

What's Developing

The year in history for the Eureka Community Development Company is 1995 as we take a look back at 30 years of service by the nonprofit organization.

It was a year of personnel changes, a huge effort to bring out-of-state companies to Eureka, and program changes.

The big event to draw relocating or expanding companies to South Dakota was a dinner for about 25 interested companies in Minneapolis with Governor Janklow as the speaker. The event was hosted by the South Dakota Economic Development Group – a group of four towns working together to bring jobs to their locations. Eureka was one of those towns that employed Hadleigh Case to spearhead their efforts. Board members followed up with the companies after the dinner meeting and several were contacted in person. Several companies showed interest and some even visited the town, but none ever relocated or expanded to Eureka.

A job survey was done to have current information to give to prospective new businesses.

Activities were varied throughout the year. Laurie Stickelmyer & Nina Kunz agreed to be co-coordinators of Schmeckfest for another year. GOLD again hosted the Triathlon. ACT (Accent on Community Training) regional sessions were attended by board members to further efforts in volunteerism and community involvement. After several years in the program, GOLD was dropped by ECDC as the state program was fading.

Organizations were asked to put information in the panels at the Information Booth and keep their section cleaned. This was still when it was an open air structure. Al Neuharth donated a large portion of the funding for the information booth in memory of his father, Daniel.

A database of hunters was made from 1994 license purchases in Eureka. Letters were sent to hunters describing a local spec building and advantages of doing business in Eureka.

Business proposals were active. ECDC worked with the Governor's Office of Economic Development and the City to get a CDBG grant for Ultimate Direction. A sizeable loan was made to the local hospital to pay bills, and support was given to the hospital for a federal grant for which they applied. Family Dollar Store was contacted and they were not interested in locating in Eureka. ECDC worked with a specialty cheese business to go into former Eureka Cheese Factory building. ECDC had an option on Funk Building to be promoted as a spec building for potential businesses.

Warren Albertson was the annual meeting speaker. He represented the Federal Economic Development Administration and spoke on how tourism can relate to our community and its economic impact.

New board members elected were Darlene Neuharth & Wanda Jundt. David Roggenkamp was appointed later in the year to replace a resignation. Officers of the board of directors were President Mark Opp, Vice President Rich Larson was replaced by Glenn Opp as Vice President later in the year due to Rich's resignation, Secretary Wanda Jundt, and Treasurer Sherlock Hirning.

Barb Guthmiller resigned as executive director. A job description was written for her position, the job opening was advertised, and Jundt filled in very part-time until a replacement could be found. There were several potential employees, but none accepted.

Wanda Jundt

