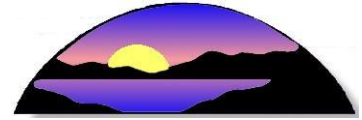


Loup Basin RC&D



Newsletter

February 2009

Serving: Blaine, Custer, Garfield, Greeley, Howard, Loup, Sherman, Valley, and Wheeler Counties in Nebraska. Website: www.loupbasinrcd.net Phone: 308 728-3393

**You Think You Can't Afford to Attend?
Maybe You Can't Afford NOT to Attend!**

We know the economy is playing havoc on many small business owners and impacting our communities. Finding the money and time to attend MarketPlace: Opening Doors to Success is tough....many have decided not to go this year. This is exactly the time that you NEED to attend!

MarketPlace was started to help rural Nebraska with small business development, beginning farmer and rancher opportunities and moving our communities forward. We want you to be successful.

Why MarketPlace and Why Now? You will learn information on marketing your business and how to use technology to move your business forward. You will have an opportunity to meet with experts who will help you recession proof your business. MarketPlace gives you a chance to meet with resource providers who can help you with some of your most urgent needs. You will network with others who will help you find your niche that sets you apart from the big box stores

Register today! Go to <http://cariregistration.unl.edu> to register. Find out about all of the sessions offered at both the preconference and the conference at www.cfra.org. Click on the MarketPlace logo and check out the day's agenda! Contact Joy Marshall 402-615-5558, joym@cfra.org or Kathie Starkweather 402-438-8496, kathies@cfra.org

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2008 RC&D Highlights

http://www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov/partnerships/rcd/index_rcd.html

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Pictured - (L-R) Spalding Academy teacher Amy McKay, Linda Studnicka from Keep Loup Basin Beautiful and Spalding Academy teacher Polla Hartley receive the 2nd place national award for school waste reduction.



Spalding Academy National Award

At their annual in Washington DC, on December 5th the Keep America Beautiful organization awarded Spalding Academy, Spalding, Nebraska the 2nd place national award for a Youth program for Waste Reduction in the 2007-2008 school year. This award was then presented to them by Keep Loup Basin Beautiful director, Linda Studnicka on January 28 during Catholic Schools Week.

They have won this award for their whole school, Kindergarten through the 12th grade, program for waste reduction in 2008. This included recycling 80 pounds of paper per week, for a total of 3040 pounds. They recycled over 1 ton of aluminum and one 30 gallon garbage can of flattened tin cans from the school cafeteria each week, for an approximate total of 2280 pounds.

Between March 1, 2008 and May 31, 2008, the 100 school students collected 930 pounds of PET plastic for a collection weight average of 9.3 per student. They received 250 fleece jackets made of recycled plastic for their efforts. Along with this contest, the school also won a photo contest cash prize. All of this recycling totals 8250 pounds that have been kept out of the landfill by the 100 students during the 2007-2008 school year.

Last spring, the 5th through 7th grade students did a river cleanup. The school is involved with beautification, and each Earth Day trees are planted on the school grounds. So far 12 trees have been planted, and the 2nd grade class plants at least 12 flower bulbs in the flower garden every year.

Erin Stevens was the winner of the cell phone recycling contest held last November, and she received a check for \$25.00.

Keep Loup Basin Beautiful has been involved with the Academy for several years, giving them environmental education and opportunities for environmental school contests. If you would like more information about Keep Loup Basin Beautiful programs, call 308-728-3393.

***Thank you
to
everyone
that wished
LeRoy Jons
a healthy
and happy
retirement
on
Thursday
January 8,
2009***

Keep Loup Basin Beautiful keeping you in the “Loop”

**Attention:
RESIDENTS OF OUR NINE COUNTIES!
March 1 thru May 31, 2009**

We will be giving away a Troy-Bilt Leaf Blower and a Troy-Bilt Weed Trimmer, each worth over \$200, in a random drawing of all volunteers for all cleanup, fix up, or beautification projects in a public space during the



Any group large or small, any project large or small, can be entered, but you must register your project prior to completion for the volunteers to be eligible to win.

