

Rural Desert Southwest Brownfields Coalition Assessment

and

Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Program

Quarterly Meeting Summary

March 4, 2021; 1:00 pm – 1:30pm

Zoom Conference Call

Attendees:

Lorina Dellinger – Nye County
Samantha Kramer – Nye County
Arnold Knightly – Nye County
Cathreen Richards – Inyo County
Bill Brewer – Northern Nevada Development Authority
Rachel Schlick – BEC Environmental, Inc. (BEC)
Kelly Sheehan – BEC
Erika Balderson – BEC

Acronyms:

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
ESA – Environmental Site Assessment
NRHA – Nevada Rural Housing Authority
PPG – Pittsburgh Plate and Glass
RDSBC – Rural Desert Southwest Brownfields Coalition
RLF – Revolving Loan Fund

I. Introductions and Announcements

Kelly Sheehan (BEC) shared the 2021 Brownfields Conference Call for Ideas on the Wye Road project was submitted by Clint Quilter, Chief Administrative Officer of Inyo County, and he would keep the RDSBC informed of any updates/approvals.

II. General Discussion

Facebook updates were the main focus for community outreach this quarter and occurred every two weeks. Upcoming updates for the website will include points of contact following the appointment of a representative for White Pine County.

Sheehan reminded the Coalition challenges in encouraging Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) in advance of property acquisition were an ongoing issue.

III. Region Specific Updates

1. Duckwater Reservation
 - a. No new brownfields sites were identified this quarter.
 - b. Solid Waste Area – The Rural Desert Southwest Brownfields Coalition (RDSBC) was awaiting the Tribal Council’s decision on where to re-locate this site on tribal land.

2. Esmeralda
 - a. No new brownfields sites were identified this quarter.
 - b. No updates on Coaldale or Silver Peak properties.
3. Inyo
 - a. No new brownfields sites were identified this quarter.
 - b. Mount Whitney Fish Hatchery – Cathreen Richards had no new updates on the Hatchery. She stated Inyo County was still in conversation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to see if the County can take it over.
 - c. Pittsburgh Plate and Glass (PPG) – The contractor implemented the approved work plan and submitted the lab results to the case officer, John Steude. They were reviewing options for disposal as of January 2021.
4. Lincoln
 - a. No new brownfields sites were identified this quarter.
5. Mineral
 - a. The Monte Carlo – Pending confirmation from Cassie Hall to move forward.
 - b. Boys and Girls Club – Asbestos was identified in damaged floor tiles throughout the building. Mineral County was working with Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) Brownfields Program to perform asbestos abatement throughout the quarter.
6. Nye
 - a. No new brownfields sites were identified this quarter.
 - b. Nye Regional Medical Center – Lorina Dellinger (Nye County) stated there were no new updates.
 - c. Lathrop Wells – Phase II draft submitted for review to NDEP; the only elevated constituent of concern was arsenic, but it was not detected above background levels.
 - d. Nye County Courthouse – Dellinger stated Nye County was reviewing a task order for BEC to complete the Targeted Brownfields Assessment application of the Nye County Courthouse.
 - e. Pahrump Fairgrounds – This site has expanded to include the full 427-acre parcel, and Nye County submitted an application for Phase I funding assistance to the Nevada Brownfields Program.
7. White Pine
 - a. No new brownfields sites were identified this quarter.
 - b. Laurie Carson, Vice Chairman of the County Commission, stated she would make an agenda item for the March 24th White Pine Board of County Commissioners meeting to ask the Board to assign a representative to the RDSBC.
 - c. Plaza Hotel – No new updates
 - d. Ely Hotel Bar – No new updates

IV. Financial Status by Task and Cumulative Expenditures to Date

V. 2014 Revolving Loan Fund

1. Tonopah Library Expansion – Sam Kramer (Nye County) confirmed receipt of signed subgrant award agreement! She authorized BEC to continue with the pre-cleanup requirements.
2. Centennial Fine Arts Center –Kramer mailed out subgrant award agreement and was awaiting receipt.
3. Kramer stated Nye County was requesting an extension on the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) to complete the projects and was awaiting EPA response.

VI. 2018 Revolving Loan Fund

1. This RLF program includes all members of the RDSBC: Duckwater Reservation; Esmeralda, Lincoln, Mineral, Nye, and White Pine Counties, Nevada; and Inyo County, California.
2. Up to five projects are anticipated to be completed over the next three years.

VII. Open Discussion

Rachel Schlick (BEC) introduced Bill Brewer of the Nevada Rural Housing Authority (NRHA), the newest member of the Coalition. Schlick stated the NRHA can help mitigate housing crises in RDSBC communities.

VIII. Action Items

BEC will send out a Doodle Poll for availability to schedule the next meeting.

IX. Next Meeting