



## Furnas/Harlan Partnership Meeting January 15, 2004

The Furnas/Harlan Partnership met at the Husker Club in Oxford, Nebraska at 1:00 p.m. on January 15th, 2004.

Present: Ken Becker, Harry Brown, Glenn Cowan, Mike Eberle, Todd Eichenberger, Linda Fetting, Bill Hogeland, Cathy John, Ken Johnson, Dale Long, Gerald Meyerle, Rick Nelson, Ed Newcomb, Marcia Roberts, Raylene Stephens, Andela Taylor, Corey tenBensel, Fran Thooft and Dennis Wolzen.

Ken Johnson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

The meeting opened with a discussion regarding finding a volunteer to act as interim Chairperson for the Furnas/Harlan Partnership until by-laws could be adopted. Bill Hogeland suggested that Ken Johnson remain in the position of Chairperson. Ken Johnson agreed to remain in the position of interim Chairperson.

Todd Eichenberger, Bill Hogeland and Thomas Tomas will serve on the by-law committee. They will study a sample copy of by-laws drawn up by Tom Patterson and have their recommendations to Ken Johnson by January 29th, 2004. The by-laws with the recommended changes will be presented at the next meeting.

A work plan with goals needs to be drawn up. The representatives need to obtain input from their respective entities and send any suggestions to Ken Johnson as soon as possible. It was suggested that the Steering Committee task forces be invited to the meetings to develop a work plan. When a draft, work plan is completed bring it to the public for their input. Press releases are very important to continue the momentum. Andela Taylor, Corey tenBensel, Ken Johnson, Linda Fetting, and Rick Nelson will be the Work Plan Committee.

Rick Nelson reported on a new demographic/trends report for Furnas and Harlan Counties.

Future agendas and meetings were discussed. Linda Fetting suggested an annual public meeting to introduce officers and members.

Contacting alumni and informing them of what is going on with the Furnas/Harlan Partnership to get them involved again with the communities was discussed.

Dennis Wolzen will chair the nominating committee. He will choose two other members to help them.

The next meeting will be held in Alma at their new Country Club, February 19th, 2004. Refreshments will be provided. Pizza will be ordered at the approximate cost of \$5.00 per person for those interested in eating. Agenda for the 19th tentatively is:

1. By-Laws
2. Election of Officers
3. Review work plan
4. Furnas/Harlan Public forum discussion