

Region Five Development Commission Announces 2017's Board of Directors

Staples, MN, February 1, 2017 – Region Five Development Commission has announced this year's board of directors, along with the newest members to the Commission.

The 2017 Board of Directors include: David A. Anderson, Wadena County Municipalities, Board Chair; Barb Becker, Todd County Commissioner, Vice Chair; Duane Johnson, Morrison County Commissioner, Secretary; Craig Nathan, Rural Minnesota Concentrated Employment Program/Special Interests, Treasurer; Sheldon Monson, Wadena County Commissioner, Director; Rosemary Franzen, Crow Wing County Commissioner, Director; John Benson, Cass County Town Boards, Director.

The Commission's newest representatives are Jill Abbott, MState/Higher Education; Nancy Stevens, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe; Curt Johnson, Region Five School Boards.

Executive Director Cheryal Hills shared "We are fortunate to work for elected officials and leaders of special interest groups who continually seek regional cooperation and efficiencies in ways that improve our rural quality of life."

Region Five Development Commission was established in State Statute in 1973 and is designated as an Economic Development District (EDD) by the US Dept. of Commerce Economic Development Administration for the five county region. A few of R5DC's broad programs and services include Community Development - broadband, energy, local foods plans/program deployment, Economic Development- including 4 lending programs, and a multitude of Transportation programs including Safe-Routes-for-Schools planning.

The work of the Commission is guided by a governing commission that consists of 24 members representing a cross -section of constituents from around the five county region. For a full listing of Commission representatives visit www.regionfive.org.

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About Region Five Development Commission

Enhancing the vitality and quality of life in Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena counties is the mission of Region Five Development Commission. Resiliency, inclusion and collaboration are guiding concepts in achieving mutually shared goals that continue to evolve with local municipalities, state, federal agencies, philanthropic, non-profit and social advocacy agencies. The 501c3 arm of R5DC called the North Central Economic Development Association (NCEDA) allows for extensive private sector engagement and relationships. The Commission is committed to balancing economic prosperity, environmental stewardship and quality of life through partnerships, planning and implementation in ways that do not jeopardize local control. Visit www.regionfive.org to learn more.