

**NORTHEASTERN NEVADA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY'S
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

**Great Basin College
VIA ZOOM**

1500 College Parkway
Elko, NV 89801

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 1:00 pm

A. CALL TO ORDER: By NNRDA Chair of the Board, Terri Clark, NNRH

The agenda for this meeting of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority (NNRDA) has been properly posted for this day and time in accordance with NRS requirement.

In accordance with NRS 241, the Authority may: (I) change the order of the agenda, (II) combine two or more agenda items for consideration, (III) remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time, (IV) and if the agenda is not completed, recess the meeting and continue on another specified date and time, (V) place reasonable restrictions on time, place, and manner of public comment and that comment based on viewpoint may not be restricted.

DUE TO COVID-19 UPDATES AND UPON DIRECTIVES FROM THE GOVERNOR, NNRDA WILL BE HOLDING THE MEETING VIA ZOOM AND IN PERSON FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO ATTEND IN PERSON.

NNRDA's monthly board meeting agenda and board meeting minutes are now posted for public viewing on our website at www.nnrda.com.

B. ROLL CALL: Introductions of Board Members and Guests

STAFF:

Sheldon Mudd- Executive Director

Kris Ashdown-Executive Assistant

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Terri Clark – N. N. Regional Hospital

Madison Mahon – City of Carlin

Reece Keener – City of Elko

Jordan Tilley – City of Wells

Alissa Wood – Nevada Gold Mines

BOARD MEMBERS:

Donna Bath – Silver Lion Farms

Susan Goddard – Elko Daily Free Press

Katie Neddenriep – Elko County Visitors Authority

Matt Miller – Kinross – Bald MTN

GUESTS:

Shirley Alen-Kellerman – RNDC

C. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

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This agenda item is to provide time for the general public to address the Authority regarding items of concern. Action cannot be taken at this time, but a matter can be set on the agenda for a future meeting, as appropriate.

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D. MINUTES:

- 1) Approval of the November 3, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

ACTION: Reece Keener made a motion to approve the November 9th, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes noting the small discrepancy regarding the date as it was listed as November 3rd. Madison Mahon seconded the motion. The motion passed.

E. NNRDA FINANCIALS:

- 1) Review and approval of Financials for October, November, and December 2021.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

ACTION: Reece Keener made a motion to approve the Financials for October, November, and December 2021. Madison Mahon seconded the motion. The motion passed.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Presentation by David Skinner and Georgia Dimick with Change N Direction, certified grant writers and administration.

FOR REVIEW

Discussion: Neither person was on the ZOOM call to give the presentation possibly due to the time zone difference. Sheldon let the Board know that with all the money coming down on the Federal side of things, many communities are intimidated by the grant writing process but could use those dollars. Sheldon found a few people who are certified grant writers and administers of those grants who were going to offer their services to our small communities that could no doubt benefit from this service.

- 2) Review, discussion, and possible approval for concept logo as presented by PNCC graphic designer.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Discussion: Executive Director, Sheldon Mudd, let the Board know that recent discussions had led NNRDA staff to look at updating the logo and after reviewing several options, chose to see what PNCC could come up with for a design. Sheldon formed a small committee to dwindle the choices down before bringing those options to the board. NNRDA staff emailed board members the logo designs and asked that they choose their favorite at today's meeting. Sheldon showed the designs and asked each member which one they liked best. There were 3 different areas where we needed a decision made. Afterwards, the decision was clear and a new logo has been chosen!

ACTION: Alissa Wood made a motion to approve the new logo for NNRDA. Madison Mahon seconded the motion. The motion passed.

G. REPORTS

- 1) **Status Report and Leads:** Staff will provide status on various activities, projects and leads.

Report: Sheldon Mudd told the Board that for the calendar year 2021 we had a total of 46 RFI's that we entertained, NNRDA responded on 41 of those and we had 1 company call us back for more information out of that 41. This gives you a sense of what the ratio looked like for the past year. So far this year in January we've had 2 RFI's that we've responded to. We've had 7 new inquiries where folks have just called looking for information with one of those coming from Jeff with NV Energy. Thank you to Jeff for sending the lead in our direction!

