

# **Rural Desert Southwest Brownfields Coalition Assessment**

**and**

## **Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Program**

### **Quarterly Meeting Agenda**

**September 21, 2023; 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Pacific Time**

#### **Zoom Conference Call**

**Topic: RDSBC Quarterly Meeting**

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**Attendees:** Amy Barnes – Mineral County  
Cathreen Richards – Inyo County  
Helen Bae – Nye County  
Lorina Dellinger – Nye County  
Stephani Elliott – Nye County  
John Klenke – Nye County  
Arnold Knightly – Nye County  
Megan Labadie – Nye County  
Jessica McCutcheon – Nye County  
Tammi Odegard – NyE Communities Coalition  
Tabatha Hamilton – White Pine County  
Eileen Christensen – BEC Environmental, Inc. (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. 2023 National Brownfields Conference was in Detroit between August 8-11.
  - a. Arnold Knightly with Nye County presented on how funding was stacked to complete the Wye Road project in Inyo County, and the

Centennial Fine Arts Center asbestos abatement and roof replacement.

2. 2023 Nevada State Brownfields Conferences
  - a. Conferences were attended by several RDSBC members in both Northern and Southern Nevada.

## **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 in June 2023.
  - b. RDSBC Website Overview
    1. A newly designed website is set to launch in October. A link to the new website will be sent to the RDSBC group upon launch.

## **III. Coalition Member Coverage**

1. Revolving Loan Fund for Cleanups – RDSBC
  - a. Available to all RDSBC members
2. Assessments – Phase I ESAs
  - a. Available to NyECC, which includes:
    - i. Nye County
    - ii. Esmeralda County
    - iii. Lincoln County
  - b. Available to NNDA
    - i. Mineral County
  - c. Available to States Brownfields Program, which includes:
    - i. All RDSBC members
  - d. EPA Targeted Brownfield Assessments, which includes:
    - i. All RDSBC members

## **IV. Proposed outreach ideas to RDSBC members**

1. County visits are planned to begin in October. The purpose of these visits is to present during the County Commissioner meetings to:
  - a. Provide an overview of the program and review how the program has benefited each Coalition Member.
  - b. Request for reauthorization of the memorandum of agreement (MOA).
    1. Richards stated that Inyo County will be unavailable between October 24-31 and November 14. Richards will aim for November 7 or 21 for the RDSBC presentation. About a three-

week lead time is needed to plan for the Commissioner meetings.

2. Knightly suggested a November 7 Commissioner meeting for Nye County, keeping in mind the weather.
  3. Hamilton stated that the White Pine County November 22 meeting is cancelled, with one meeting to be held in November and one in December. Hamilton suggested a November 8 Commissioner meeting. The agenda requests are due the Tuesday before the meeting.
  4. Christensen will determine when Committee meetings are for the NRHA for outreach purposes.
2. Add additional members, such as:
    - a. NyE Communities Coalition (NyECC)
    - b. Nevada Rural Housing Authority (NRHA)
    - c. Rural Nevada Development Corporation (RNDC)

#### **V. Request for support from Coalition Members**

1. Costs and/or technical assistance
2. Coordination in applying for grants.
3. Affirmation of support from Coalition Members
4. Agreement to host RDSBC/Brownfields meetings/tours
5. Assistance with active engagement (CDBG as an example)
6. Other ideas??
  - a. Dellinger suggested more public outreach within communities that we are visiting. Dellinger suggested posting ads on public paper and get public and business owner input.
  - b. McCutcheon suggested a booth at the festival this weekend. Booths at public events allows the public to feel more invested.
    1. Costa Rica suggested stickers for the public to vote for what it is they want to see more of.

#### **VI. Region Specific Updates**

1. Duckwater Shoshone
  - a. Solid Waste Area – This site was submitted for future assessment consideration under the NyECC Assessment Grant
2. Esmeralda
  - a. Properties for potential assessment?
3. Inyo
  - a. Green Space Project near Olancha soda ash pile
    1. Richards: Phase II is finished, determining how to clean up. Will be costly.
  - b. Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery (Tribal Application)

1. Costa Rica updated that the Phase I ESA for transfer to local tribe is in development.
4. Lincoln
  - a. NRHA Pioche Housing Project (See NRHA Item #8, below)
5. Mineral
  - a. Babbitt Industrial Park Update
    1. Barnes gave an update on the 27 parcels going through the Due Diligence process:
      - a. Cleanup Grant through Mineral County
      - b. The contractor has been selected and will start next month.
      - c. Phase Is on 15 parcels in Mineral County to sell or lease.
6. Nye
  - a. Nye County Courthouse (EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessment)
    1. Proceeding with EPA application
  - b. Nye Regional Medical Center – Buildings with hazardous materials (asbestos/lead) to be demolished (2020 Revolving Loan Fund)
    1. On hold for the moment.
7. White Pine
  - a. Ruth Church and McGill Standard Market
    1. NDEP funding Assessment work for these two buildings – both anticipated to be demolished.
      - a. Drilling to be completed at the Standard Market once NDOT permits are in place.
  - b. Ruth Club and Courthouse Canyon House
    1. NDEP applications submitted in July to perform Phase I ESA at both properties.
      - a. Site visits to occur soon.
  - c. Centennial Fine Arts Center in Ely
    - a. Asbestos abatement starts on Monday, actual roof removal and replacement to begin in a few weeks.
  - d. Sixth Street School
    - a. Was purchased and is undergoing renovations to be converted into a residence.
  - e. McGill Slag Ditch
    1. Field Work & Sampling
  - f. Centennial Fine Arts Center Project (2014 RLF)
    1. Pre-construction meeting was held on September 18
    2. Asbestos abatement to occur week of Sept 25
    3. Fong Construction to begin work early to mid-October.

8. Nevada Rural Housing Authority
  - a. NRHA Pioche Housing Project (Lincoln County)
9. Nye Communities Coalition
  - a. Odegard shared that the next Workforce and Job Training session begins Monday 9/25.
    1. HAZWOPER 40 is available for those that would like the certification. Dates are pending for this.
  - b. NyECC Assessment Grant
    1. RFP Scheduled to go out in October 2023
    2. Potential sites for assessment
      - a. Old Pahrump Animal Hospital
      - b. Nye County Grade School in Tonopah

**VII. Open Discussion**

**VIII. Action Items**

**IX. Next Meeting**

1. Next meeting is in December – will send out a Google poll.