

**□ *Says he will focus on ways to grow our economy, create jobs for veterans, and reform the way Washington works***

Chatfield, MN – Today, Rep. Tim Walz hosted a roundtable discussion with business and community leaders in Chatfield to discuss ways to grow our economy, find good paying jobs for veterans, and make Washington more transparent and accountable. He also asked for feedback from participants as well as their priorities in 2012.

“Small businesses are the engines that drive our economy. They have played a key role in making southern Minnesota one of the best regions around for job growth,” said Walz. “However, there is still more work to be done. We can reduce our deficit while continuing to grow our economy, take care of our returning veterans, and reform the way Washington works with proposals like the STOCK Act. We just need to tap into that can-do American spirit, put our partisan difference aside, and get the job done.”

“We appreciate Representative Walz for being here today to listen and discuss ideas for growing our economy and creating jobs in rural America” said Ron Zeigler, President/CEO of the Community and Economic Development Associates.

Walz, still concerned about the high level of unemployment amongst returning veterans, addressed the need to ensure job opportunities when they return home. Walz plans to continue working with veterans and employers to make sure our warriors have access to a good paying job to support their families when they return.

Walz also spoke about the need to create good-paying jobs in southern Minnesota through proposals like his bipartisan energy bill. His bipartisan bill would invest royalty payments from offshore oil drilling into new energy technology and would rebuild roads and bridges right here at home.

Walz also continues to push his STOCK Act legislation to explicitly ban insider trading by Members of Congress. The bill enjoys broad, bipartisan support and awaits final action from the Senate. House Republican Majority Leader Eric Cantor recently praised Rep. Walz for his

leadership on the STOCK Act and his “willingness to reach across the aisle” to get things done.