

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

**Great Basin College  
VIA ZOOM**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86774194310>

1500 College Parkway

Elko, NV 89801

**Wednesday, February 23, 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](http://www.nnrda.com).

**B. ROLL CALL: Introductions of Board Members and Guests**

**STAFF:**

Sheldon Mudd – Executive Director

Kris Ashdown – Executive Assistant

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Madison Mahon – City of Carlin

Reece Keener – City of Elko

Layla Walz – City of Wells

Jon Karr – Elko County

Rich McKay – Eureka County

Shane Bybee – White Pine County

Jordan Tilley – City of Wells

Terri Clark - NNRH

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Donna Bath – Silver Lion Farms

Matt Miller – Kinross Gold

Paul MacDonald - RailPros

**GUESTS:**

Cheryl Collins – NuScale Power

Bret Murphy – GBC

Kaylee Shields -

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

PUBLIC COMMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED IN PERSON AND VIA EMAIL. WE ENCOURAGE THE PUBLIC TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING BY SUBMITTING COMMENTS TO [KRIS@NNRDA.COM](mailto:KRIS@NNRDA.COM) – WHERE THEY WILL BE THEN ADDED TO THE RECORD.

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 January 26, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**  
**ACTION: Jon Karr made a motion to approve the January 26, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes. Reece Keener seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**E. NNRDA FINANCIALS:**

- 1) Review and approval of Financials for January 2022. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**  
**ACTION: Jon Karr made a motion to approve the Financials for January 2022. Reece Keener seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**F. NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) Presentation by Cheryl Collins of NuScale Power discussing the technology and potential of Small Modular Reactors (SMR). **FOR REVIEW**

Presentation: Sheldon Mudd introduced Ms. Cheryl Collins of NuScale Power who gave an overview on their SMR (Small Modular Reactor) Program. NuScale has the 1<sup>st</sup> AND only SMR to receive NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) Standard Design Approval. The following was taken from Ms. Collins power point:

- Groundbreaking technology features **fully factory fabricated** SMR referred to as a NuScale Power Module consisting of an **integral nuclear steam supply system** in which the reactor core, steam generators and pressurizer are all contained in a single vessel
- **Simple design** eliminates reactor coolant pumps, large bore piping and other systems and components found in conventional reactors
- Simplicity results in an extremely **strong safety case** and **reduced capital and operational costs**
- Modules can be incrementally added to match load growth

One of the questions Sheldon wanted Cheryl to answer for the Board was, "What Makes NuScale Different from Conventional Nuclear Power Plants?" Again, taken from the power point;

- Much simpler design with fewer and smaller components
  - New level of safety and resilience
  - New level of operational flexibility meets much broader market needs
  - Leverages economies of small and scalable
- Factory fabrication of entire power module greatly reduces site construction time
- Teamed early with an experienced Engineering, Procurement, Construction firm to advise on construction process
- Expect ~80% design completion before construction starts
  - Higher fidelity cost estimates
  - Reduces likelihood of schedule delays
- Leverages existing supply chain by using conventional fuel and materials
- Key innovative features tested at full scale

Cheryl let the Board know that anyone can tour their test facility at the Oregon State University anytime. She also let us know that the first step would be getting an operating license through NRC which takes about 3 years to get approved. Many Board Members are very interested in this technology and would like us to write up a resolution to support NuScale Power coming into our area and present it at the next Board Meeting.

- 2) Discussion by Terri Clark and Matt Miller regarding opportunities to support health care outreach initiative for children. **For Discussion**

**Discussion:** Terri Clark and Matt Miller made the Board aware of a program that Kinross and NNRH are co-developing to bring holistic healthcare resources to children and youth throughout rural Nevada. The initiative would address medical, vision, oral health, and behavioral health needs by connecting

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families to resources or by creating additional venues to access care. Terri stated it is not intended to replicate existing services but to be a connector to these services as well as address unmet needs.

Initially, the program will pilot at one school this year during National Every Kid Healthy Week, held the last week of April. Kids can participate in activities representing five areas of wellness, followed by a youth and children's health fair on Saturday. Building on the pilot, the initiative will then expand to other schools and districts. In fact, the founding committee is taking a regional approach to long-term planning to include all areas within the NNRDA membership. Superintendent Anderson and Bobbi Shanks of the Elko County School District and Billie Crapo of the Elko Chamber of Commerce were approached and have been enthusiastic about the initiative. Matt and Terri asked for input from NNRDA members, which was provided. At the next meeting, they will return with an initiative proposal and will ask for a resolution of support.

### G. REPORTS

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

**REPORT:** Sheldon Mudd, Executive Director, gave a brief summary of what NNRDA has been working on this last month which Sheldon says has been one of the most productive months in a long time. Since our last meeting we have provided extensive support for grant applications. One of those was for the Governor's Office of Science Innovation & Technology. They are working on getting broadband access dollars that will be used for industrial parks around the region. NNRDA submitted mapping along with other information to them, they compile it in the format they need then send it back to us. We then run it through the local broadband action committee who must approve it then send it back to the Governor's Office of Science Innovation & Technology. We are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> out of the 4 steps to have this completed.

Sheldon has written 8 CDBG support letters so far this month. We've provided information to Nevada Works at the state level for the Good Jobs Challenge.

In regards to business development, we've been talking to a capital investment group out of Reno about solar energy projects and have connected them with some of the local utility companies to discuss potential solar projects to help bolster the current power capabilities.

We've been involved with the Ski Ely initiative and are gathering up feasibility studies and information hoping that this will take off. There's another development project coming to the region, one in Wells and one in Carlin. We traveled to Carson City along with members from both communities to discuss and iron out a few issues with NDOT so these developments can move forward.

In the small business world we've been busy as well! A meat cutting business was trying to get his feet under him and recently received a loan from the I-80 fund, we've tried to help support that effort. NNRDA has been helping a small business from Owyhee start up as well that has to do with fire suppression.

We are getting our feet wet and trying to further understand all the aspects of being an Economic Development District. Sheldon has set up a few meetings with folks who have been an EDD for years and are hoping that they guide us in the right direction.

NNRDA will be leading the Launch Rural Nevada Pitch Day Contest this year so we've started those conversations. We would like to make it a very robust event and step it up a notch.

Our new logo is complete thanks to PNCC here in Elko. The website is transitioning all the colors over and when that is complete then we'll have a press release to show off our new colors and logo to everyone. We are working on updating all of our marketing materials to the new logo as well.

Housing has been a big topic lately! Early February Sheldon did a quick housing evaluation and sent it to the state to open a conversation with them. We know they received it and are looking it over. Sheldon attended a housing summit in Tonopah which was primarily focused on Nye and Esmeralda Counties but managed to retain a few tidbits from it.

Friday Sheldon will be in Ely to attend the Native Business Fair but will also be meeting with a builder that is potentially willing to build in Eureka and Ely. Our last bit of good news is we have a company coming into Elko next week from Texas to check out the area.

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2) **RNDC:** Report from Shirley Allen-Kellerman, RNDC, Business Lending Representative.  
**Shirley didn't have an update today for RNDC.**

**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 2:40 pm.**

**Respectfully submitted:**

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KA  
**Kris Ashdown, NNRDA Executive Assistant**