



COVID-19 Response

IADG is actively working with our utility sponsors and business and community partners to identify current and projected challenges, secure the growing pool of available resources and proactively provide information and assistance to connect our colleagues to applicable programs and tools.

Please know we continue to conduct regularly scheduled virtual meetings with staff, partners and clients. With this input we continue to monitor and assess circumstances and conditions from across the state. We know this information has been incredibly valuable to state and federal officials as they make important public policy decisions.

Business-related resources as a response to COVID-19 are available at IADG.com/covid19. Please contact the IADG Team with opportunities to be of assistance to you.

Godbersen Metal Works Expands to Spencer

The City of Spencer worked with the Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation, Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative, Spencer Municipal Utility, Iowa Area Development Group and other business leaders in the community to recruit

Godbersen Metal Works to Spencer. Godbersen is a manufacturer specializing in steel fabrication, welding, machining, painting, and assembly for a variety of industries.

They purchased the 114,840 sq. ft. former Simonsen Iron Works facility, including the existing manufacturing equipment. The building is large enough to accommodate their manufacturing operation plus a learning center necessary to train workers on the latest processes and skills needed to deliver high-quality products. Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative serves the Godbersen plant and provided a \$2 million pass through loan secured through the USDA REDL&G program.



J - T Machine & Tool Expands in Hampton

J-T Machine & Tool is a full-service machine shop and metal fabricator specializing in the manufacture of hydraulic cylinders. They are constructing a 9,600 sq. ft. building adjacent to their current facility in Hampton.

The new building is for material handling and will be connected to the existing facility via a forklift pass through. A new water jet metal cutting system will expand their in-house capacity of high tolerance metal cutting and allow J-T to have better control over production costs and schedules. The company will also invest in new equipment to help move larger pieces of metal associated with new production capabilities. Technology upgrades will connect the new water jet system to the company's computer network, allowing for remote operation and uploading of cutting designs, as well as staff webinars and training.

Franklin REC provided a \$720,000 passthrough loan secured through the USDA REDL&G Program. They also provide electric power to operate the business.



New Look, Same Great Content

A common phrase, but certainly appropriate to the debut of our new IADG newsletter format. We hope you like it! Rest assured our commitment to sharing the good news of our rural utility sponsors remains our focus.



Combining Partners and Programs Yields Housing in Wilton

Affordable workforce housing is a statewide concern. As with most development projects taking place in rural communities, it takes a combination of partners and programs to achieve success. Here is an example of how Wilton is making a positive impact.

Wilton Development Corporation (WDC), in conjunction with the City of Wilton, worked with Rural Housing 360 to serve the unmet housing needs of the community. Rural Housing 360 is a program that works with communities and employers to offer affordable housing targeted at the working middle (those making \$15-\$20 per hour.) In 2019, WDC bought the lot, the city waived the fees, and Rural Housing 360 constructed a home, which is available for sale. After the first home sells, the process will continue. Eventually, seven additional houses will be built and sold.



Eastern Iowa Light & Power (EIL&P) has been engaged in reasearch and planning since supporting a housing assessment in 2017 that set the stage for this latest development. IADG was also pleased to submit two grant applications for the State's Workforce Housing Tax Credit program on behalf of EIL&P, resulting in over \$300,000 in tax credits and sales tax refunds for the construction of all eight houses. The cities of Hamburg and Sidney were also successful applicants to the same program, resulting in support for four-single family homes in each community. These homes will be among the first to be built following the devastating floods of 2019.



IADG Energy Bank Supports Energy Efficiency

New refrigeration cases and a compressor system are being installed in Prairie Market, a family-owned grocery store in Paullina, IA. The IADG Energy Bank RLF approved a loan to support the upgrade of their existing 45-year-old equipment that was frequently in need of repair and not energy efficient. Upgrading the refrigeration cases will result in considerable energy efficiency, savings, and a significant reduction in food spoilage.

The IADG Energy Bank Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) is focused on making loans to businesses and industries for qualifying energy efficiency projects. Preference is given to manufacturers. Loan amounts range from \$50,000 - \$300,000. For more information, visit IADG.com/EnergyBank.



Sioux Center Receives Ripple Effect Grant for Planning Study

The City of Sioux Center is the recipient of a \$5,000 Ripple Effect planning grant for a master planning study for three sites located in Sioux Center. Premier Communications will provide a matching grant of \$5,000 for a total of \$10,000 in grant funding for the related fees of the study.

