



THE REVIEW

The Region XII Council of Governments Newsletter

February 2014

CALENDAR

March

- 12 - COG Housing Meeting; 12:30 PM, COG Training Room
- 12 - Executive Board Meeting; 2:30 PM, COG Training Room

April

- 1 - Planning and Zoning Workshop (ISU Extension); 5:30 PM, Carrollton Inn
- 10 - Executive Board Meeting; 5:00 PM, COG Board Room
- 10 - Policy Council Meeting; 6:00 PM, COG Training Room
- 18 - Good Friday; Region XII office closed

May

- 15 - Executive Board Meeting; 4:30 PM, COG Training Room.
- 15 - Regional Workforce Investment Board; 5:30 PM, COG Training Room.

Western Iowa Transit gets new look

Western Iowa Transit, operated by the Region XII COG, has been working with Denison-based Blue Space Creative on a rebranding project for the transit system. After 25 years of operating as the Western Iowa Transit System with the same logo, the organization believed it to be the right time to undertake a branding makeover.

The new logo, featuring crisp typography and bright colors, will work to better promote Western Iowa Transit's services by providing increased brand recognition.

As the exciting new identity is introduced to brochures, kiosks, and the fleet of vehicles, over the near future, be sure to remember that Western Iowa Transit is "Here... to get you there!"



WESTERN IOWA TRANSIT
A Service Of REGION XII COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



EXECUTIVE BOARD

Marty Danzer, Chair
Carroll Co. Supervisor

Eric Skoog, Vice Chair,
Crawford Co. Supervisor

Jerry Caraher, Secretary
Guthrie Co. Supervisor

Guy Richardson, Treasurer
Greene Co. Supervisor

Duane Deist
Audubon Co. Supervisor

Ranell Drake
Sac Co. Supervisor

Region XII COG Audit released

John D. Morrow, Certified Public Accountant, Wall Lake, Iowa, recently released an audit report on Region XII Council of Governments, Inc., Carroll, Iowa, and its affiliated non-profits.

John D. Morrow CPA reported the organizations had revenues of \$5,776,409 for the year ended June 30, 2013, which was a 15.2% decrease from the prior year. Support included \$3,738,312 from Federal and state agencies; \$1,611,637 from public support, fees, contributions, matching funds, etc; \$320,109 from loan repayments; and \$106,351 from interest from invested funds and loans.

Expenditures for the organizations totaled \$5,957,685, a 11.8% decrease from the prior year. Program expenditures administered by the organizations included \$1,936,446 for Rural Transit programs and planning, \$548,622 for Workforce Development and workforce related programs, \$1,704,254 for affordable housing and housing assistance programs, \$ 68,586 for Western Iowa Advantage Partners, and \$1,699,777 for other state and local programs.

A copy of the audit report is available for review on the Office of the Auditor of State's website or the Region XII COG administrative office.

Staff Changes:

Chris Whitaker and Tami Lehmann promoted within Region XII; Karla Janning and Sam Parker added to staff

Chris Whitaker, the long-time Region XII Transportation Planner, was promoted to the Local Assistance Director post in January after it was vacated by the resignation of Joe Behrens. Chris has been with Region XII COG since 1998.



Whitaker

Lehmann

Tami Lehmann was also promoted in January to the Revolving Loan Fund Administrator position. Formerly a Fiscal Clerk with Region XII, Tami has been with the organization since 2008. She graduated from Buena Vista University and has worked as a loan officer for several years prior to joining Region XII COG.



Karla Janning joined the Region XII COG as a Housing Inspector in May 2013 and assumed the Housing Specialist position in July. Karla has her Associate's degree from North Iowa Community College and brings 25 years of construction experience, primarily in commercial construction, but has also managed construction of residential and agricultural facilities across the area.



Sam Parker joined Region XII COG in October as a Regional Planner. Sam has a Bachelor's degree in Community and Planning from Iowa State University and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Drake University. He brings extensive GIS experience in addition to his previous work in local, state, and federal government settings.



Partnership Program

The COG's Partnership Program is an opportunity for private, non-government businesses and organizations to become a part of the COG's mission to provide various needed services to the region's cities and counties. The Partnership Program philosophy is that all groups making up a community, including non-government entities like local businesses, are essential to promoting, advancing, and developing the community. The COG appreciates the investment made by 2013 Partners listed below. For more information on the Partnership Program, contact Rick Hunsaker at rhunsaker@region12cog.org.

SILVER MEMBERSHIP - \$500

Mid-Iowa Insurance & Real Estate, Carroll
Midland Power Cooperative, Jefferson
Snyder & Associates, Atlantic

BRONZE MEMBERSHIP - \$250

Agri-Drain Corporation, Adair
American Home Shield, Carroll
Audubon State Bank, Audubon
Badding Construction, Carroll
Bank Iowa, Denison
Bauer Built Manufacturing, Inc., Paton
Bruner, Bruner & Reinhart, Carroll
Carroll Area Development Corporation, Carroll
Carroll County State Bank, Carroll
Chamber & Development Corporation of Crawford County, Denison
Commercial Savings Bank, Carroll
Coon Rapids Municipal Utilities, Coon Rapids
Denison Job Corps Center, Denison
Denison Municipal Utilities, Denison
Drees Company, Carroll
Farmers State Bank, Yale
Farner Bocken Company, Carroll
The Graphic Edge, Carroll
Guthrie County State Bank, Guthrie Center
Holmes Murphy & Associates, West Des Moines
Home State Bank, Jefferson
Iowa Savings Bank, Carroll
Iowa State Bank, Sac City
Landmands Bank, Audubon
Marne & Elk Horn Telephone Co., Elk Horn
Panora Telecommunications, Inc., Panora
POET Biorefining, Coon Rapids
Principal Financial Group-Matt Ramaekers, Carroll
Quality Machine of Iowa, Inc., Audubon
Raccoon Valley Bank, Perry
Sundquist Engineering, Denison
Templeton Savings Bank, Templeton
Templeton Telephone Company, Templeton
Western Iowa Networks, Breda

