

# **Rural Desert Southwest Brownfields Coalition Assessment**

**and**

## **Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Program**

### **Quarterly Meeting Summary**

**December 8, 2022; 11:00 am – 12:00 pm Pacific Time**

#### **Zoom Conference Call**

**Topic: RDSBC Quarterly Meeting**

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**Attendees:** Lorina Dellinger – Nye County  
John Klenke – Nye County  
Arnold Knightly – Nye County  
Tabatha Hamilton – White Pine County  
Corey Lytle – Lincoln County  
De Winsor – Esmeralda County  
Amy Miller – Mineral County  
Donna Corey – Southwest Central Rural Economic Development Authority (SWCREDA)  
Bill Brewer – Nevada Rural Housing Authority (NRHA)  
Lisa Hanusiak – U.S. EPA Region 9  
Jasmine Williams – U.S. EPA Region 9  
Eileen Christensen – BEC  
Stefanie Costa Rica – BEC  
Vivian Sam – BEC

**Acronyms:** CDBG – Community Development Block Grant  
CDFW- California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
CFAC – Centennial Fine Arts Center  
DTSC – Department of Toxic Substances Control  
EA – Environmental Assessment  
EPA – Environmental Protection Agency  
ESA – Environmental Site Assessment  
NDEP – Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
NNDA – Northern Nevada Development Authority  
NRHA – Nevada Rural Housing Authority  
NyECC – Nye Communities Coalition  
RDSBC – Rural Desert Southwest Brownfields Coalition  
RLF – Revolving Loan Fund  
SHPO – State Historic Preservation Office  
SWCREDA – Southwest Central Rural Economic Development Authority  
SWMP – Solid Waste Management Plan

## **I. Announcements**

1. The 2023 Brownfields Conference in Detroit will be held August 7-11, 2023.

- a. The Conference is putting out a call for ideas, including topic talks and case studies. RDSBC to submit a topic?
2. Community-based solar opportunity for brownfields projects/work force housing with a focus on tribes.
  - a. An announcement has been released for this opportunity. Christensen to forward informational package to Brewer, Miller, Corey, Dellinger, and Hamilton.

## **II. General Discussion**

1. Public Outreach
  - a. Outreach Information Located Here:  
<https://www.rdsbc.org/outreach/>
2. RDSBC Website Updates
  - a. Agendas and Meeting Summary from last quarter were uploaded on November 14, 2022.

## **III. Region Specific Updates**

1. Duckwater Shoshone
  - a. Solid Waste Area – This site was submitted for future assessment consideration under the NyECC Assessment Grant.
  - b. Tribal council decided to keep the transfer station at the current location – working on improvements to the area.
2. Esmeralda
  - a. Fish Lake Valley Community Center Expansion and Goldfield and Silver Peak HVAC projects (NDEP).
    1. Contractors were selected for both projects on December 6, 2022.
  - b. Winsor updated that current projects including a solar project from Coaldale area into Silver Peak and Geothermal exploration in Fish Lake Valley.
3. Inyo
  - a. Green Space Project near Olancha soda ash pile
    1. Hanusiak said that contractors were out this week collecting samples at the site.
  - b. Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery (Tribal Application)
  - c. Hanusiak relayed that Inyo County inquired about potential sites for housing.
4. Lincoln
  - a. NRHA Pioche Housing Project (See NRHA Item #8, below)
    1. Brewer updated that Environmental Reviews for Phase I/II are ongoing. They will be looking for assistance for abatement.

- a. Home Means Nevada funding application unsuccessful, and Nevada Tax Credit for housing will be pursued.
- b. Hanusiak updated that contractors will collect soil and building materials to be sampled end of January.

5. Mineral

- a. Babbitt Industrial Park Update
  - 1. Cleanup Grant application has been submitted.
- b. Waiting for Groundbreaking for Tire Plant
  - 1. Miller updated that this project is currently on-hold pending NV Energy.
- c. 27 parcels going through the Due Diligence process
  - 1. Cleanup grant was applied for and includes a 0% match for Mineral County.

6. Nye

- a. Nye County Courthouse (EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessment)
  - 1. Project funding for cleanup on hold pending facilities study by Nye County.
- b. Nye Regional Medical Center – Buildings with hazardous materials (asbestos/lead) to be demolished (2020 Revolving Loan Fund)
  - 1. NDEP Brownfield Application has been submitted for UST removal and cleanup.
  - 2. Funding Workshop was held on November 3, 2022 to discuss project timing and funding requirements with the Northern Nye County Hospital District (NNCHD) development team, funding agencies, and key stakeholders.
  - 3. Summary of November 3, 2022 meeting and Draft Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives were presented to the NNCHD Board on December 1, 2022.

7. White Pine

- a. Ruth Church and McGill Standard Market
  - 1. Hamilton updated that an NDEP Brownfields Application was submitted for each to fund assessment and cleanup.
    - a. NDEP has run out of funding for this year, but there is possible funding for next year.
    - b. White Pine plans to apply for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for the buildings to cover assessment/demolition.
- b. McGill Slag Ditch
  - 1. Hamilton updated that a Brownfields crew conducted a site visit and held town meetings in early August.

2. An EPA Technical Assistance site visit occurred on November 3, 2022.
- c. Centennial Fine Arts Center Project (2014 RLF)
  1. Costa Rica updated that bid documentation for this project was published November 11, 2022 through December 2, 2022.
    - a. No bids were received, and the White Pine Community Choir Association will be going out to rebid on Dec 19, 2022.
    - b. The bid opportunity will be posted on the RSDBC Facebook page. Please share the opportunity!
8. Nevada Rural Housing Authority
  - a. NRHA Pioche Housing Project (Lincoln County)
  - b. Hanusiak and Lytle– Targeted Brownfields Assessment at Castleton Mine Site – abandoned mine lands for solar redevelopment and restoration of historic mine structures.
    1. Scheduling first kick-off meeting with contractors. Williams/Lytle - Reach out to Lincoln County Power District and The Nature Conservancy.
9. Nye Communities Coalition (NyECC)
  - a. Workforce and Job Training sessions are being held, and the second cohort courses are planned to occur in January 2023.
  - b. The NyECC Brownfields Assessment RFP is to be released soon.
10. Southwest Central Rural Economic Development Authority (SWCREDA)
  - a. Corey had no updates for this meeting.

**IV. Open Discussion**

**V. Action Items**

**VI. Next Meeting**

1. Next meeting is in March – will send out a Google Poll