The three city-owned properties include a 53-acre commercial parcel near Walmart, the former hospital site in the heart of Sioux Center, and a 10-acre parcel in northern Sioux Center along Highway 75. The master planning study will provide creative, "out of the box" concepts for all three sites. The future visioning for each property will lead to the creation of activity hubs that will attract new businesses and promote growth within the community as well as provide benefits to the region of Sioux County and Northwest Iowa.

IADG is proud to partner with Aureon on the Ripple Effect program, which provides significant technical assistance and financial support for community planning grants and loan assistance to businesses. To learn more about Ripple Effect, visit www.RippleEffectWorks.org or contact Brittany Morales at bmorales@iadg.com.



IADG Impact Awards Honor Utility Leadership

IADG's utility partners work diligently to support business growth and community vitality. In many cases, it takes multiple partners and several years to complete a development project. Each year, IADG honors a select group of utility partners that have supported significant projects, investments, and programs in the territory they serve. Congratulations to the following 2020 IADG Impact Award recipients.

CIPCO

- East-Central Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative – Community Development
- Eastern Iowa Light & Power Cooperative – Leadership
- Farmers Electric Cooperative – Business Development
- Pella Cooperative Electric Association – Community Development
- Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative – Business Development

CORN BELT POWER COOPERATIVE

- Corn Belt Power Cooperative – Business Development
- Butler County Rural Electric Cooperative – Business & Community Development
- Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative – Business Development
- Prairie Energy Cooperative – Business & Community Development

NORTHWEST IOWA POWER COOPERATIVE

- Harrison County Rural Electric Cooperative – Business Development
- North West Rural Electric Cooperative – Community Development
- Manning Municipal Utilities – Community Development

NORTHEAST POWER COOPERATIVE

- Northeast Power Cooperative – Community Development
- Access Energy Cooperative – Community Development
- Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative – Community Development



MODEX Show in Atlanta

IADG and our partners, Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative and Woodbury County REC, participated in the MODEX Show in Atlanta on March 9-12. MODEX attendees represent the supply chain manufacturing and distribution industries. Though useful contacts were made, the show attendance was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic that was making its way into the United States. We thank our partners for representing Iowa at this event.



WELCOMING NEW STAFF

Jennifer Helton

IADG welcomes Jennifer Helton to the team as our Administrative Services Manager. Jennifer has worked in the transportation industry for 22 years, first at Contract Transport, Inc. and most recently for Niece Trucking, Inc. She has an abundance of office administrative experience with strong communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills. She also brings 22 years of well-rounded accounting experience. Jennifer replaces Melissa Hruska. IADG is thrilled to have Jennifer on the team!



Corning Hotel Nears Completion

Progress continues on the new hotel in Corning. After much study, extensive planning, and assembling 46 investors, the new 33-room hotel in Corning is nearing completion. The hotel will provide lodging for visitors, business travelers, and visiting family members who have previously had to stay further away. The hotel is slated to open this summer.



Berg Farm in Sac County Expands Operation



Sac County is home to a new turkey brooder barn that houses 30,000 turkey poults, (newly hatched turkeys). A brooder barn provides a safe, warm, and dry place for the poults to grow during the first five weeks before moving to a finishing barn. This new brooder barn includes automatic feeders, watering, heating, cooling, and ventilation systems. The turkeys are raised under contract with Tyson Foods. Congratulations to Berg Turkey Brooder Farm on their recent expansion near Early, Iowa. Raccoon Valley Electric Cooperative provides electricity to the Berg farm.

Save the Dates

Resources and response for rural Iowa will be more critical than ever as we recover from the global COVID-19 pandemic. Mark your calendars for these two important events that support rural community vitality.



Iowa Rural Summit

The Iowa Rural Development Summit, originally scheduled to start April 29, has been rescheduled. Please save the date:

August 19-21
Hotel Kirkwood,
Cedar Rapids
IowaRDC.org/summit



IADG Partners Forum

IADG Team remains hopeful that the IADG Partners Forum will go on as scheduled. Please continue to save July 30-31 on your calendar. IADG will continue to monitor the status of the COVID-19 pandemic and will adjust the Forum date if necessary.

July 30-31, 2020
Hilton Garden Inn, West Des Moines
IADG.com/Forum2020

IADG

Iowa Area Development Group

Rand Fisher • Bruce Nuzum
 Mike Meissen • Bruce Hansen
 Brittany Morales • Kay Snyder
 Steven Benne • Jennifer Helton