

STATE OF NEBRASKA



E. Benjamin Nelson
Governor

FILED

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EXECUTIVE ORDER 91-1

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NEBRASKA RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

1.0 Establishment. The Governor of the State of Nebraska through Executive Order 91-1 hereby establishes the Nebraska Rural Development Commission (hereafter the "Commission").

2.0 Purpose. The purpose of the Commission shall be to foster sustainable community and economic development initiatives. These initiatives should enable Nebraska communities to realize their own goals, thereby contributing to the growth and well-being of the entire state. This Commission shall, through research, information transfer, advocacy, encouragement of public-private partnerships, cooperation among communities, and coordination among service providers, increase the State of Nebraska's capacity to empower local communities to help themselves.

3.0 Charge. The Commission is vested with the following charge:

3.1 Focus attention on, and increase awareness of, the opportunities and needs of rural Nebraskans.

3.2 Advocate for rural Nebraska by proposing solutions to rural challenges.

3.3 Strengthen community sustainability and growth in rural Nebraska through increased community-based wealth creation, expanded economic opportunity, and improved quality of life.

3.4 Stimulate rural development innovation and foster information transfer to, from and within rural Nebraska.

3.5 Encourage and support continuity, coordination and cooperation among national, state, multi-community, and local rural development initiatives and service providers.

3.6 Ensure that rural Nebraskans are afforded the opportunity to determine rural Nebraska's development agenda.

3.7 Serve as an advisory body to the Governor and the Administration on rural development issues.

3.8 Establish an information clearinghouse on rural challenges and needs, development services, model initiatives, available resources, and service providers.

3.9 Integrate existing rural development goals and recommendations as contained in Nebraska 2000, New Seeds/Futures Project, New Horizons, and other statewide strategic planning initiatives.

3.10 Foster community-based development initiatives through multi-community partnerships.

3.11 Support strategic planning, research, and evaluation of rural development initiatives and service providers.

4.0 Powers.

4.1 The Commission Chairperson may appoint non-voting members, obtain advisors, create task forces, or engage in other appropriate activities necessary in completing its mission.

4.2 The Commission may issue reports, recommendations, or other communications as deemed necessary by its Chairperson.

4.3 The Commission shall adopt necessary operating procedures and guidelines.

4.4 The Commission members may be compensated for actual expenses incurred through their work for the Commission.

4.5 The Commission may engage in other activities relevant and appropriate to its purpose, charge, and powers.

5.0 Governance.

5.1 Chairperson. The Nebraska Rural Development Commission shall be chaired by the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Nebraska.

5.2 Location. The Commission shall be based in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

5.3 Membership. The Commission may have up to 15 voting members. Voting members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Governor and serve at his/her pleasure. The following criteria shall guide these appointments: there should be representation from Nebraska citizens, service users, and local service providers; there should be a balance based on political party affiliation, gender, race, age and community size; and all areas of Nebraska should be represented.

5.4 Commission Fund. The Governor of the State of Nebraska through Executive Order 91-1 authorizes the creation of the Nebraska Rural Development Commission Fund. This Fund shall be managed by the Department of Administrative Services on behalf of the Commission and appropriations from the fund shall be made at the discretion of the Lieutenant Governor.

5.5 Donations, Grants & Other Outside Income. The Commission may accept donations, grants, gifts, or other support. Financial contributions shall be placed in the Nebraska Rural Development Commission Fund and shall be used to support Commission activities.

5.6 Accounting. This Fund shall be subject to all accounting rules and regulations of the State of Nebraska. A detailed accounting of all non-monetary contributions shall be kept. This information shall be made readily available to interested members of the public.

5.7 Administrative & Technical Support. Administrative and technical support shall be provided by the Policy Research Office, the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, and other state agencies under the direct supervision of the Governor. The Governor requests the voluntary cooperation and assistance of other appropriate government and private sector entities.

6.0 Sunset. The Nebraska Rural Development Commission shall sunset on December 31, 1992. On November 5, 1991 the Commission shall issue a Report to the Governor including a summary of its activities, recommendations for future rural development action, and advice regarding the continuance of the Commission.

Ben Nelson

Ben Nelson
Governor
State of Nebraska

Allen J. Beermann

Allen J. Beermann
Secretary of State
State of Nebraska

January 14, 1991

Date


