

BOARD REPORT

February 2026



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy 2026!

We are excited to announce three new members of the Nelson County Job Development Authority (NCJDA): **Faye Brosy Nelson** (Lakota), **Andi Wohlers** (Lakota), and **Taylor Schaley** (Niagara). We also say goodbye to board members Nancy Charles and Dennis Fahey—thank you both for your service to the NCJDA.

The NCJDA is heading into its 2026 goals with tenacity and a clear timeline to keep us on track. With spring not far away, it's important we begin thinking about how to engage high school and/or college students during the summer. *How can we move the needle?*

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STRATEGIC GOALS PROGRESS



Economy

GOAL: Engage at least 5 businesses in storefront improvement program

✓ Progress

GOAL: Assist at least 3 add'l businesses with Flex Pace Loans

✓ Progress

GOAL: Support at least 3 grocery stores with funding

✓ Progress

- 2 stores with Rural Grocery submissions



Community Vitality

GOAL: Reach at least 2 communities for beautification

✓ Progress

- Tourist signage possibilities; dilapidated elevator assessed

- Brownsfields Program on pause for now



Workforce

GOAL: Assist 2 businesses to establish apprenticeships

✓ Progress

- Exploring funding options

GOAL: Host at least 1 career-focused event

✓ Progress



Housing

GOAL: Assist at least 10 homes with housing rehabilitation projects

✓ Progress:

- 22 housing rehab projects submitted to CHDO committee for prioritization and approval - January 2026

GOAL: Identify 2 additional communities for SparkBuild homes

✓ Progress:

FUNDING AND GRANTS SUMMARY

- Rural Catalyst Grant Submissions - January 2026
 - McVile Market, McVile
 - New high-efficiency furnaces
 - Lyndi's Market, Tolna
 - New flooring
- AmEx Shop Small Grant Submission - January 2026
 - Lyndi's Market
 - Match for Rural Catalyst (if awarded)

UP NEXT

- Update LOIS to include commercial or residential real estate

“What is LOIS?” LOIS is a powerful internet-based platform which showcases all available commercial and residential real estate in our county - and across the state

- Increased business support, specific to individual grocery store social media
- Preparations/grant applications to be submitted for Nelson County Apprenticeship Program

HERE'S WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU



- Advocate for all of NCJDA's 2026 goals
- Ask your community members who would be interested in an apprenticeship program