

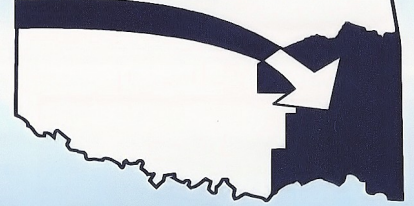
KEDDO

A REGIONAL TRUST AUTHORITY

Regional Review

NEWSLETTER OF THE KIAMICHI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

KEDDO continues working with member entities throughout the seven county region to enhance economic development efforts.



3rd Quarter

A Regional Trust Authority of Local Governments

2010

Director's Report - BY DANNY BALDWIN

Please allow me to start out with congratulating our slate of officers for this year. The KEDDO Board of Trustees is vital to the prosperity of this organization, and I realize that they all put a lot of time and effort into seeing that we continue serving our district with the same devoted compassion as we have over the last forty-three years. A vote of confidence was given to the current slate of officers at the KEDDO Board of Trustees meeting on July 28, 2010 by unanimously accepting the Nominating Committee's recommendation report given by the City of Stigler's Mayor Larry Godfrey. Elected to a second term were Dennis Deela, Latimer County Commissioner – Chairman; Stan Payne, Mayor of Hugo—1st Vice Chairman; Jack Matthews, Pushmataha County Commissioner – 2nd Vice Chairman; and Jerry Shinn, Mayor of Idabel – Secretary/Treasurer.

Once again, KEDDO District Legislators, working with rural legislators throughout Oklahoma, have secured a new round of REAP funding in the amount of \$1.2 million. The KEDDO Board of Trustees and staff are very appreciative of the legislators' work in maintaining this program in a very difficult budget year.

On July 28, 2010, the Board of Trustees approved the REAP Plan and Application with only modifications that were required legislatively. The application period for the regular REAP grants began August 2nd and will run through September 24, 2010. These grants are specifically designated for small public projects in rural communities and towns that find it difficult to secure funding through any other source. The KEDDO Board of Trustees and staff will again develop and administer the Program.

I am extremely pleased to announce that funding has been restored for our Nutrition sites that were closed or converted into CENA centers. Again, I must point out that this funding would have never happened without our local legislators being so persistent and working alongside with the other rural legislators throughout the state. I am very grateful for the legislator's determination in seeing that this funding was restored for our seniors. We are very hopeful that all of the issues with the budget will be resolved so that we can have the centers back to their normal operations by September.

I have just completed my first six months as Executive Director and with that I would be remiss if I didn't compliment the KEDDO staff. I am truly thankful for the staff that we have and their willingness to do whatever it takes to see that KEDDO is successful. Extra duties or changes are met with positive attitudes and I appreciate that so much. Furthermore, I want to publically say that I truly appreciate the support and kindness that has been shown to me by the KEDDO Board of Trustees.

Labor DAY

September 6, 2010



Spotlight on . . .

Kevin Smith



Kevin Smith took office as the District #2 Pittsburg County Commissioner in 2005. He was born in McAlester, Oklahoma and raised in Blanco, Oklahoma.

Kevin has lived in Blanco all of his life and was previously self-employed before being elected as the Pittsburg County Commissioner. He married Pamela Baker in 1988 and they have two children, Andrea and Rylee Smith.

Other than serving the constituents in his district, he attends the Blanco Baptist Church, is a member of the Pittsburg County Cattlemen's Association and attends the local Masonic Lodge.

Smith began serving on the KEDDO Board of Trustees in 2008 and has been very active is assisting with programs related to Pittsburg County. He also serves on the KiBois Board and the Pittsburg County Water Authority Board.

Workforce Investment Act

BY TONI SMITH

The TANF/WIA Summer Youth Employment Program began June 01, 2010 and is scheduled to continue until September 30, 2010. The Southeast Program consist of Pre-Employment/Job Readiness Skills, TANF Academic Enrichment, and TANF Work-Experience Activities.

The TANF/WIA Summer Youth Employment Program began with a two day work-readiness orientation, which included some of the following information: basic soft skills, positive attitudes, conflict resolutions, problem solving, teamwork, resume, etc. The work-readiness orientation also included local businesses, local banks, local drug and alcohol programs and local parenting organization representatives. (see Page 4 for Program pictures)

KEDDO WIA Youth Service Staff would like to say a special thank you to all businesses and agencies for your partnership in providing work-readiness knowledge to local TANF/WIA youth participants.

