



# MASON CITY

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## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

### NEWS RELEASE

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#### **Culhane resigns as Executive Director of the MCEDC**

MASON CITY— Dan Culhane, executive director of the Mason City Economic Development Corporation since the fall of 1999 resigned today. He has accepted the position of Executive Director of the Ames Chamber of Commerce and Ames Economic Development Commission. He is expected to begin his new responsibilities in Ames April 17.

Culhane, who has lead the MCEDC for the past 6 ½ years leaves after the development group has amassed over \$600 million in capital investment and seen the creation of over 600 jobs. Culhane has been involved in many successful projects in North Iowa. Among them are the recruitment of Sunny Fresh Foods, Golden Grain Energy, Freedom Fuels, the Emery Generating Station power plant, Intradyn, LXI Corporation, and many local expansions such as I.C. System, Kraft Foods, and Curries, Inc.

“I leave the MCEDC with mixed emotions. I have been fortunate to work with many quality people during my time in Mason City and made a number of lasting

friendships and memories as a result of the projects that have come to fruition while I have been here” said Culhane.

“I have always wanted to expand my development career into a university community and it is somewhat ironic that the next step in my career leads me back to the community where my wife and I attended college. My entire career has been spent in North Iowa and I owe a lot to the leadership in the region for giving me all of the opportunities I have been afforded. I have always had supportive board leadership, both here in Mason City and Franklin County, and people that were engaged in the need for economic development, which really makes this business and doing the job a pleasure,” said Culhane.

MCEDC Board President, Keith Sersland, said, “We are very pleased for Dan and his family. We obviously hate to see him go, but new opportunities will always come to talented people like Dan. He should be proud of his accomplishments in Mason City and North Iowa. A very strong foundation has been built for the future. We wish him all the best.”

Sersland indicated that the search for his replacement will begin immediately. “Meanwhile,” noted Sersland, “We have a strong professional team in place which can carry our work forward while we search for Dan’s replacement. Both Angie Determan and Ken Bales have been instrumental in a number of projects and are entirely capable of handling day to day activities in the interim.”

Culhane came to Mason City in September of 1999 from the Franklin County Development Association in Hampton when the MCEDC board of directors decided to hire a full-time staff person to run the organization.

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