**We will again have free Glad Bags and supplies.
Talk to Linda, 308-728-3393**

**The Keep Loup Basin Beautiful
Mission Statement:
“To promote and provide environmental education
and projects that will lead
to litter prevention,
litter reduction, recycling, and beautification
within the
Loup Basin nine counties”**

THE SPONSORS FOR THE GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP (GAC)



This year ANY public environmental project counts as a GAC event. This includes cleaning the interior of public buildings such as museums, fire stations, churches, courthouses, etc., any exterior cleaning or litter pickup, park or cemetery cleaning, any beautification of any public area, school area, flower and tree planting, downtown garden or beautification, cleaning a park or empty lot. How about taking your office or coffee group for a walk at noon and then talking about the GAC and litter prevention? That counts!! And you will be entered as a volunteer. We are available to visit your club and talk about GAC to your members.

To be registered to win- Think of your project or event, then Register-Call [Keep Loup basin Beautiful at \(308\)-728-3393](tel:308-728-3393) or e-mail Linda.Studnicka@rcdnet.net and complimentary Glad Force trash bags and supplies will be given to you, with a form for your volunteers to register for the prizes.
Take before pictures, advertise or sign up volunteers
Complete the project, take after pictures
Return the completed event form, pictures, and other materials to us by mail, or fax (308) 728-3903.
The volunteers will be entered to win the Troy-Bilt lawn equipment

We look forward to hearing from you.

PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION IN YOUR ORGANIZATION'S NEWSLETTERS, COMMUNITY GROUP MEETINGS, CHURCHES BULLETINS, AND WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS. FEEL FREE TO COPY INFORMATION AS NECESSARY.

Thank you.
Linda Studnicka

Loup Basin RC&D Council Meeting Minutes

– Tuesday January 20, 2009– 2:00 P.M.

(Covering the Nebraska Counties of: Blaine, Custer, Garfield, Greeley, Howard, Loup, Sherman, Valley, and Wheeler)

2:10 P.M. Norval and Marlene Vandiest Home at Dunning Nebraska

In Attendance: Cookie Rasmussen, Dean Rasmussen, Errol Wells, Sharon Kelley, Kay Anderson, Linda Studnicka, Richard Bolli, Daniel Hruza, LeRoy Jons, Janet Sanders, Marlene VanDiest and Bob Broweleit, Doug Wrede via teleconference

Dan Hruza called the meeting to order.

1. Introductions were made to the council.
2. Minutes- Dan made a motion to approve the November 25, 2009 RC& D Council meeting minutes that was held at the Loup Basin RC&D Office – Dean moved to approve the minutes as submitted Richard Bolli seconded. Motion carried.
3. Treasurer’s Report – Janet gave a report for Alicia. Janet noted that Alicia asked for a \$1.00 to \$10.00 each month from the RC&D general account to the RC&D endowment account. Richard moved and that \$ 10.00 be electronically transferred from the General Account to the endowment account every 60 days. Errol seconded. Motion carried.
4. Staff Reports – Staff reports were presented by Linda Studnicka and Janet Sanders. Written reports are on file for review. LeRoy explained to the group more about the Cedar River Stabilization project. Bob Broweleit, acting RC&D Coordinator from the Sandhills RC&D and LeRoy talked about when the Loup Basin RC&D Coordinator position will be opened. Possible mid April timeframe. Bob is also the one that we will contact to order our supplies. LeRoy explained to the group how RC&D fits into the branches of USDA, success stories of our Loup Basin RC&D. Project that he is currently working with Chadron State College that will include the 15 county effort with the North Central RC& D; have renewable energy curriculum class, week long camps for wind and solar.
5. Highlights - Marlene reported about the success of the 2009 Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway annual meeting. Janet talked briefly about the Podcastudio for use with the Junk Jaunt. Bob discussed the Federal Application at the National Level for the Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway went in in December.

Ag Diversity – LeRoy talked about the Organic meeting that was held December 10, 2008.

Tourism Committee – None to report

15 County Biofriendly – Dan reported about the focus of the 15 county bio-friendly Committee. Wind energy and woodland workshop. Richard Bolli said that Rich Woollen’s report almost complete. Dan finished with talking about the wind and solar energy for schools and how RC& D can be a source for help and information.

Loup Basin Tech Center – Monthly meetings are being held. QuickBooks class, word and excel classes scheduled.

