

THE WINDMILL

The Southern Iowa Council of Governments Newsletter

SICOG Executive Board Holds Meeting March 1, 2011

Chairperson Amy Lampe called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Members present: Ferris, Higdon, Jansen, Lampe, Olive, Scott, Trickey, and Waddle. Staff present: Ostroski and Brimm. Guest present: Don Reasoner, Clarke County Board of Supervisors.

Continued on Page 3

Board Spotlight on Mayor Warren Woods



Mayor Warren Woods of Creston was appointed to the SICOG Executive Board in March of 2011. He and wife Judy have been married for 44 years. Warren and Judy have a son, Jeff, and a daughter, Wendy. Wendy is married to Chad Willets and they have twin 9-year-old daughters.

Warren grew up in Lincoln, NE and graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University. He also spent some time in the Marine Corps. After College he worked for the USDA Forest Service in Cedar City, Utah. Later Warren moved to Denver where he started in retail with JC Penney Co. The couple moved to Creston in 1982. His wife Judy is a former school-teacher and principal.

Mayor Woods says he has had an interest in government as long as he can remember. He was first elected to city council in Independence and then the Creston City Council. He stated that he feels SICOG does a great service for our area communities and he wants to make sure that it continues. Mayor Woods went on to say that our area is made up of smaller communities and without SICOG, they would not have the resources to pursue CDBG grants and all other services that SICOG provides. Warren said that he and his wife Judy made a commitment 35 years ago to be involved in their communities and they continue to follow through on that commitment.

INDEX

Director's Comments – 2
SICOG's Executive Board – 3
Residential Sustainability – 3
Risk Flood Management – 4
Iowans Helping Iowans – 4
Hazard Mitigation Plan Grants – 5
Transportation Planning – 5
Lead Paint Law Warning – 5
Available Grants – 6

Save the Date !

SICOG'S Annual Golf Invitational

September 14th, 2011

A VIEW FROM THE FIRST TEE



Your SICOG staff is continually swamped with requests for funding for smart plans, comprehensive plans, housing funds, fire protection equipment, sewer improvement projects, energy grants, emergency shelters, sewer systems, water plants, library renovations, healthy Iowan initiative, wastewater treatment facilities, street lighting, community centers, safe rooms and many more. We will continue to provide the excellent services we have in the past

Do you have a special housing project that you think we should find funds for? Contact us with your suggestions for a new program.

Kudos (from the Greek singular noun kydos meaning “praise or renown”) goes out to your SICOG staff for their hard work on behalf of our member governments. This is a large “shout out” and a huge “thank you” to the staff of SICOG. Let me thank them individually:

Judy Brimm

Becky Nardy

Lucas Young

Jeremy Rounds

Mary Fleming



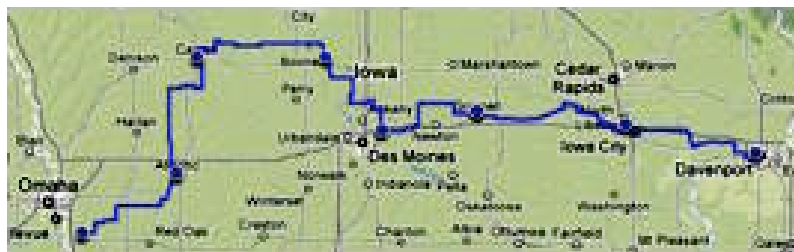
The June edition of our newsletter, I have looked back on items or activities over my career. Last year compared gas prices. This year let me summaries computers in the SICOG office. Some would believe that SICOG has always been an Apple office. NOT TRUE. SICOG’s first computer was a Radio Shack Tandy TRS 80 - 1980. I must say that it was a big waste of money for nobody could program it and was not very user friendly.



Next can the computer that would become the standard for our office; it was the Apple Macintosh personal computer. This little marvel had an 8 [MHz Motorola 68000](#) microprocessor and 128KB of memory and 400 KB of storage from a disc. Yikes! This machine was then upgraded to the 512 model. We have progressed and upgraded to bigger better and faster models. Today all are working off the iMacs. This model has an [Intel Core i5](#) processor and 4GB of memory and 500 GB of storage. Comparisons are needed – a 400 kb “floppy disc” could store about 200 pages of text. Our current machines could store about 250,000,000 pages.



RAGBRAI is almost here. Please watch for “TEAM SICOG” updates via our web site, as we ride through community and the countryside. Remember we are all riding this year in hopes of becoming healthier, happier, trimmer individuals. “TEAM SICOG” members are looking forward to this year’s RAGBRAI. As a special item this year we will have the SICOG RAGBRAI WEB CAM”! This way you can follow our progress across Iowa.



