

Rural Desert Southwest Brownfields Coalition Assessment

and

Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Program

Quarterly Meeting Summary

March 9, 2023; 11:00 am – 11:30 pm Pacific Time

Zoom Conference Call

Topic: RDSBC Quarterly Meeting

Attendees: Lorina Dellinger – Nye County
John Klenke – Nye County
Arnold Knightly – Nye County
Tabatha Hamilton – White Pine County
De Winsor – Esmeralda County
Amy Barnes – Mineral County
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. A Topic Talk presentation was submitted highlighting the Wye Road Project in Bishop, Inyo County, Nevada and for the Centennial Fine Arts project in Ely, White Pine, Nevada

- b. We are looking for projects to submit for the Phoenix Award
 1. Dellinger suggested to submit the Belvada project with the Pink Motel, since they are close in location. Dellinger also supports the Wye Road project.
 2. Knightly suggested doing one project this year and another next year. Knightly suggested to submit the Pink Motel and Belvada first.

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. Commissioner Winsor updated that the Silver Peak Community Center project is underway.
 2. Fish Lake Valley Community Center Expansion – Asbestos abatement occurred in January. Construction to expand the Community Center is occurring now.
 3. Goldfield Community Center HVAC project is complete.
3. Inyo
 - a. Green Space Project near Olancha soda ash pile
 1. Hanusiak updated that EPA is currently waiting for the draft Targeted Brownfield Assessment Report, which is expected to be submitted on April 21, 2023. Currently, the contractor is analyzing the data, and will be wrapping up soon.
 - b. Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery (Tribal Application)
 1. Hanusiak reported that the tribal application has not been received.
4. Lincoln
 - a. NRHA Pioche Housing Project (See NRHA Item #8, below)

1. Hanusiak: Sample collection to occur as soon as the snow melts. Scheduled for May 9-11.
5. Mineral
 - a. Babbitt Industrial Park Update
 1. Barnes is currently waiting for an award from EPA.
 - b. Groundbreaking for Tire Plant
 1. Pending negotiations from NV Energy
 2. 27 parcels going through the Due Diligence process.
 - a. Cleanup Grant through Mineral County
 - i. Anticipated to become available March – June
 - ii. Hanusiak updated that the EPA will not know which applicants will receive funding until May.
 - c. Barnes updates that Mineral County has approved the hiring of a County Manager.
6. Nye
 - a. Nye County Courthouse (EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessment)
 1. The project funding for cleanup is on hold pending a facilities study by Nye County.
 2. The RFQ has to go before the board and has been received.
 - b. Nye Regional Medical Center – Buildings with hazardous materials (asbestos/lead) to be demolished (2020 Revolving Loan Fund)
 1. The NDEP Brownfield Application has been submitted for UST removal and cleanup.
 2. The NNCHD approved ABCA alternative to abate the asbestos containing materials from within the hospital building and the former pump house building. Cleanup plan for that alternative has been completed and sent out to EPA, Nye County and NNCHD.
 3. NNCHD was approved by the Nye County Board of Commissioners to pursue a loan for \$800,000 from the RDSBC Brownfields program. Loan package to be submitted to the NV Dept of Taxation review and approval.
7. White Pine
 - a. Ruth Church and McGill Standard Market
 1. NDEP funding Assessment work for these two buildings. Both are anticipated to be demolished.
 2. Kickoff meeting with NDEP is scheduled.
 - a. Another project may be added to this application for an abandoned building on County property.
 - b. McGill Slag Ditch

1. Hamilton reported that field work and sampling is in progress. Technical assistance ongoing. Sampling will occur in April depending on snow melt. The County plans on holding a public meeting the day before to inform owners near the ditch of planned activities.
2. Hanusiak reminded Hamilton that all technical assistance ends by September.
- c. Centennial Fine Arts Center Project (2014 RLF)
 1. One bid has been received.
 2. Costs were higher than anticipated, Williams and Hanusiak reported that they will be looking into whether they can approve an award allowance higher than the \$250,000.
8. Nevada Rural Housing Authority
 - a. NRHA Pioche Housing Project (Lincoln County)
9. Nye Communities Coalition (NyECC)
 - a. Workforce and Job Training sessions
 1. Odegard reported that the second cohort begins March 13. The course will begin with HAZWOPER. Nineteen participants are currently signed up.
 - a. Knightly suggested to let him know about these opportunities to put this on the Nye County social media.
 - b. NyECC BF Assessment Grant
 1. Odegard expressed that NyECC has been unable to get a copy of the official grant award notice from EPA and asked for help from Lisa Hanusiak.

Hanusiak responded that she acknowledges the delay in the grant notice. Hanusiak reported that this is currently an issue for all nonprofits applying for these grants and is not the fault of NyECC. The grant is currently in review with EPA's Office of Grants. Hanusiak cannot give a timeline at the moment and reported that the grant will come with an extension as needed.

IV. Open Discussion

1. Hanusiak said that she is happy to review application for any projects that will be put forward for assessment.

V. Action Items

VI. Next Meeting

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