

**SOUTH CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

JANUARY 14, 2004

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the South Central Agricultural Development Zone (SCADZ) committee occurred on January 14, 2004, at the Columbia County Annex in Portage, WI, as posted. The meeting began at 12:15 p.m.

Present at the meeting:

SCADZ COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Doug Lambert	Columbia County representative
Bob Miller	Marquette County representative
John Priske	Columbia County representative
Paul Wade	Marquette County representative
Jack Wytttenbach	Sauk County representative

Unable to attend:

Harlan Baumgartner	Columbia County representative
Joe Draeger	Green Lake County representative
Jim Hebbe	Green Lake County representative
Dennis Johnson	Sauk County representative
Jim Krueger	Marquette County representative
Dave Neuendorf	Dodge County representative
David Wilke	Green Lake County representative

COUNTY CONTACTS

Nancy Elsing	Columbia County Economic Development Corp.
Keith VanderVeldt	UWExtension – Marquette County

Unable to attend:

Karna Hanna	Sauk County Development Corporation
Dan Schreiner	UWExtension - Green Lake County

- I. Introductions: No formal introduction period was necessary

- II. Approve/Amend Agenda: Nancy asked that two items be considered as Agenda items:
 - The Committee will not meet if the SCADZ Contact, Nancy Elsing, has not received an application to be reviewed by the Committee, as item VIII.
 - Change the meeting time and date, as item IX.Motion by Jack Wytttenbach, seconded by Paul Wade, to approve the Agenda with the addition of these two items. Motion approved.

- III. Approve/Amend Meeting Minutes of November 11, 2003: Motion by Paul Wade, seconded by Jack Wytttenbach to approved the November 11, 2003 meeting Minutes as presented. Motion Carried.

IV. Review Criteria and Connection needed for Agriculture (does it fit the model of what the state is trying to do with the projects): A lengthy discussion occurred concerning at least the following items:

- Farmers are the backbone of agri-businesses in the counties in the SCADZ. It is common to operate a farm for a number of years without a WI tax liability. However, if the farm is sold, WI tax credits could be used. In the Q: section of the ADZ program, it states “*While your current tax situation may prevent you from utilizing the tax credits initially, you actually have 15 years from the time the credits are earned in which to apply them against your Wisconsin income tax obligation*”. Why are farmers not encouraged to apply for the credits? It would seem that the DOC could benefit by putting approved funds in escrow and earn interest until they were used.
- Positioning of a farmer’s tax credits. Several businesses are “S” Corporations and have carryover, depreciation, etc. to utilize when doing their WI tax returns. Are there any use/buy dates of the ADZ WI tax credits? Should the WI ADZ credits be used prior to other applications? Are they time related?
- Motion by Jack Wytttenbach, seconded by John Priske, to let the WI DOC know that it is important to obtain ADZ tax credits to invest in our farming community. Motion carried.
- Why is only three (3%) percent allowed for capital investments? It seemed low to several committee members.
- There was further discussion regarding the 15 year rule and agri-businesses/farmers being unable to acquire WI tax credits to be used at later dates.

The Committee members asked SCADZ contact Nancy Elsing to contact Amy Cumblad to see if she would be able to attend the next Committee meeting on February 11 at 2:00 p.m., at the Annex in Portage, WI, to discuss these matters and others.

V. Country Meat Market – Dave Neuendorf: No report. John Priske will contact this company.

VI. DOC Update of Recommendations

- Alkar Rapidpack, Inc. has received an approval letter from DOC in amount of \$250,000.00 WI tax credits. The Department of Commerce and Governor Doyle’s press release was distributed.
- Alsum Produce, Inc. – Received DOC approval letter in amount of \$50,000.
- Lakeside Foods, Inc. - DOC continues to work with this project
- Stainless Steel Fabricating, Inc. - DOC waiting for Prospect Data Sheet
- Central Dairyland Farm Supply, Inc. – DOC waiting for Prospect Data Sheet
- Saputo Cheese - DOC continues to work with this project

- A & J Specialty Ingredients, *LLC* - DOC waiting for Prospect Data Sheet
- Cedar Hill Farms – Does not have a WI income tax liability
- Anteco Pharma, LLC -- Application pending with DOC
- Specialty Cheese Company, Inc. (SCCI) – Application pending with DOC

VII. New Applications: No new applications were received.

VIII. The Committee will not meet if the SCADZ Contact, Nancy Elsing, has not received an application to be reviewed by the Committee: Motion by Paul Wade, seconded by John Priske, that the committee will not meet at a regularly scheduled meeting—second Wednesday of the month--if an application has not been received. Motion carried.

IX. Change the meeting time and date: Motion by Paul Wade, seconded by Jack Wyttenbach, to change the meeting time to 2:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. Motion carried.

X. Next Meeting Date: February 11, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. at the Annex in Portage, WI.

XI. Adjourn: Motion by Bob Miller, seconded by John Priske to adjourn at 1:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Elsing

Nancy Elsing,
SCADZ Contact