This month’s Coffee Cup question:
Which SICOG county is known for its population of Prairie Chickens?



Answer to last month’s question:
Which flowers are considered the “Birth Month Flowers” for the month of April? Answer: Daisies and Sweet Peas

SICOG Executive Board *(Continued from page 1)*

Waddle made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2011 meeting. Scott seconded the motion, all ayes. Motion carried.

Olive made a motion to approve the bills for the month of February. Higdon seconded the motion, all ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Waddle to approve the Resolution as presented that the EDA-RLF program is being operated according to the guidelines. Trickey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken - all aye, motion carried.

Olive made a motion to approve increasing SICOG's equipment capitalization policy to \$5,000. Trickey seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Higdon made a motion to confirm the email voting in favor of installing a new furnace for the staff member through the emergency repair program as presented. Waddle seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Waddle made a motion to submit a response to the RFP in the amount of \$25,000. Ferris seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Other items discussed included: Census figures, Personnel Committee-Director Evaluation form, County Project Board Meetings, Annual Meeting, Professional Liability Insurance, Membership, Grant Activities, Budget Update, State Legislature/IARC Agenda, and Federal Legislature.

A motion was made by Olive to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 p.m. Trickey seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

The next meeting will be held May 3rd at 1:00 p.m. at the SICOG office.

– *Minutes Submitted by Brimm*



Residential Sustainability



Recently, Iowa Economic Development rebranded the owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program. Virtually the same program is now referred to as, 'Residential Sustainability.' Iowa Economic Development feels that the new name better reflects their desire to be more sustainable. SICOG will use both names interchangeably.

In a follow up to previous Windmills, the CDBG Residential Sustainability conditional awards for Bedford and Mount Ayr are still conditional. We hope to have word this month that they are official.

Below is a status update for each of our current projects:

Creston – Bids have been received and work will begin soon. Applications are still being accepted from homeowners for the remaining homes.

Lenox – Initial inspections are complete. The bidding process will take place in the near future.

Mount Ayr – All of the rehabilitation projects are complete. Project closeout to begin shortly.

Truro – Initial inspections are complete. Historical review will begin once the rehabilitation specifications are ready. Applications are still being accepted from homeowners for the remaining home.

Winterset – Applications are still being accepted from homeowners for the remaining four homes. Construction was completed on four homes last summer.

Looking to the future... If your community is interested in applying for next year's funding please contact the office so we can discuss the process and start the application. The program is designed to improve the housing stock in the participating cities by making the homes more livable for the income eligible applicants. In turn there is an incentive for others in the neighborhoods to improve or maintain their properties. Contact Lucas Young at 641-782-8491 or email young@sicog.com.



RISK Flood Map Management

As the past few years have proven, just because your community may not have a “flood map,” it does not mean the community in which you serve and live cannot flood. We need to be more in-tune with flooding issues at the local level in order to reduce the risk of flooding in our communities and downstream.

FEMA has a new pilot program to assist in understanding needs, particularly mapping and mitigation needs, for flood hazards on a watershed scale. One of the key limitations of past FEMA flood mapping is that it was on a jurisdiction scale. However, we all know a flood does not stop the moment it hits the city boundary. The Risk MAP process involves communications, including meetings, involving FEMA, Iowa DNR, consultants, and local officials. So far studies have been underway and meetings have been held to share information and issues concerning the West Nodaway River watershed, South Raccoon River watershed, and Lake Red Rock watershed affecting our region. Other river basins in our region may be involved in the future.

The goal of the effort is to work closely with communities to better understand local flood risk, mitigation efforts, and other topics, and spark watershed-wide discussions about increasing resilience to flooding. The Discovery process of FEMA’s Risk MAP program helps communities identify areas at risk for flooding and solutions for reducing that risk. FEMA is working with Iowa’s partners in flood hazard mitigation, including the IDNR and Iowa Flood Center, to hopefully update flood mapping and improve mitigation programs. For more information contact Jeremy Rounds at SICOG or visit www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm or www.floodsmart.gov.

Iowans Helping Iowans Application Deadline

Homeowners in the SICOG region affected by the 2010 natural disasters have through **June 30, 2011**, to apply for housing, business and unmet needs financial assistance through the Iowans Helping Iowans program. The Iowans Helping Iowans program is a three-tier initiative that was created in August 2010 to provide housing, small business and unmet needs assistance in the 38 Presidentially declared disaster areas for Individual Assistance after the storms and flooding of 2010.