6. President’s Report – Dan reported about who will be attending the Western RC& D Conference and will be leaving Sunday afternoon. LeRoy is up for RC & D Coordinator of Year for the 11 state region. The National RC&D Conference will be held in Albuquerque New Mexico from June 14 through June 18, 2009. The National RC&D Conference is held every 3 years. In listening to President Obama’s induction to his administration.– outlook is good for the RC& D - community oriented with grass roots-future looks good. Letters to Senators needed - duplicate them and send to President Obama about the successes of the RC&D on the local level. Richard asked about door prizes to take to the Western RC&D Conference. Dean will send some popcorn. Dan added to his report that the State RC&D has a new president, Scott Kudrna. The new president said to maybe have a tour of the nine counties. Bob stated that they are looking for specific areas-they will look through the list and put together the tour; Bob said like a sale barn-some things that we may not have thought of-not the main venue.
7. Old Business-none to report
8. New Business
 - A. Annual plan of Work - LeRoy explained the tracking of the responsibilities - adopted at the end of September meeting.
 - B. Endowment - LeRoy explained that the endowment wording had not been incorporated into the Loup Basin RC&D Bylaws. Richard, commented that we should be able to insert into the Bylaws from reading the minutes. Dan asked Richard to take a look at the Bylaws. Errol Wells will help Richard.
 - C. New Additional Business - Linda approached the Council to approve a project. The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality’s Litter Reduction Public Education Program awarded a grant in the amount of \$32,000 to the Loup Basin RC&D Council. Dan entertained a motion to approve the project. Errol moved to approve the project. Richard seconded. Project approved. Marlene asked if all the schools are notified. Linda says that she goes to different schools each year and the projects that all of the schools can participate in.
 - D. Loup Basin Technology Center - Richard Bolli explained the wages owed for some compensatory time. The Loup Basin Technology Center Board was wondering if the RC&D would take out a loan to pay for the wages. Funds going in for salaries. Richard went over his figures of how the loan would be repaid. Janet shared her new ideas of the uses of the Tech Center; monthly membership, cyber fairs, XAVIX equipment. LeRoy commented about having the LBTC opened at different times than the Ord Township Library and also the possibilities of the Northeast Community College involvement in renewable energy with an emphasis on wind. LeRoy explained the grant situation to build the Tech Center-Cooper Grant-Rural Development. LeRoy explained the entities that make up the Tech Center. Only received one fourth of the Cooper Foundation Grant that we had asked for this fall. Dean asked if new grants can pay for loan. And the answer was no. Errol commented about looking into a local bank loan. The Tech Center Board members present said that Terry Christensen was going to talk to Caleb Pollard at the Valley County Economic Development . Dan told them that we have not determined the total of the compensatory dollars. Doug Wrede asked via teleconference if the Loup Basin RC& D or Loup Basin Technology Center would be acquiring about the loan. Bob Broweleit talked about the RC&D general account for collateral. Dan and Richard entertained a motion to research getting a loan for the Loup Basin Technology Center and will have ready to approach the Loup Basin RC&D Council at the next meeting. Errol made a motion to approve Dan and Richard to research the possibilities in getting a Loan for compensatory time wages for the Loup Basin Technology Center. Dean seconded. Motion carried.

- 8.)
- E. 2009 Western RC&D Conference - Dan entertained a motion to the Loup Basin RC&D Council to delegate Daniel Hruza, President of the Loup Basin RC&D council as their voting member and Richard Bolli, 2nd Vice president of the Loup Basin RC&D Council as the alternate at the 2009 Western RC&D Conference. Dean moved to have Loup Basin RC&D Council represented at the Western RC&D Conference be Daniel Hruza, President as their voting member and Richard Bolli as the alternate. Errol seconded. Motion carried.
- 9. Announcements - Dan talked some more to everyone present about the purpose behind the Loup Basin RC&D "Purpose is to help local people turn ideas into reality". He also asked if there was anything more that our new members would like to know. Dan discussed the economic developments working together with the RC&D and how the RC&D had an economic development committee prior to the various counties establishing Economic Development directors. LeRoy and Bob explained more about how the RC&D's work together on small or large projects. If it is something right in their backyard how they work out those situations.