Rural Fire Report

BY LARRY MORGAN

On June 25 & 26, the Higgins Fire Department and Ash Creek Fire Department held a tanker shuttle class at the Higgins Fire Station. This was a certified training with the OSU Service Training staff and was offered at no cost to the Departments. Mark Gorden and Jeff Humphrey were the OSU Instructors who taught the Class. This was a great training that was offered to Latimer County Fire Departments. Hats off to the OSU Fire Service Training staff, Chief Greg Baker and Chief Dwight Glenn for providing a great training.



Higgins Fire Fighter Clark Kitchell on the left and Higgins Fire Chief Greg Baker on the right setting up for the Tanker Shuttle Operations training.



Ash Creek Fire Fighter Curtis Florence is being trained on a drafting pump from a Dry Hydrant in a pond.



Higgins Fire Fighter Mark Bell is on top of a Tanker while drafting from a pond Dry Hydrant.

Projects Report

BY STEVEN CLEMENTE

2011 REAP Grant Applications Reveal Many Changes.

The KEDDO District Legislators, working up to the last week of the legislative session with rural legislators throughout Oklahoma, have secured a new round of REAP funding in the amount of \$12.4 million. KEDDO's allocation of approximately \$1.24 million will provide over \$148,000 for economic/community development and transportation projects in each of our seven counties.

The KEDDO Board of Trustees and staff are very appreciative of our legislators' work in maintaining this program in the face of major budget reductions.

On July 28, 2010, the KEDDO Board of Trustees approved the REAP Plan and Application with several major modifications to meet the requirements of the new law. Applicants are advised to read closely the new application. Many projects eligible in previous years will not be eligible this cycle. The CDBG-REAP application cycle begins with the regular REAP cycle and continues through the CDBG application cycle.

The application period for the regular REAP grants began August 2, 2010 and will run through September 24, 2010. These grants are specifically designated for small public projects in rural communities and towns that experience difficulty in securing funding through any other sources. The KEDDO Board of Trustees and staff will again develop and administer the Program.

We at KEDDO would like to thank the legislators and our Board for their efforts in support of this very beneficial program. If you have any questions or need any additional information on the REAP program, please contact Steven Clemente or Danny Baldwin at 1-800-722-8180 or 918/465-2367.

KEDDO staff submitted twenty-two CDBG water-wastewater applications for the 2011 cycle. At the time of publication, no announcement had been made by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce on the applications to be funded. In addition to assisting towns and counties with implementation of approximately twenty Community Block Grants, KEDDO staff assisted Haskell County and the Livestock Nutrition Center with a USDOT grant application to expand the Keota Port facilities and the City of McAlester with a special EPA grant for water plant renovation.

REAP Applications May Be Picked Up At the Following Locations:

Choctaw County KEDDO WIA Office

107 S. 3rd (next to Courthouse), Hugo, OK 580/326-7502

Haskell County KEDDO WIA Office

202 E. Main (Courthouse Annex), Stigler-918-967-3353

KEDDO Administration Office (Latimer County)

Highway 2 North, Wilburton
918-465-2367 or 1-800-722-8180

LeFlore County KEDDO WIA Office

200 S. McKenna, Poteau-918/647-3215

McCurtain County Commissioners' Office

County Courthouse Annex, Idabel-580/286-7428

Pittsburg County KEDDO WIA Office

1201 Wade Watts Avenue, McAlester-918/423-5221

Pushmataha County KEDDO WIA Office

204 S.W. 4th (behind Courthouse), Antlers-580/298-6601

918/539 Area Code Schedule

After months of public and local meetings, on January 4, 2010 the Oklahoma Corporation Commission approved a plan to prevent so-called "number exhaust" in the region served by the 918 area code while at the same time allowing current residents, businesses, schools and local governments to keep their existing numbers.

Called an "overlay," the plan will add another area code (539) to the entire existing 918 area code geographic area. There would be no change to existing numbers. Eventually, all new numbers in the area will get the new 539 area code and after a lengthy transition phase, all local calls would be 10 digits (the area code and the 7 digit number). There will be no change in local call boundaries, or to 9-1-1 or 2-1-1 services.

The schedule of the program is as follows: The first phase of the program begins on August 7, 2010. This will be the "Permissive Calling Period". Customers will be able to complete a call using 7 digits or 10 digits (area code plus number), this period runs for 7 months. Then on March 5, 2011 the "Permissive Calling Period" ends and the 10 digit dialing will be required to make all calls. April 1, 2011 the new 539 area code numbers will be made available. Customers may still ask for and receive a 918 number if they are still available. The Fourth Quarter of 2012 is the Predicted exhaust period of 918 numbers. NOTE: This is an estimate, and subject to change.

2010 Summer Youth

The WIA 2010 Summer Youth Employment Programs allows youth to improve workplace skills, gain valuable work experience and earn some extra money. Any youth who is 16-21 years of age, are low income and have one or more barriers to education or employment are eligible to apply for the program.



