



Furnas/Harlan Partnership Meeting

January 20, 2005

The Furnas/Harlan Partnership met at the Twin Valleys PPD Office in Cambridge, Nebraska at 4:00 p.m. on January 20, 2005.

Present: Bill Hogeland - Alma, Tom Thomas - Orleans, David Daire - Alma, Andela Taylor - Cambridge, Mark Graf - Arapahoe, Carrie Sheldon - Harlan County Journal, Corey ten Bensel - TVPPD, Ken Johnson - TVPPD, Rosie Stockton - Cambridge, Roger Stockton - Southwest RC & D, Erma Hall - Beaver City, and Jay Hall - Beaver City.

Ken Johnson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

A quorum was not established.

No Treasurer's report was available.

Suggestion made to change quorum requirements.

Discussion was held on Congressman Osborne's interest in designating livestock friendly counties. Chris Schluntz was named as a possible speaker to educate the board about some of the issues regarding this designation. Many issues were addressed including environmental, zoning, and permit issues. It was also emphasized that any effort needs to be done in a scientific and environmentally based manner.

A report was made on the web based business directory. The Alma High School Tech team hopes to have the initial project placed on the web site within the next two week. In related discussion, Business Beyond the Farm and Bizfind were discussed as additional resources. Rosie Stockton presented a final draft of the Partnership brochure. The group enjoyed a lengthy discussion. Comments were very good and wide ranging. A suggestion was made to make obvious changes and then try the brochure for six months. Changes could then be made again if needed at that point.

Ken Johnson then presented a power point presentation that could be used to take to the communities this spring. A lengthy discussion again followed. Notes were taken and changes will be integrated into the report where possible. A timeline was laid out for starting the funding process.

Ken Johnson then presented the job description to the group. Changes were made to the document in a short work session during the meeting. The finished job description will be sent to the members.

The annual meeting was then scheduled for February 24, 2005 at Oxford. Meal at 6:00 pm with program to follow. Business Beyond the Farm will be asked to be the program.

Pizza and beverages were served after the meeting.