Next Meeting will be held in February at the Broken Bow Chamber of Commerce Office.

Meeting adjourned at 3:58 P.M.

Loup Basin RC&D Council Meeting Agenda
-Tuesday February 24, 2009-2:00 P.M.

(Serving the Nebraska Counties of: Blaine, Custer, Garfield, Greeley, Howard, Loup, Sherman, Valley and Wheeler)

2:00 P.M. Broken Bow Chamber of Commerce Office

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Minutes of the January 20, 2009 Meeting
- 3. Treasurer's Report
- 4. Staff Reports
- 5. Committee Report
- 6. President's Report
- 7. Old Business
 - A. Annual Plan of Work 2009-Review and update
 - B. Endowment – Proceede and Promote
 - C. Bylaws – Review and update. Insertion to include endowment; previous amendment
- 8. New Business
 - A. Robotics GIS/GPS
 - B. Wozab Grant
 - C. Workshop for Instructors April 8th - On Renewable Energy, part of 15 county effort
- 9. Announcements
- 10. Next Meeting – Tuesday, March 24, 2009

**Joint Meeting: Loup River Scenic Byway/Nebraska's Junk Jaunt
RC&D Tourism Council Minutes
January 5, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Marcia Keller (St. Paul) with the following members in attendance: Evelyn Dvorak (Howard County Historical Society, St. Paul), Don Studnicka (North Loup), Dave and Tami Thompson (Thompson Treasurers, Sargent), Peggy Haskell (Burwell), Dianne Wiberg (individual, Loup City) and George Ramsay (Outside Enterprises, Loup City) and Janet Sanders, RC&D (Ord).

Each member was given a copy of the minutes of the previous meeting held December 1, 2008. P. Haskell made a motion to approve the minutes as written. E. Dvorak seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer P. Haskell reported a balance of \$23,754.70 in the bank as of November 28, 2008. The December bank statement was not available prior to this meeting. Peggy reported she plans to invest a portion of the balance in a CD after current bills are paid, as approved at an earlier meeting.

Byway – Unfinished Business

Byway Committee Reports

- Corridor Management Plan – nothing new to report.
- Membership Committee – approx. 700 letters/invoices were mailed out to businesses and individuals along the Byways and its corridor. As of this date 70 memberships have been received for a total of \$1,585.00.
- 501c3 – nothing new to report.

Nebraska/Federal Tax numbers and application – nothing new to report

Area Birding brochure update – Dianne has talked to Tom Tabor about a new State or Game & Parks brochure. He was not aware of a new brochure but did say the Game & Parks is planning to update their Birding Trails book. Mr. Tabor said Loup Rivers Scenic Byway is listed on the Game & Parks website. Dianne will contact Game & Parks to see what the Byway can do help with our presence in their new Birding Trails book.

Old Byway Business

- Byway website – George Ramsay, of Outside Enterprises, reported the website will be ready by our March 1 goal. He will have pictures ready for the committee to review before the next meeting. Peggy reported Heartland Hosting turned ownership of the registered Byway domain names over to the Byways. Peggy moved that George secure LoopRiversScenicByway.com domain name. D. Studnicka seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- City links? Charge? The group discussed whether or not to charge cities for having a link on the new byway website. Peggy made a motion to give cities along the Byway, and its corridor, free reciprocal links as long as they are current members of the Byway. E. Dvorak seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dianne will send letters to the towns that currently do not have websites telling them about the new Byway website and letting them know George is willing, for a one time fee, to develop a website for them so that they can be included with the city links. George will give the Byway a commission for any towns hiring him as a result of this letter.
- Private Business link? Charge? – D. Thompson made a motion to give private businesses a link on the website as part of their membership. E. Dvorak seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Annual meeting date. The group set Wednesday March 4th for the Annual meeting. The regular meeting will be held at 3:30 P.M. followed by dinner and Annual meeting at 6:30 P.M. Invitations will be sent out with a RSVP.
- E. Dvorak motioned the group not meet in February. D. Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Committee Reports

- Junk Jaunt – Peggy reported the lodging advertising letters have been mailed and she has received five back. She will forward the information to Scott at Heartland Hosting to get the website updated.

