

**Rural Desert Southwest Brownfields Coalition  
and  
Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Program  
Quarterly Meeting- Minutes**

October 24, 2014 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM  
Teleconference

**Attendance:** Elaine Zimmerman – Lincoln County  
Elaine Kabala - Inyo County  
Darrell Lacy – Nye County  
Liz Enriquez - Nye County  
Joni Eastley – Nye County  
Eileen Christensen – BEC Environmental  
Jennifer Hill - BEC Environmental  
Jim Garza – White Pine County

**Acronyms:**

BOCC – Board of County Commissioners  
DTSC – Department of Toxic Substances Control  
NRHA- Nevada Rural Housing Authority  
EPA – Environmental Protection Agency  
NHPA- National Historic Preservation Act  
ESA- Environmental Site Assessment  
NDEP – Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
GIS- Geographic Information Systems  
RLF- Revolving Loan Fund  
SHPO- State Historic Preservation Office  
IC- Institutional Controls  
MOA- Memo of Agreement

- I. Introductions-** made.
- II. Successes and Challenges over the Past Quarter-** given by Hill.
  - a. Finalization of the Area Wide Plan – Approval obtained from all the commission boards. Final Plan added to RDSBC website in October 2014.
  - b. Completion of the Ely Grade School Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) - Waiting on approval and or comments from EPA.
  - c. Coordination with Inyo and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to continue assessment and cleanup planning for the Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery- Dialog was re-established with California Department of Fish & Wildlife in efforts to continue the assessment. Hopefully they have a process in place to get an MOA with Sierra Nevada Conservancy to Inyo County for redeveloping purposes. Kabala gives thanks and looks forward to the project moving forward.

### **III. Assistance Requested from EPA**

- a. Nova Blazej (EPA Region 9) has been invaluable for providing guidance on a variety of grant-related issues this quarter- very helpful.

### **IV. Updates by Task- grant period ends December 30, 2014; more sites have been looked at for assessment.**

#### **a. Task 1: Conduct Inventory, Site Selection and Site approval**

1. Eligibility evaluation checklists were completed for two sites in Nye County (Public Works Buildings 1 and 2), and one site in Inyo County (Church Square parking lot) - Public Works Building 2, has been approved and submitted to EPA. In regards to Building 1, waiting for approval from Nye county staff. Eastley asks about the Church Square Parking Lot. Hill explains the site is three parcels of land that might have possible contaminations, like a UST. This site has opportunities to be redeveloped.

#### **b. Task 2: Quality Assurance and Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs)**

1. Ely Grade School Building SAP completed in anticipation of Phase II- Will be on hold until the next grant period. Focus is on completing Phase I work with remaining funding.

#### **c. Task 3: Cleanup and Reuse Planning**

1. Tonopah Airport FBO building- Coordinating with SHPO on the RLF process.
2. Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery- discussed above.

#### **d. Task 4: Area Wide Planning**

1. Area Wide Plan was finalized and delivered to TerraSpectra for addition to the RDSBC website – Is on the website, bottom left corner of the home page. Agenda and Minutes have been loaded on the website under the Outreach tab.

#### **e. Task 5: Project Management and Planning**

1. Quarterly Report 11 submitted in July 2014 – Quarterly Report 12 was distributed for review and will be sent to EPA this month.

#### **f. Task 6: Community Outreach**

1. RDSBC has been contacted by the Nevada Association of Counties and EPA for success stories relevant to specific Brownfield projects- Eastley mentioned some good publicity that will be given in the National Association of Counties newspaper, called County News. She was interviewed regarding the program and the article will highlight successes. Hill talked about a success stories paper that contacted Fanning

regarding the McGill Ballpark, more national recognition for the program. The articles will be on the EPA website and distributed at the 2015 Conference.

2. Quarterly Meeting Agendas and Meeting Notes were added to the RDSBC website in October 2014- noted above.
3. Chicago Brownfields Conference 2015 Submittal Ideas???- The Conference is coming in September 2015, the topics have been released. BEC plans on coming up with something in every category. Topic 1: Heavy Lifting, Topic 2: Put on Your Marketing Hat, Topic 3: Working Towards a Sustainable Future, Topic 4: Making a Visual Difference in Communities, Topic 5: Worry Beads, Topic 6: Launching a New Era in State Travel and Local Partnership. Hill gave more detailed definitions on topics. BEC will forward a list of all the topics and some of the project ideas they have in mind. Christensen asked each member-County representative to add ideas and provide feedback. It would be preferable to get something from every county. FBO Building could be a great marketing site regarding renewable energy projects. More discussion about the opportunities for exposure at the conference by Christensen.

**g. Task 7: Institutional Controls**

1. Institutional Controls have been developed by Nye County and Inyo County. The Nye County IC was shared with the other Nevada Counties for review- The Nye County IC has been finalized. Inyo County added their questions to their building permit checklist. Files have been shared with Kabala for their GIS system and can be built on as more sites are identified. With a baseline established, Task 7 can be closed out until next grant period.

**V. Financial Status by Task and Cumulative Expenditures to Date**

- a. See attached budget spreadsheet- no comments or questions.

**VI. Revolving Loan Fund**

- a. First site to apply for funding, the Tonopah Airport FBO Building, is underway- Hill covered below.
  1. Documents under review for the site include the Analysis of the Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives and Cleanup Plan, and the Sampling and Analysis Plan.
  2. State Historic Preservation Office has required a historic review of the site to determine impacts of the demolition of the building on the site.
  3. Kautz Environmental has been subcontracted to assist with SHPO required reporting.
- b. Discussion on NEPA review for RLF projects-Christensen clarifies to the members that some of NEPA costs can be placed on the administrative side of the grant based on Amy Fanning's discussion with Nova Blazej.

**VII. 6-County Coalition Grant Discussion-** Christensen talked about the end of this grant period and two votes were taken unanimously; the board approved Phase I assessments on the Tonopah Public Works buildings and the Bishop Church Square site, pending EPAs approval. The second vote was to use any existing funding left on the reuse planning initiative for the Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery site. More discussion about the outreach plan and Hill will be contacting each county.

a. New Grant Timeline.

1. Cooperative Agreement between EPA and Nye- Once the MOA is approved, Nye to coordinate signatures and then funding will be released.
2. MOA development and signature by member-counties - Kryder has the MOA on Nye County Agenda for November 12, 2014.
3. Brownfields RFP and negotiations with selected contractor- not mentioned.

b. Chicago 2015 National Conference and RLF educational opportunities- discussed above.

**VIII. Open Discussion**

**IX. Next Meeting**

- a. Date, time and venue- December 19, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. Meeting will be held in the Tonopah Administration Building Conference room, thus allowing Mineral County staff a chance to meet the coalition members.

**X. Actions Items-** none mentioned.