



THE REVIEW

The Region XII Council of Governments Newsletter

February 2023

CALENDAR

February

- 8 - RPA XII TAC
10:00 AM, COG Board Room
- 9 - **Executive Board Meeting**
12:30 PM, COG Training Room
COG Housing
1:30 PM, COG Training Room
- 16 - **City Managers Meeting**
11:00 AM, COG Training Room
- 20 - **President's Day;**
Office Closed

March

- 8 - RPA XII TAC
10:00 AM, COG Board Room
RDC Loan Review Comm.
11:30 AM, COG Training Room
- 17 - **MIDF**
3:00 PM, Virtual
- TBD - **Executive Board Meeting**
Time TBD, COG Training Room

April

- 5 - RPA XII TAC
10:00 AM, COG Board Room
RDC Loan Review Comm.
11:30 AM, COG Training Room
- 9 - **Executive Board Meeting**
5:00 PM, COG Training Room
Policy Council
6:00 PM, COG Training Room
- 7 - **Good Friday;**
Office Closed

COG Awarded \$15M to Capitalize Loan Fund

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced in November an award of \$15 million to Region XII COG for the purpose of establishing a revolving loan fund for meat processing in Iowa. The award to the COG was one of eight made nationwide from USDA's Meat and Poultry Intermediary Relending Program and was made without any local match required. The new RLF is available to any qualified meatpacker throughout the state of Iowa needing funds to increase their capacity. Loans from the fund may range from \$500,000 to \$10 million and are expected to result in additional animals processed, job creation, additional private investment, increased markets for producers, and other local economic benefits.

The COG will begin accepting applications for loans later this month. Loans will be offered at 50% of prime for 10 years and may be used for equipment, working capital, inventory, building acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, or retrofitting.

The COG added an experienced loan officer (profile elsewhere in this newsletter) to help deploy and manage the fund. The COG has also been working with partners at the Iowa Area Development Group, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, and the Iowa Economic Development Authority to build awareness of the fund and identify additional deals. For additional information about the meat processing loan program, contact Scott at 712-775-7804, ssteffen@region12cog.org or Rick at 712-775-7800, rhunsaker@region12cog.org.

Business RLF Accepting Loan Applications

Aside from meat processors, the COG continues to operate its traditional business revolving loan fund. Businesses that create jobs in Audubon, Carroll, Crawford, Greene, Guthrie, or Sac County are eligible to apply. Loans up to \$750,000 can finance buildings, equipment, or working capital needs when a lender is unable to do so. The COG typically partners with banks, providing gap financing needed when a conventional loan and equity aren't enough to complete a planned project. Businesses of all types are eligible to apply for our loans, which carry a fixed low-interest rate for 10 years. Over nearly three decades the COG has assisted main street businesses as well as large manufacturers. To date, the COG has helped 142 businesses that have collectively invested \$107 million in the region and created just over 1,400 jobs. To learn more about how our loan fund may help your business succeed, contact Tami Lehmann at 712-792-9914 or tlehmann@region12cog.org.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Muir, Chair
Greene Co. Supervisor

Ranell Drake, Vice Chair
Sac Co. Supervisor

Stephanie Hausman, Treasurer
Carroll Co. Supervisor

Rick Thompson, Secretary
Audubon Co. Supervisor

Dave Muhlbauer
Crawford Co. Supervisor

Steve Smith
Guthrie Co. Supervisor

NEW STAFF

Scott Steffen has joined Region XII as a new Loan Officer. He is primarily responsible for the Meat and Poultry Intermediary Loan Program. Scott and his wife Kathy live in Carroll and have 5 children and 7 grandchildren. In his spare time he likes to play basketball, golf and complete his remodeling jobs. Scott is excited to get to know his new co-workers and clients.



Steffen

Glidden Lil' Wildcat Education Center

The Lil' Wildcat Education Center opened in August 2022 for local residents' childcare needs. The newly constructed center has the capacity to enroll up to 60 children-aged infant to 12 years old. This project was the result of the demand for before and after school programming as well as a need for daycare services in the Glidden area. This project was funded through a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), local donations, and a loan through United Bank of Iowa. COG staff assisted with the writing of the CDBG application and the grant's administration



New Western Iowa Transit Staff

Patricia Simpson was hired as a full time driver in Guthrie County at the beginning of December. Pat resides in Guthrie Center and was a school bus and suburban driver for Adair Casey schools prior to joining Region XII. She has experience transporting disabled children to school as well as wheel chair bound citizens and has been a great addition to the WIT staff.



Simpson

Region XII 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. Partners listed below. For more information, contact Rick Hunsaker at rhunsaker@region12cog.org. This list is up to date as of December 31, 2022.