LeFlore County Youth at Work!! April Whatley and Marietta Blattstein helps paint at the Bokoshe School.

Shawnalan Elam with Lance Smith, LeFlore County Commissioner and Jim Seals at the LeFlore County District #2 Barn.



TANF/WIA Youth Participant, Reese Holman, participates in a parenting class presented by the Hugo Pregnancy Center.



The Pushmataha First Bank employees, Jane Lewis and Amy House, provide a work readiness orientation to participants in the Antlers area.



To apply for the 2010 summer Youth Employment Program, please visit your local Workforce Oklahoma Center. You can locate the center nearest you by calling: 1-888-980-9675 or visiting www.workforceok.org/locator.htm. For more information e-mail your name, city and questions to: summeryouth@oesc.state.ok.us.

Area Agency on Aging

BY KIM ROSE

The KEDDO Area Agency on Aging (AAA) extends a heartfelt "Thank You" to our Oklahoma State Legislators for reinstating 5 million dollars into the statewide nutrition programs. This will allow the KEDDO AAA and the Kiamichi Area Nutrition Project (KANP) to reinstate some of the services that were lost last November due to budget cuts.

We would also like to thank the Oklahoma State Legislators for once again funding the Community Expansion for Nutritional Assistance (CENA) Program to be used for improvements of nutritional conditions at Independent Senior Citizens Centers and Community Centers in the KEDDO Area Agency on Aging District.

The CENA program has been a life line to many of the Independent Senior Centers in southeastern Oklahoma. The program has allowed these senior centers to use the funds for operational expenses and improvement of nutritional conditions. The KEDDO AAA has 66 centers that are eligible to receive a portion of the \$273,173.00 in CENA funds which is available for the KEDDO District.

For Fiscal Year 2011, the Kiamichi Area Nutrition Project (KANP) begin administering the Transportation and Outreach program that was previously OREC. They have employed the 12 drivers and supervisor that were formerly employed by OREC. KANP begin operating the transportation and outreach program July 1, 2010 with no reduction in service provided to the seniors.

As of July 30, 2010, one-hundred and sixty-six vouchers have been issued under the Masonic Fraternity Assistance Program for Seniors and all Masonic funds have been obligated. The Masonic Program has assisted senior with eye glasses, dentures and hearing aide care.

 **National Grandparents Day**
September 12, 2010

Show your Grandparents how much you love and honor them.

KEDDO

Regional Review

A LOCAL ORGANIZATION WORKING FOR A GREATER KIAMICHI COUNTRY

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE KIAMICHI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

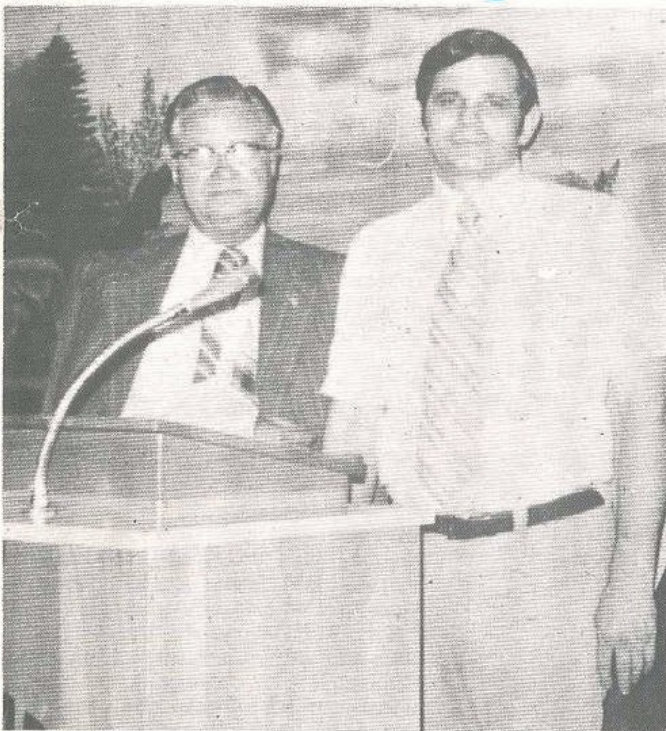
Vol. 1

August 1, 1972

No. 2

KEDDO Designates Plan For Aging

District To Receive \$60,000 HEW Funding



FRED STOVALL, Chairman of the KEDDO Board of Directors, left, and State Senator Jim Lane of Idabel discussing the ramifications of regionalism in southeastern Oklahoma following Senator Lane's remarks at the KEDDO Quarterly meeting.

