Plan that is being developed. The Vision for the Future of Water in Kansas team is led by several state agencies including the Kansas Water Office and the Kansas Department of Agriculture. Since October 2013, the Visioning Team has been seeking input from water users, compiling data, and conducting research. The final plan is expected in November. For more information, visit [www.kwo.org/50-Year\\_Vision/50-Year\\_Vision.htm](http://www.kwo.org/50-Year_Vision/50-Year_Vision.htm).





## North Central Regional Planning Commission

109 N. Mill, PO Box 565  
Beloit, KS 67420  
785.738.2218  
[www.ncrpc.org](http://www.ncrpc.org)

## business updates

A Concordia business that has been family owned and operated since 1960 now has a new and improved location that allows it to better serve its customers.

Joshua Trimble, grandson of Charles McDaniel, is the current owner of McDaniel Memorial, making him the third generation of his family to own the business.

The business recently moved from its east Concordia location on Industrial Road to a building located at 322 West 5th Street near downtown Concordia. The new location is near two mortuary businesses and is in a higher traffic area of the community than its previous location.

The building at the new location was remodeled extensively and the entire block has been cleaned. Trimble says business is up significantly this Memorial season. He credits the

new location as a key contributing factor for the increased business.

McDaniel Memorial offers a full line of monument services including monument sales, lettering, etching, setting monument at gravesite and adding final date at gravesite. The business also offers bronze plaques, granite signs, and granite gifts. Trimble owns additional sales locations at Marysville, Holton, and Clay Center. He adds that being a third generation business owner has benefits.

“Customers are assured with the longevity of our company that we are going to be here to take care of them,” Trimble says.

McDaniel Memorial has a full-time manager that was retained with the completion of this expansion/change of location project.

The project was made possible with funding from the Citizens State

## McDaniel Memorial Changes Location



McDaniel Memorial is now located in downtown Concordia at 322 West 5th Street.

Bank of Marysville, the NCKCN Four Rivers Loan Pool, a StartUp Kansas Loan, and investment by the owners.

For more information about the financing programs used contact Debra Peters, NCRPC Business Finance Director, at 785-738-2218 or [dpeters@nckcn.com](mailto:dpeters@nckcn.com). For more information about the business, visit [www.quality-monuments.com](http://www.quality-monuments.com).