Housing assistance is available to homeowners whose homes were damaged by the 2010 natural disaster and are not proposed for buyouts. Homeowners may receive up to \$25,000 for the cost of eligible repair expenses for a disaster-affected home. Down payment assistance for the purchase price of a replacement home outside the 100-year flood plain is also available to homeowners whose homes were destroyed or damaged beyond repair. This assistance may not exceed the lesser of 25% of the purchase price of the home or \$25,000.

Eligible homeowners may receive only one kind of assistance through this program. Homeowners must live in a county declared as a presidential disaster area for Individual Assistance and must have registered with FEMA and have been awarded FEMA housing assistance. SICOG is administering and processing applications in the following southern Iowa counties: Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor, Union, and Warren Counties. In total nearly 150 applications have been approved across the state, totaling more than \$1.8 million in awards for disaster affected homeowners. In SICOG’s region over \$240,000 in awards have been approved for eligible repairs. Interested homeowners should contact Lucas Young, young@sicog.com, at the SICOG office to learn more about the program.

Additional information and application materials are available at www.iowanshelpingiowans.com/application as well.

Individuals interested in Unmet Needs assistance should contact the Rebuild Iowa Office at (866) 849-0323 or contact@rio.iowa.gov. Disaster affected businesses should call the Iowa Department of Economic Development at 1-800-245-IOWA or by email at IHIBusiness@iowa.gov.



Transportation Planning

SICOG serves as transportation planning staff to the five-county ATURA Transportation Planning Affiliation region (Adair, Taylor, Union, Ringgold and Adams Counties).

The next meeting of the ATURA Policy Board will be held on Tuesday, July 12, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. at the **Pizza Ranch** in Creston. The public is invited to attend. Items on the Agenda include a public hearing on the RPA 14/ATURA FY2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The TIP identifies federal funding programmed for highways, bridges, trails, transit and safety related projects. Copies of the proposed TIP are available for review on the ATURA website www.sicog.com/ATURA or in hardcopy form from the SICOG office. Comments from the public on the document and input into this process are welcomed. Contact Becky Nardy 641.782.8491 or nardy@sicog.com for additional information.



Lead Paint Law Warning

Starting September 1, 2011 the Iowa Department of Public Health is going to start enforcing the laws in regards to lead-based paint. The laws state that anyone, including *volunteers*, who do work to pre-1978 homes or child-occupied facilities, must be certified as a lead-safe renovator. There are very few exceptions to this law. Be sure to check to see if your community's painting program is compliant before you start applying the paint. If you have questions feel free to contact Lucas Young, young@sicog.com or contact Kane Young with IDPH at 800-972-2026.



Hazard Mitigation Plan Grants

SICOG Regional Planner Jeremy Rounds is currently preparing six (6) Hazard Mitigation Plans.

These applications have been funded by:

- 85% from FEMA and State
- 15% from local match (typically in-kind)

Countywide plans usually take 18-24 months to complete. The plans are in various stages of progress at this time.

Adair County: 16% complete

Adams County: 20% complete

Marion County: 10% complete

Ringgold County: Will begin when others are completed

Taylor County: 60% complete

Union County: Will begin when others are completed

Warren County: 93% complete

Contact Jeremy Rounds at 641.782.8491 or rounds@sicog.com

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Source/Program	Funding Uses	Eligible Applicants	Due Date
Iowa Arts Council Grants	Arts in schools, museums, and many other projects	Non-profits, local governments, schools, artists	<i>Monthly and quarterly</i>
USDA Renewable Energy for America Program	Funding for renewable energy projects and energy efficiency projects	Businesses, farmers, and farm-related operations	FY 2011 ongoing
Alliant Energy Hometown Challenge Grant	Matching dollar for dollar funds raised for fire, EMS, and rescue equipment	Local response agencies in Alliant's service area	Ongoing
Dekko Foundation	Various investments impacting youth and families, capital and programs	Local governments, non-profits in the Dekko counties	Ongoing
FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (see separate article)	Firefighting training, equipment, PPE, and vehicles	Fire departments	<i>Not announced yet; should be due in June</i>
Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program	Funding for housing projects, including rental, ownership, construction, and rehabilitation	Local governments, non-profit organizations, housing groups, private developers	Final application: June 30
HMGP Mitigation Project Application	Projects that protect life and property from floods, fire, storms, and other hazards	Local governments, certain non-profits	Accepting notices of interest; Final app: September
Solid Waste Alternatives Program	Programs to encourage landfill alternatives	Local governments, non-profits, for-profits	June 30
Iowa Snowmobile Trail Grant (IDNR)	Funds for construction and maintenance of snowmobile trails	Local governments and incorporated private organizations	July 1
State Recreational Trail Grant (IDOT)	Trail development projects (land acquisition, trail surfacing and repair, bridges and culverts, signage, fencing)	Local governments, certain non-profits	July 1
Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) and River Enhancement CAT (RECAT)	Tourism, recreation, and entertainment capital projects	Local governments, non-profits	July 15, on hold pending State budget approval
Peter Kiewit Foundation	Varied: including arts, education, and community development	Governments, 501 (c)(3) nonprofits in west half of region	July 15
Iowa West Foundation	Varied: including arts, education, beautification, economic development	Governments, 501 (c)(3) nonprofits in west half of region	July 15
Iowa Certified Local Governments Program	Provides funding for historic preservation projects to CLGs designated in the State of Iowa	Local governments with the endorsement of local CLGs in or near the jurisdiction	<i>Pre-application usually early August</i>
Water Trails Enhancement Grant Application	Allows for improvements to designated water trails or those in designation process	Local water trail and conservation organizations	August 6
REAP Parks and Open Spaces Program	Park and recreation improvements; land acquisition for conservation and recreation; multi-purpose areas and open spaces	Local governments and County Conservation Boards	August 15
Alliant Energy Foundation	Small typically non-capital projects, such as signage, exhibits, landscaping, computers, program support	Local governments, civic organizations, and nonprofits in Alliant's service area	September 15
Living Roadways Trust Fund	Transportation projects	Local governments	October 1
Safe Routes to Schools Program	School/community partnerships to address safe pedestrian travel	State, local, regional agencies; schools, non-profits, PTAs	October 1