New Byway Business

- Budget 2009. The proposed budgets for the Byway and Junk Jaunt were presented by Treasurer Peggy Haskell. D. Thompson made a motion to give preliminary approval for the budgets subject to review at the annual meeting. T. Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway Annual meeting. D. Thompson made a motion to pay the registration and mileage for two people to attend the Sandhills annual meeting in Thedford on January 17. T. Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried. Peggy said she was planning to attend.

Bills

- The Byways organization had received a dues notice from the Burwell Chamber of Commerce. The consensus of the group was not to rejoin the Chamber for 2009.
- P. Haskell made a motion to authorize Dianne to increase the minutes on her cell phone for the six month period May-October due to increased Junk Jaunt calls. The charge will be \$20 per month. D. Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- D. Thompson made a motion to pay the bills presented, a total of \$3,185.18 (an itemized list is attached). T. Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- The group authorized Peggy to purchase a gift, gift certificate or Chamber Bucks, not to exceed \$50, as a retirement gift for LeRoy Jons.

Open Forum

- Peggy suggested the group contact the State of NE about establishing a second scenic outlook along the Byway. The site suggested is along Hwy 91 between Almeria and Brewster. The site offers a beautiful view of the North Loup River and valley. E. Dvorak motioned the group authorize Peggy pursue this proposal and pay any expenses involved. D. Studnicka seconded the motion. Motion carried.

As there was no further business to discuss at this meeting, E. Dvorak motioned the meeting be adjourned. T. Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SIGNED

OFFICE HELD

Loup Rivers Scenic Byway
308-530-0557



Serving the Nebraska Counties of
Blaine, Custer, Garfield, Greeley,
Howard, Loup, Sherman, Valley,
and Wheeler.

Loup Basin RC&D Area Calendar

Visit our website: www.loupbasinrcd.net
for more events and information! Click on the
calendar button on the home page.

Tuesday February 24, 2009

Loup Basin RC&D Council meeting in Broken Bow at the
Broken Bow Chamber of Commerce Office Tuesday February 24,
2009 at 2:00 P.M. If you are unable to attend-contact the
Loup Basin RC&D Office for teleconference information

Tuesday February 24, 2009

Health Fair at the Loup Basin Technology Center
9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Tuesday March 3, 2009

“Loup Basin RC&D Show” Listen to Party Line Part
2 on KNLV Memories 1060 AM 1:30 P.M.

Wednesday March 4, 2009

Annual ByWay Meeting
RSVP by Friday February 27, 2009.
Email Dianne at dianne@junkjaunt.com
or call 308-530-0557 for more information.

Sunday March 8, 2009

Daylight Savings Time starts at 2:00 A.M.
Move clock ahead one hour.

Monday March 9, 2009

Ag Diversity Meeting/Topics: Organic workshop - Tour
Buy Fresh Buy Local at 1:00 P.M. at the Loup Basin
Technology Center

Tuesday March 17, 2009

“Loup Basin RC&D Show” Listen to Party Line Part
2 on KNLV Memories 1060 AM 1:30 P.M.

Saturday May 9, 2009

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Send Events to Janet at
Loup Basin RC&D
801 “S” St, Suite 2
Ord, NE 68862
308-728-3393 or janet.sanders@rcdnet.net
www.loupbasinrcd.net

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RC & D Council Board & Staff
President—Daniel L Hruza
1st Vice President—Dale Melia
2nd Vice President—Richard L Bolli
Secretary—Dean J Rasmussen
Treasurer—Alicia Toczek
Acting RC & D Program Coordinator—
Bob Broweleit, Sandhills RC&D
Program Support Assistant—
Janet Sanders
Keep America Beautiful—
Linda Studnicka
Loup Basin Technology Center—
Janet Sanders

Meeting Notices!!!

Tuesday February 24, 2009 2:00 P.M - Loup Basin RC&D Council Meeting at the Broken Bow Chamber of Commerce

Wednesday March 4, 2009— Annual ByWay Meeting. *RSVP by Friday February 27, 2009.* Email Dianne at dianne@junkjaunt.com or call 308-530-0557 for more information.

Loup Basin RC&D Council
Loup Basin Tourism Committee
801 "S" St. Suite 2
Ord NE 68862