Western Iowa Transit Staff Changes



Western Iowa Transit's pool of drivers has undergone significant changes in the past few months. Darrell and Marge Rudolf provided great service to the people of Audubon County for more than 10 years and decided to retire this year. Jeana Paden of Exira has been hired to help fill the void left by Darrell and Marge. Bruce Hauswirth of Carroll resigned to take another position and Dale Steinkamp recently retired, creating a vacancy that was filled by the hiring of John Shymanski of Carroll. Other new hires include

John Grettenberg of Coon Rapids and Donna Alfors of Manning, both were hired to help meet the demand for transit services in their communities. We wish the best of luck to the drivers who have departed and are excited to welcome our new employees!

Introduction to Planning and Zoning Workshop for Local Officials April 1 in Carroll

The Introduction to Planning and Zoning for Local Officials workshop is a three-hour workshop designed to introduce the basic principles of land use planning and development management to elected officials, planning and zoning officials, and board of adjustment members without formal training in the subjects. Using case scenarios in a highly-interactive format, the workshop highlights issues frequently faced in the land use process.

All workshops begin with registration and a light supper at 5:30 p.m. The program begins at 6:00 p.m. and concludes by 8:45 p.m. The registration fee is \$65 per individual. When you register you will have the option to pay by credit card, or to be invoiced via email.

More information about registration is posted on that page. If you still have registration questions, please contact Registration Services at (515)294-6222 or registrations@iastate.edu.

**ISU Extension
Planning and Zoning Workshop**

5:30 PM, Tuesday, April 1, 2014,
Carrollton Inn, Carroll

\$65 for individuals, \$50 if 5 or more from a city or county register. Includes dinner and materials.

REGISTER ONLINE:
<http://blogs.extension.iastate.edu/planningBLUZ/workshops/>

Upcoming Grants

Funding Program	Purpose	Deadline	Eligible Applicants
Land and Water Conservation Fund (Iowa DNR)	Conservation and recreation projects and land acquisition	March 15	Local governments
Assistance to Firefighters Grant	Fire prevention and safety	March 21	Fire Departments
Build with Bags	Up to \$2,000 for the purchase of benches, tables, or playground equipment made of recycled plastic	March 30	Local governments, non-profit organizations, service clubs
Keep Iowa Beautiful Beautification Grant	Flower, tree and shrub planting, painting & fix-up and general landscaping; public nuisance abatement; litter prevention and recycling education, implementation, and public awareness	April 2	Local governments and non-profit organizations in communities of less than 5,000 residents
Iowa Community Cultural Grant	Staffing support for wide array of cultural organizations and projects	May 1	Local governments, tax exempt non-profits, others with a willing fiscal agent
State Recreation Trails Fund (Iowa DOT)	Acquisition, construction or improvement of recreational trails	July 1	Local governments, non-profit organizations
Resource Enhancement and Protection (Iowa DNR)	City parks and open space; county conservation, including land acquisition, facility repair and upgrades, and equipment; and private/public open space acquisition	August 15	Local governments and County Conservation Boards
COG Housing Trust Grant	Owner-occupied home repairs, down payment assistance, and foreclosure avoidance based upon income and need.	Open	Low income households

Recently Awarded Grants

Funding Program	Recipient	Amount	Project
2014 Housing Trust Fund Grant	COG Housing, Inc.	\$305,674	Homeowner repairs, down payment assistance, and foreclosure prevention.
RISE	Audubon County	\$320,000	190th Street Reconstruction
Rail Revolving Loan and Grant	Iowa Corn Processors	\$419,000	Rail Spur Construction
RISE	Greene County	\$480,000	Trinity Avenue - Bauer Built Manufacturing
Community Attraction and Tourism	City of Templeton	\$200,000	Templeton Community Center
Community Attraction and Tourism	City of Jefferson	\$70,000	Thomas Jefferson Gardens

Additional grants are available through private foundations and ongoing programs. If you are looking for funding for a specific project, please contact Chris Whitaker at 712-792-7811 or cwhitaker@region12cog.org for assistance in locating funding opportunities.



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facebook.com/regionxii

STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

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- Tami Lehmann, Revolving Loan Fund Administrator.....tlehmann@region12cog.org
- Mollie Scott, De-Cat Coordinator.....msscott@dhs.state.ia.us
- JoAnn Olberding, Executive Secretaryjolberding@region12cog.org

LOCAL ASSISTANCE

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WESTERN IOWA TRANSIT SYSTEM

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- Mike Rath, Service Manager.....mrath@region12cog.org
- Jill Anthofer, Transit Assistant.....janthofer@region12cog.org

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Beth Winquist, Workforce Director.....Beth.Winquist@iwd.iowa.gov
- Lisa Smith, Career Development Specialist.....Lisa.Smith@iwd.iowa.gov

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