Southern Iowa Council of Governments

Is Proud to Identify those who Participated in the

Partnership Program 2011



PLATINUM \$2,500

Creston Water Board of Creston



DIAMOND \$1,500

Iowa State Savings Bank of Creston, Corning, Diagonal & Lenox



GOLD \$1,000

First National Bank of Creston & Afton

Lenox Municipal Utilities of Lenox

Osceola Water Board of Osceola



SILVER \$500

Clarke County Development Corporation of Osceola

Clarke County State Bank of Osceola

Clarke Electric Cooperative of Osceola

Farmers & Merchants State Bank of Winterset

First Federal Savings Bank of Creston, Corning, Lenox and Mount Ayr

Garden and Associates of Oskaloosa & Creston

Greater Regional Medical Center

Heartland Energy Solutions of Mount Ayr

H. R. Green Company of Des Moines

Majona Steel Corporation of Osceola

Michael Foods of Lenox

Okey Vernon First National Bank of Corning

Paul Mueller Co. of Osceola

Southern Iowa Rural Water Association of Creston

Tyler Insurance Services of Creston



BRONZE \$250

Adams Community Economic Development of Corning

Akin Building Centers of Creston & Corning

American State Bank of Osceola

Astoria Industries of Iowa of Osceola

Bradley Angus Farms of Lenox

Corning Municipal Utilities

Fox Engineering

Lenox Development Corporation of Lenox

Ringgold County Development of Mount Ayr

Saylor Realty of Osceola

Southwestern Community College

State Bank of Brooks of Corning

Union County Development of Creston

Union State Bank of Greenfield

Union State Bank of Winterset

To become a Partner of the Southern Iowa Council of Governments, please go to our website and download the partnership form. Or simply call us and we will discuss the process. Thanks to all that have contributed in the past and for your support over the years.



Southern Iowa Council of Governments Windmill



SICOG EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mark Olive, Adams County - Chairman
J. R. Cornett, Decatur County - Vice-Chair
John Twombly, Adair County - Secretary
Warren Woods, City of Creston - Treasurer
Robert Lundquist, Taylor County
Kurt Shaha, Ringgold County
Kirk Macumber, Madison County
Don Reasoner, Clarke County
Beth Waddle, Private Sector Representative
Michelle Tullberg, Private Sector Representative
Doyle Scott, Private Sector Representative
William Trickey, Private Sector Representative
William T. Higdon, Member-At-Large

SICOG STAFF

Timothy Ostroski, Executive Director
Judy Brimm, Finance Director
Jeremy Rounds, Regional Planner
Becky Nardy, Transportation/Planner
Mary Fleming, Office Manager/HRLF Specialist
Lucas Young, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist
Vacant, Disaster Recovery Coordinator

Southern Iowa Council of Governments (SICOG) is a non-profit organization that provides and coordinates community and economic development services primarily through the delivery of planning services, technical program assistance, grant writing and grant administration to assist local governments and others in their efforts to improve the social and economic well-being of its eight-county service area.

Southern Iowa Council of Governments

101 East Montgomery St.
PO Box 102
Creston, Iowa 50801-0102
Phone: 641.782.8491
Fax: 641.782.8492
E-Mail: sicog@sicog.com
Internet: <http://www.sicog.com>

QR Barcode