PLATINUM MEMBERSHIP - \$2,000 Monogram Quality Foods, Denison

GOLD MEMBERSHIP - \$1,000

Bauer Built Manufacturing, Paton
Scranton Manufacturing/New Way, Scranton

SILVER MEMBERSHIP - \$500

Guthrie County REC, Guthrie Center
Home State Bank, Jefferson
Iowa Corn Processors, Glidden
Iowa State Bank, Sac City
Landmands Bank, Audubon
Mid-Iowa Insurance & Real Estate, Carroll
Midland Power Cooperative, Jefferson
Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative, Glidden
United Bank of Iowa, Carroll
Wall Lake Lumber Company, Wall Lake
West Central Iowa Rural Water Association, Manning

BRONZE MEMBERSHIP - \$250

Agri Drain Corporation, Adair
American Home Shield, Carroll
Audubon County Economic Development, Audubon
Audubon County Mem. Hospital & Clinics, Audubon
Audubon State Bank, Audubon
Badding Construction, Carroll
Bank Iowa, Denison
Breda Savings Bank, Breda
Breda Telephone Corp. DBA Western Iowa Networks, Breda
Bruner Bruner Reinhart & Morton, Carroll
Commercial Savings Bank, Carroll
Community State Bank, Paton
Coon Rapids Municipal Utilities, Coon Rapids
Core-Mark DBA Farner-Bocken, Carroll
Corn Belt Telephone, Wall Lake
Crawford County Memorial Hospital, Denison
Dakota Business Finance, Sioux Falls
Denison Municipal Utilities, Denison
Drees Company, Carroll
Ed M Feld Equipment Company, Carroll
Exchange State Bank, Exira
Farmers State Bank, Yale
Greene County Development Corporation, Jefferson
Greene County Medical Center, Jefferson
Guthrie County State Bank, Guthrie Center
I & S Group, Inc., Storm Lake
ICD Technologies/CCI Technologies, Carroll
Iowa Savings Bank, Carroll
Iowa Trust & Savings Bank, Panora
JEO Consulting Group, Inc., Carroll
Marne & Elk Horn Telephone Company, Elk Horn
Panora Telecommunications, Panora
Peoples Bank, Guthrie Center
Principal Fin. Group-Matt Ramaekers, Carroll
Sac Economic & Tourism Dev., Wall Lake
Shelby County State Bank, Ida Grove
Snyder & Associates, Atlantic
St. Anthony Regional Hospital, Carroll
Sundquist Engineering, Denison
Templeton Savings Bank, Templeton
Templeton Telephone Company, Templeton
The Graphic Edge, Carroll



REGION XII
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Employees

25+ Years

Rick Hunsaker

20-24 Years

Mike Rath

Chris Whitaker

15-19 Years

Jill Anthofer

Shelly Codner

Patrick Coil

10-14 Years

Christina Brown

Tami Lehmann

5-9 Years

Alex Foley
George Hunt
Karla Janning
Tom Madsen

Lauren Mortensen
Dale Murley
Ashley Owen
Steven Page

Michael Powers
Kim Pudenz
Mollie Scott
John Shymanski

0-4 Years

Paige Alesch
Mary Altamirano
Brandt Amlie
Ashley Brincks
Jon Bruner
David Burkett
Matt Cleveland
Mike Curnyn
Luke Hamill
Doug Hansman

Michael Hegstrom
Bret Iversen
Julie Larsen
David Keller
Raymond Magner
David Mahlberg
Mark Mahlstadt
Duane McClellan
Nina Nassif

Brett Nieland
Kevin Reese
Steve Scharfenkamp
Randy Segebart
Patricia Simpson
Scott Steffen
Tracy Sturm
William Sturm
Mark Thomsen
Curtis Woltz

Employees as of 12-31-2022

Thank You for Your Service!

February 2023 Grant Update

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Upcoming Grants

Funding Program	Purpose	Deadline	Eligible Applicants
Paint Iowa Beautiful	Through a partnership with Diamond Vogel Paint of Orange City, Iowa groups can receive paint for community enhancement projects.	February 10, 2023	Public or private non-profit organizations
Wellmark Foundation MATCH Grants	MATCH grants support promising projects that can help individuals, families and communities achieve better health.	February 15, 2023	Local Governments and Non-Profits
Derelict Building Grant Program	The Derelict Building Program is available for Iowa towns of 5,000 or fewer residents' to address neglected commercial or public structures that have sat vacant for at least 6 months.	February 24, 2023	Cities under 5,000 population
Guthrie County Community Foundation	The goal is to fund projects that improve the quality of life in Guthrie County.	March 6, 2023	Cities, Counties and 501c3 Non-profits.
AARP Community Challenge Grant	The AARP Community Challenge provides small grants to fund quick-action projects that can help communities become more livable for people of all ages.	March 15, 2023	501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(6) nonprofits and government entities
Iowa West Foundation	Community development, economic development, education, and human needs projects	March 15, 2023 July 15, 2023 November 15, 2023	Local governments and non-profit organizations in Audubon, Carroll and Crawford Counties.
Build with Bags	Up to \$2,000 for the purchase of benches, tables, or playground equipment made of recycled plastic	March 30, 2023	Local governments, non-profit organizations, service clubs
CDBG Water and Sewer Fund	Grants to assist cities and counties with sanitary sewer system improvements, water system improvements, water and wastewater treatment facilities, storm sewer projects related to sanitary sewer system improvements and rural water connections.	April 1, 2023 July 1 2023 October 1, 2023 January 1, 2024	Cities and Counties
Solid Waste Alternatives Program (SWAP)	Emphasis for selected projects is placed on tonnage avoided or reduced, sustainability and ability to replicate.	April 1, 2023 July 1 2023 October 1, 2023 January 1, 2023	Local governments, public or private groups
Peter Kiewitt Foundation	Community development and recreation projects	April 15, 2023 July 15, 2023 October 15, 2023 January 15, 2024	Local governments and non-profit organizations within a 100 mile radius of Omaha Nebraska.
Small Town Sign Replacement Program	The program will provide up to \$5,000 of signs and signposts per applying community on a first- come, first-served basis	Ongoing	Cities
CDBG Community Facilities and Services	This annual competitive program offers grants to assist communities for a variety of projects including day care facilities, senior centers, vocational workshops and other community services such as stormwater projects	Rolling Cycle	Cities and Counties
Destination Iowa	Investment in projects to bolster the quality of life in Iowa's communities and attract visitors	Ongoing	Cities, counties, nonprofits and other organizations

