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**Dawn Hegland Elected to the National Association of Development Organizations Board of Directors**

Washington, DC – Dawn Hegland, Executive Director of the Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission in Appleton, Minn., was elected to the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) 2015 – 2016 Board of Directors on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015 at NADO’s Annual Business Meeting. The meeting was held in conjunction with the association’s 48th Annual Training Conference in New Orleans.

“We are honored to have Dawn serve on NADO’s Board of Directors. She brings a wealth of expertise, knowledge, and leadership on regional communities and economic development issues to the national level,” stated Joe McKinney, NADO Executive Director. “Most importantly, Dawn is focused on helping our nation’s local communities pursue comprehensive regional strategies for remaining economically competitive in today’s rapidly changing global environment.”

NADO was founded in 1967 to provide training, information and representation for the regional development organizations throughout the United States. Today, NADO member organizations serve local governments and the public within their regions through various programs focused on diversifying local economies, assisting businesses, creating jobs, and providing social services. The NADO Board of Directors oversees the association’s budget and operations, and develops policy on issues affecting regional development organizations.

NADO’s Board of Directors represent member organizations from a broad section of the United States, including the Eastern, Midwestern, Central, Southeastern, Southwestern and Western regions.

For more information, contact Joe McKinney, NADO Executive Director, at 202-624-5947 or jmckinney@nado.org.

**About NADO:**

Building on nearly five decades of experience, the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) serves as the national voice of regional development organizations. The association is an advocate for federal community and economic development programs and policies that help local communities improve their local economy and quality of life. For more information about NADO and the NADO Research Foundation, visit [www.nado.org](http://www.nado.org).