

# Central Nebraska Economic Development District

Serving 14 Central Nebraska Counties, including:  
Blaine, Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Custer, Garfield, Greeley, Holt,  
Keya Paha, Loup, Rock, Sherman, Valley and Wheeler



Central  
Nebraska  
Economic  
Development  
District

## September 2015 –Newsletter

### Four Communities Showcased at Sandhills Summit 2015

The cities of Broken Bow, O'Neill, Ord and Valentine were recently showcased at the Sandhills Summit 2015 event held in Valentine on August 26-28. The event, sponsored by a small group of business leaders from the Rural Renaissance Group, was organized to foster economic development in rural Nebraska and see it prosper.

The Rural Renaissance Group partnered with the Central Nebraska Economic Development District (CNEDD), Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), and Omaha Public Power District (OPPD), to invite businesses located in Nebraska, or businesses that had Nebraska ties, to the event. Participants were able to learn more about how these leader communities are working to enhance opportunities for future business growth, and how they can develop partnerships to expand that growth.

Governor Pete Ricketts, Senator Deb Fischer, Congressman Adrian Smith and Nebraska Economic Development Director Brenda Hicks-Sorenson were featured speakers at the kickoff reception, and each spoke about how important rural Nebraska communities are to the success of the entire state.

This was a unique opportunity for businesses and resource leaders to learn more about business opportunities and celebrate the quality of life these four communities have to offer to businesses and their employees. The event, held at the Prairie Club in Valentine, provided an excellent setting for networking and learning, interaction with local businesses, a sight-seeing tour, golf, and a fun-filled Western quick draw contest.

"CNEDD would like to thank the Nebraska Rural Renaissance Group for inviting the District and Broken Bow, Ord, O'Neill and Valentine to participate in the 2015 Sand Hills Summit," says Judy Petersen, CNEDD Executive Director. "This was a phenomenal opportunity to showcase the positive economic development that the Central Nebraska region have and can accomplish. We learned that communities in this region need to be proactive in marketing themselves to businesses and people, to expand opportunities for future growth."

The Rural Renaissance Group is made up of a number of private Nebraska businesses. Rural Renaissance members and other sponsors of the event included, but were not limited to: First National Bank of Omaha (Omaha), DLR Group (Omaha), Great Plains Communications (Blair), Kutak Rock LLP (Omaha), J.J. Palmtag Inc. (Nebraska City), NPPD, OPPD, Nebraska Telecommunications Association (Lincoln).

### Entrepreneurial Workshops—New Service in Central Nebraska

The Central Nebraska Economic Development District began offering entrepreneurial workshops in January 2015, and our plan is to continue offering these workshops throughout the region. To date, the following workshops have been offered:

- How to Squeeze More Out of Your Marketing
- Get Up, Start Up, and Fire Up Your Business
- Why Businesses Should Incorporate or Form an LLC
- Social Media Demystified

Give us a call today, to schedule a FREE entrepreneurial workshop in your community. You can reach us at 402-340-0106.

### CNEDD Assists 9 Housing Authorities to Receive Funds

A new requirement by the federal Housing and Urban Development required that your local housing authorities seek the assistance of third-party providers in completing Environmental Review Records in order to receive their Capital Funds to repair and improve housing authority properties. CNEDD assisted housing authorities in Ainsworth, Bassett, Broken Bow, Burwell, Greeley, Loup City, Lynch, North Loup and Ord to ensure the funds were received in a timely basis.

**Our Mission**  
Improving Communities  
Expanding Business  
Enhancing Housing  
Enriching Education

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