On November 5th we had our Launch Rural Nevada Pitch Day Event. Nevada Gold Mines sponsored the Junior Division and NV Energy sponsored the Adult Division along with several other sponsors who made this event a success! GOED has essentially handed this event over to NNRDA going forward so we plan on having our first meeting in February to discuss details.

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November 18th we partnered with Nevada Gold Mines for the Native American Job Skills Workshop and Job Fair where we presented to the participants from the local tribes and we plan on continuing to help and give them the tools necessary for small business startups as well as entrepreneurship's to help them build and grow.

December 7th we participated in the Nevada mining industry's supply chain discussion in Carson City where they discussed enhancing rail infrastructure in the area, moving forward not just for the mining industry but for any other industry that comes to town. The current focus now is moving mining materials.

We've had a few prospective developments that we've been working with NDOT trying to move forward. We met with several stakeholders in Carson City to try and get those projects moving forward.

We've written a lot of CDBG support letters in the last month or so in support of our community development block grant efforts.

We were contacted by Amazon Website Services to talk about workforce and training efforts in our area. We had a meeting which included Great Basin College to discuss their program which they offer essentially free of charge where they would train/teach students about cloud based programming, management, etc. We are looking forward to the opportunity to work with Amazon.

We continue to support Aspen Productions who are planning to shoot a movie in Elko next year. Sheldon is trying to spread the love and involve as many communities as possible offering shooting opportunities all over Northeastern Nevada. Sheldon has also talked to them about the narrative so our communities are seen in a more favorable light.

All of our annual CEDS were updated outside of our regional and Eureka one, which are pending, and have been posted on our website.

We've been working the last few months with the Bureau of Reclamation and are waiting for them to do a final cultural research management plan in Lander County for the railpark that we've been trying to move forward.

We've had discussions with Union Pacific as well to make that a focus site.

The Governor's Office of Science and Technology are pursuing some grants to get broadband into the industrial parks so Sheldon gave them all the information on all of our industrial parks which included location, what utilities are for each location, available sizes of parcels; just to mention a few. They were impressed and included all of our industrial parks in their packages. Hopefully some or all will get funding then we can hope that the broadband will bleed into the communities from the same lines.

We continue to work on the housing issues in our smaller communities. We sent out construction surveys to gain some knowledge to address the housing needs. Sheldon has written up a document that he plans on giving it to GOED and also to the Director of Business and Industry providing some potential solutions for our housing issues.

The biggest and probably the best news to announce is NNRDA has finally been named as an Economic Development District. We are the second one in the state of Nevada and the first one to be developed in 20 years. We are the first regional development authority to get that designation in the state of Nevada. We have yet to figure out all the perks but are very excited to see where this can take our organization.

2) **RNDC:** Report from Shirley Allen-Kellerman, RNDC, Business Lending Representative.

Report: Shirley Alen-Kellerman shared RNDC's 2nd quarter numbers. The total numbers for the county's that NNRDA represent are 6 businesses financed, 8 jobs created, 20 jobs retained and a total of \$511,370.00 loaned to those companies. The majority of those businesses were in Elko County with 1 being in Eureka County. For the total state that RNDC represents there were 7 businesses financed with a total amount of \$769,120.00 which created 10 jobs and retained 21 jobs. RNDC did \$129,071.00 in total housing dollars for rehabilitation, down payment assistance, and weatherization assistance. In Shirley's meeting with Mary Kerner this morning she learned that RNDC and Nevada Gold Mines are putting together an extensive advertising campaign for the next quarter. They have a lot of dollars to lend and do not want to lose that funding that could be helping those who are struggling.

H. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Board members will be provided the opportunity to give a short report on their business or their city/county.

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J. ADJOURN. Meeting was adjourned at 2:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

KA
Kris Ashdown, NNRDA Executive Assistant