

# BIDCO Update



"Promoting Economic Growth and Development"

January 2008

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The board discussed several names to assume the position open after Steven Schnell's recent passing. After much discussion the board asked Nancy Gabrielson to serve out Steve's term and she accepted. Please welcome Nancy to the group, she will begin serving during the February meeting in a few days.

One of our main resources for leads and contacts is the Wright County Economic Development office, Dennis Bowman. Each week Dennis covers various leads that are being pursued for Wright County in general and also those that would be well suited for properties in our local area.

Pursuing economic development is similar to preparing for a marathon race. Each step of preparation makes it easier to take the next and eventually you finish the race and then start another. Belmond is still in the mist of preparation but eventually we will land another business in town and that will build for the next venture.

Dan Lovgren

## FEATURED BUSINESS

YohnCo Ready Mix has been operating for over 60 years having started in 1946 by Ronald Yohn. Ron, along with John Schisel and Ferd Grell began with two small gravel trucks and a dragline in Garner, Iowa. By the end of 1946 they had opened a Concrete Ready Mix Plant with two ready mix trucks, carrying a maximum of three cubic yards of concrete.

By the 1960's Ron bought out both founding partners and what was originally Garner Ready Mix become Yohn Ready Mix. The company expanded to Belmond in 1954, Forest City in 1957 and Clear Lake in 1973. Corporate offices are now located in Clear Lake, Ia. Other ready mix plants have been established in Buffalo Center and Clarion.

In 1972 Ron's son Bill Yohn bought the company and has continued to grow the company. Today the company name is YohnCo. In 1980 YohnCo acquired a construction company that specializes in poured wall foundations.

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## KNOW YOUR BIDCO BOARD MEMBERS

I am excited to have the opportunity to again become an active part of the Belmond Community. I am a firm believer in giving back to your community and serving as a BIDCO board member will help me do just that. Mick and I both grew up in the Belmond Community. I was a farm girl and Mick a Goodell native.

We raised 3 daughters here and 2 of our son-in-laws also graduated from Belmond. All were given the education and ethical values needed to be fully successful adults - for this we are truly grateful. It is a privilege to return to the Belmond health care community through the Belmond Medical Center. I look forward to promoting Belmond's economic growth by serving as a BIDCO board member.



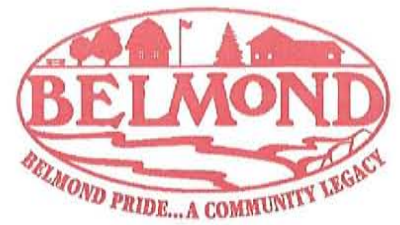
Nancy Gabrielson

## Web Project Status

All of the quotes are in and a final web designer will be selected in Feb. The goal of the project remains to provide a professional, easy to use site to promote Belmond. When complete, this project will provide a site that even local residents can use as a reference. The attached page to this newsletter is a Gantt chart that outlines the timing for the project. The goal is to have the site up and running by mid-summer 2008.



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## FEATURED BUSINESS, Cont.



YohnCo also includes two excavation companies that focus on private development as well as municipal and state projects. Bill Yohn purchased Wright Materials (formerly Nelson Sand & Gravel), a Belmond sand and gravel pit, in 1990.

The YohnCo fleet now includes twenty concrete mixer trucks capable of hauling up to 10 yards of concrete each and eight dump trucks. In 1946 the company payroll totaled seven and now employees 70 north lowans. The Belmond Ready Mix Plant is managed by Marlin Kuhlers who has been with YohnCo for 41 years.

The Belmond plant services a 35 mile radius and employs 6 local persons. For more information contact Ron at 444-4148. Wright Materials also employs 6 local persons and serves an area from Algona to Ames. Local site manager is Jeremy Mills.

For more information contact Jeremy at 444-3920.



ID	Task Name	Duration	Month															
			October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July						
1	Quotation process	61 days	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B	M	E	B
2	Develop RFO	25.5 days																
3	Quotation time	14.5 days																
4	Evaluate quotes	20 days																
5	Select a Web design partner	1 day																
6																		
7	Project Elements	76 days																
8	Initial Meetings with all organizations	3 wks																
9	Remainder of timing per web designer	12 wks																
10	Project completion	1 day																
11																		
12	Funding	70 days																
13	Notify all three Organizations of the issue	1 day																
14	Contact Alliant for possible partnership	2 wks																
15	Fill out Alliant forms and obtain 40% partner	6 wks																
16	Secure City and Chamber funding	3 wks																

Project: Belmont Web Project  
Date: Sun 11/27/08

