

Falls City Council Receives EDGE Report

Falls City Economic Development and Growth Enterprise Executive Director Beckie Cromer presented the organization's fourth quarter report to the Falls City, City Council, Monday evening.

Cromer said their largest project in the last quarter of 2011 was the acquisition of the Products Unlimited building in the Falls City Industrial Park. The purchase of that building allowed for the expansion of Ag Growth International, which purchased Airlanco in the last year. Cromer said a lot of work has been done to prepare the building for the expansion. (play audio 1:00)

Additionally, Cromer said a tenant that was renting the Products Unlimited building had to be relocated. They are now leasing a portion of the Armory building west of Falls City for the next few months.

Another local project EDGE has been heavily involved with that has seen rapid progress is the Wilderness Falls senior housing development south of Community Medical Center. Cromer told the council that Excel Corporation has made great strides on that project, thanks in no small part to favorable weather conditions this fall and winter. (play audio :19)

Other activity for EDGE in the last three months of 2011 Cromer said included working to strengthen ties to the Omaha area; visiting the headquarters of Ag Growth International; and working on the transfer of 23 acres of land owned by Community Medical Center to the Industrial Development Corporation.

Cromer said they expect to receive a Falls City Labor Study report in the first part of 2012.

In the only other item of business Monday night, the Falls City Council unanimously approved the guidelines for the CDBG Housing Program Guidelines. The program aims to rehabilitate substandard single-family homes through a combination of grants and loans, with a maximum amount of \$24,995 per project.

In his report, Mayor Tim Hersh noted that the City of Falls City would be receiving a donation from the Falls City Jaycees, which will be used to install changing tables in the rest rooms at Prichard Auditorium.