The Kiamichi Economic Development District of Oklahoma (KEDDO) is projected by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Social and Rehabilitation Service, and Administration on Aging to be one of four agencies in the state to administer a portion of a 240 thousand dollar federal grant for planning for the aging. The four counties in the KEDDO district participating in this program are Pittsburg, LeFlore, McCurtain and Choctaw.

The principal duty of this project is to formulate and administer a nutrition program in the project area. Oklahoma has been granted 1.4 million dollars through a federal nutrition grant and a portion of this grant will be provided to the KEDDO area for a nutrition program. KEDDO will not itself put the program into operation, but will designate a task force of persons working with various agencies to administer it.

KEDDO received strong support and worked closely with various organizations and individuals to obtain the area aging project. Those helpful in establishing the aging project were: Jim Hall; Kibois Community Action Program; Fred Tucker, Little Dixie Community Action Program; Colonel Leonard Fuller, Regional Director for Aging; Max Minor, O.S.U. Extension Director; Dan Clemente, Pittsburg Country Coordinator; and Red Mills, Model Cities representative. The formal application will be submitted in early August and the project should begin operation by September 1.

Lane Endorses Regionalism

Senator Jim Lane of Idabel was guest speaker at a luncheon following the KEDDO Quarterly Board Meeting. In speaking to the KEDDO staff, board members and interested local people, as well as the Idabel Rotary Club, the Senator expressed his appreciation for the regional program in its endeavors to improve liveability of Southeast Oklahoma. He indicated that in his senatorial district alone KEDDO had been responsible for initiating \$4 1/4 million dollars for worthwhile projects.

Senator Lane also accentuated the fact that as a result of cities, counties and soil and water conservation districts

KEDDO Officers Re-elected

Election of officers was on the agenda at the recent KEDDO Quarterly Board Meeting held in Idabel. E.E. "Doc" Coker, KEDDO board member from Blanco, presented the recommendation of the nominating committee to the Board of Directors. Their proposal that the officers be re-elected to second terms in office was unanimously approved. Continuing

(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued on Page 3)

KEDDO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CHOCTAW COUNTY

Danny Antwine
Stan Payne* (2)
Roger Vandever

HASKELL COUNTY

Mitch Worsham
Larry Godfrey*
Stacy Lewis
Kenny Short

LATIMER COUNTY

Roy Alford
Dennis Deela* (1)
Stephen Brinlee
James Grego

LEFLORE COUNTY

Freddie Cox* Jeff Shockley*
Virginia Kidd Lance Smith
Buddy Reamy

*Executive Committee: (1) Chairman; (2) Vice Chairman; (3) 2nd Vice Chairman; (4) Secretary/Treasurer.

McCURTAIN COUNTY

Clint Bray
Jimmy Westbrook
Jerry Shinn* (4)

PITTSBURG COUNTY

Kevin Priddle
Gene Rogers
Wayne Sexton
Kevin Smith

PUSHMATAHA COUNTY

Kenneth Blan
Roy Earl Jackson
Jimmy Long
Jack Matthews* (3)

MINORITY

REPRESENTATIVE

Joe Coley
Miller Newman*

KEDDO OFFICES

CHOCTAW COUNTY

107 S. 3rd
Hugo, OK 74743
580-326-7502

HASKELL COUNTY

202 E Main
Stigler, OK 74462
918-967-3353

LATIMER COUNTY

214 E. Main
Wilburton, OK 74578
918-465-0065

LEFLORE COUNTY

200 South McKenna
Poteau, OK 74953
918-647-3215

McCURTAIN COUNTY

2200 E. Washington
Idabel, OK 74745
580-286-7531

PITTSBURG COUNTY

1201 Wade Watts Ave.
McAlester, OK 74501
918-423-5221

PUSHMATAHA COUNTY

204 S.W. 4th
Antlers, OK 74523
580-298-6601

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

P.O. Box 638
Highway 2 North
Wilburton, OK 74578
918-465-2367 • 1-800-722-8180

Danny Baldwin, Executive Director

dbaldwin@keddo.org

www.keddo.org

- **KEDDO is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program**
- **Auxiliary Aids and Services are Available Upon Request to Individuals with Disabilities**
- **Oklahoma Relay Customer Service (1-800-676-3777 TTY/VOICE)**

The Southeast Workforce Investment Board is a Proud Member of America's Workforce Network.

This newsletter is sponsored in part by funds from the Economic Development Administration (EDA); Oklahoma Department of Commerce (ODOC); Special Unit on Aging (SUOA); Workforce Investment Act (WIA); Oklahoma Department of Agriculture and Local Funds.

KIAMICHI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

Box 638 • Wilburton, OK 74578