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## Marcie McLaughlin

### Director of RUPRI Constituent Relations RUPRI Washington D.C. Office

Marcie McLaughlin has represented the Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI) in Washington DC for the past three years. RUPRI conducts policy-relevant research and facilitates public dialogue to assist policymakers in understanding the rural impacts of public policies and programs. For ten years prior to this position, McLaughlin served as the founding Executive Director of Minnesota Rural Partners, Minnesota's state rural development council. Minnesota Rural Partners is a network of federal, state, local and tribal governments, and the private, non-profit and educational sectors. MRP is involved in several projects including entrepreneurship, telecommunications and new agriculture. MRP also hosts the annual Minnesota Rural Summit.



Prior to her tenure as director of MRP, Ms. McLaughlin served as a Renville County Commissioner. She represented her county on many state committees, including the Minnesota River Citizen's Advisory Committee. She has also served as the Chair of the National Association of Counties Rural Development Steering Committee. McLaughlin previously worked with six southwestern Minnesota counties managing comprehensive water planning and owned and operated a small family business.

McLaughlin holds a master in public administration degree from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, has an elementary education degree from Southwest State University in Marshall, Minnesota and advanced studies in adult education from Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas. Ms. McLaughlin's move to Washington DC continues the experiment in the similarities and differences of rural and urban life.