

NEON Minutes  
February 12, 2015, Biotechnology Advancement Center

Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Johnson, Nobles County Administrator gave an update on Tax Forfeited Properties. There has been no activity on them for a number of years. County Auditor-Treasurer Beth Van Hove is reviewing the regulations. Plans are to have a public meeting in April, which is required to move towards the long term plan of getting the properties back on the tax base.

Pam Friesen, Nobles County Assessor gave information on the Assessment process. Valuation notices will be mailed and the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting will be in June.

Blandin Broadband Communities Update – The committee is in the process of identifying strengths and gaps; currently ¾ of Nobles County is not served; the grant is designed to find gaps and do assessment it is not to put the actual towers up; grant is for \$75,000 to use over a two year period; March 3 there will be a brainstorming meeting/visioning meeting, Blandin sends representatives down to run the meetings.

#### 2015 Projects:

- Drew Hagge, SRDC – there are Community Survey's being conducted to help cities prioritize funding for pedestrian projects, copies available at the door, results will be given to the cities to develop future plans.
- Oxford Street Project – the City is working to establish a long term vision and set goals to reach it.
- MN DOT – I-90/MN 60 Projects
- Nobles Home Initiative – 22 new homes approved/built
- Lewis & Clarke
- Wells
- Bridges
- ISD 518 – space issue. This year 5 classrooms and additional music rooms will be added, cafeteria remodel; funded from the General Fund
- Minnesota West – Nobles County Integration Collaborative has moved to the College, PowerLine Program offered in Jackson, Student housing issues
- GIS System – Pictometry and Beacon have both gone live

Legislative Session – March 4-5, 2015 – Ideas to take are workforce, housing, and tax credit.

The meeting adjourned.

#### Next Meeting:

March 12, 5:30 – 7:00 pm  
BioTechnology Advancement Center  
1527 Prairie Drive, Worthington, MN 56187