Additional grants are available through private foundations and ongoing programs. If you are looking for funding for a specific project, please contact Chris Whitaker, cwhitaker@region12cog.org or 712-775-7811, for assistance in locating funding opportunities.

Recently Awarded Grants

Funding Program	Recipient	Amount	Project
USDA Meat & Poultry Intermediary Relending Program	Region XII COG	\$15,000,000	Statewide RLF for Meat Processing
USDA Housing Preservation Grant	Region XII COG	\$104,277	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation in Audubon, Carroll, Crawford, Greene and Sac Counties
USDA Community Facilities	City of Auburn	\$15,600	Storm Siren Installation
USDA Community Facilities	City of Kiron	\$14,200	Storm Siren Installation
HOME Grant	Region XII COG	\$850,000	Housing Acquisition Rehab
FHLB Affordable Housing Program	Region XII COG	\$473,875	Region Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation
Local Housing Trust Fund	Council of Governments Housing, Inc.	\$378,349	Regional Housing Trust Fund

Region XII FY2022 Audit Released

John D. Morrow, Certified Public Accountant, Wall Lake, Iowa today released an audit report on Region XII Council of Governments, Inc., Carroll, Iowa.

John D. Morrow CPA reported the organizations had revenues of \$9,309,351 for the year ended June 30, 2022, which was a 2.97% decrease from the prior year. Support included \$5,425,192 from Federal and state agencies; \$3,640,146 from public support, fees, contributions, matching funds, etc; \$53,032 from rents; and \$190,981 from interest from invested funds and loans.

Expenditures for the organizations totaled \$6,952,522, a 5.17% decrease from the prior year. Program expenditures administered by the organizations included \$2,331,559 for Rural Transit programs and planning, \$950,342 for workforce related programs, \$1,715,787 for affordable housing and housing assistance programs, \$148,108 for Western Iowa Advantage Partners, and \$1,806,726 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 Council of Government’s administrative office.

STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

- Rick Hunsaker, Executive Director rhunsaker@region12cog.org
- Mark Thomsen, Fiscal Officer mthomsen@region12cog.org
- Julie Larsen, Fiscal Clerk..... jlarsen@region12cog.org
- Tami Lehmann, Revolving Loan Fund Administrator..... tlehmann@region12cog.org
- Scott Steffen, Loan Officer..... ssteffen@region12cog.org
- Mollie Scott, De-Cat Coordinator..... mscott@dhs.state.ia.us
- Ashley Brincks, Executive Secretary abrincks@region12cog.org

LOCAL ASSISTANCE

- Chris Whitaker, Local Assistance Director cwhitaker@region12cog.org
- Lauren Mortensen, Economic Development Planner..... lmortensen@region12cog.org
- Alex Foley, Regional Planner..... afoley@region12cog.org
- Luke Hamill, Regional Planner..... lhamill@region12cog.org
- Nina Nassif, Regional Planner..... nnassif@region12cog.org
- Shelly Codner, Iowa Waste Exchange Program Manager scodner@region12cog.org
- Paige Alesch, Iowa Waste Exchange Specialist..... palesch@region12cog.org
- Karla Janning, Housing Programs Coordinator..... kjanning@region12cog.org
- Ashley Owen, Housing Specialist..... aowen@region12cog.org
- Jon Bruner, Housing Inspector..... jbruner@region12cog.org
- Brett Nieland, Housing Inspector..... bnieland@region12cog.org

WESTERN IOWA TRANSIT

- Matt Cleveland, Transit Director..... mcleveland@region12cog.org
- Mike Rath, Service Manager..... mrath@region12cog.org
- Jill Anthofer, Transit Assistant..... janthofer@region12cog.org
- Chris Brown, Office Assistant..... cbrown@region12cog.org

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