

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

**Great Basin College
VIA ZOOM**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81071331225>

1500 College Parkway

Elko, NV 89801

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 1:00 pm

A. CALL TO ORDER: By NNRDA Vice Chair of the Board, Mackenna Velez, Southwest Gas.

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.

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:

Chris Melville-City of W. Wendover

Beth Savedra-City of Wells

Mackenna Velez-Southwest Gas

Richard Braithwaite-City of Carlin

Kathleen Ancho-Lander County

Nikita Grover-Kinross-Bald

BOARD MEMBERS:

Susan Goddard-Elko Daily Free Press

Anthony Dowling-NV Energy

Terri Clark-NNRH

GUESTS:

Shirley Alen-Kellerman-RNDC

Daniel Pace-Southwest Gas

Joe Brown-CB Elko

Greg Zegas-NCEF

Ansley Fender-Grantcycle

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 – 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.

D. MINUTES:

1) Approval of the October 25, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

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ACTION: Beth Savedra made a motion to approve the October 25, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes. Chris Melville seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. NNRDA FINANCIALS:

- 1) Review and approval of financials for October and November 2023.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

ACTION: Chris Melville made a motion to approve the Financials for October and November 2023. Beth Savedra seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Presentation and discussion regarding rural engagement initiatives proposed by the Nevada Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) presented by Mr. Greg Zegas, Senior Manager of Investments, (NCEF)

FOR DISCUSSION

PRESENTATION: Mr. Greg Zegas, Senior Manager of Investments with the Nevada Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) gave a presentation to the Board on who they are and what they have to offer. The NCEF is a nonprofit organization created in 2017 by state legislation. NCEF supports a thriving, affordable, and accessible clean energy economy by providing financial and technical resources to Nevadans. NCEF's programs provide clean energy financial and technical assistance to residents, Tribes, affordable housing developers, local businesses, schools, governments, community lenders, and other in Nevada. These programs support clean energy measures such as building efficiency and electrification, clean vehicles, and solar and energy storage. Reach out to NNRDA staff if you'd like more information.

- 2) Presentation and discussion regarding Grantcycle, a community grant management software company presented by Ansley Fender, Founder & CEO, Grantcycle.

FOR DISCUSSION

PRESENTATION: Ms. Ansley Fender, Founder and CEO of Grantcycle gave a presentation to the Board. "Grantcycle is in the business of capacity building. Grantcycle offers grant management software for nonprofits, for-profits, and municipalities that brings grant funders and recipients together in a single, collaborative platform that allows for communication across both sides of the grant equation.

Grantcycle's goal is to redesign grant management from the ground up – to make the grantmaking and grantseeking process simple, automated, and intuitive – so that every homeless shelter, research facility, municipality, and small business can do even more good." taken from Ansley's LinkedIn page. Reach out to NNRDA staff if you'd like more information.

G. REPORTS

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

REPORT: First off, NNRDA has been working with all the communities getting the annual CEDS update completed. Everything is coming together and almost ready to be sent in to UNR the end of this week then next week should see those documents being finalized and sent back our way in late January. Sheldon has added a bit of marketing to our repertoire. We put our ads in some course guides and score cards for golf courses; one located in Portland and one in San Francisco. The reasoning behind this is we want to attract some business guys from those areas that are not as friendly to do business with. We purchased a years' worth of advertising for less than \$1,000. Hopefully we'll see some interest from that. In addition to this, we are being featured again in The Business in Focus Magazine in the March or April 2024 edition. Sheldon was interviewed and sent some great pictures in for the article as well, and it didn't cost us anything!

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Sheldon traveled to Carson City to have a meeting at the Governor's Office with Chief of Staff, Mr. Ben Kieckhefer and the rural liaison, Mr. Tim Robb. They discussed what's been happening here in Northeastern Nevada along with some challenges we face. Sheldon appreciated the time both gentlemen were able to give. Sheldon went over the Business and Activity Report that he sent out to board members. If anyone did not receive the report, we'd be happy to forward it to you.

Lastly, NNRDA has launched the new Silver Link Website www.nvsilverlink.com. Matt Miller had approached Sheldon about this idea and they came up with a plan which drew interest from the Governor's Office of Economic Development and the Governor's Office as well. It's basically a repository for companies that can support the Nevada supply chain. The most important part of this is that it's driven by our operators who can say, "This is what we need in this area and this is how we're not getting serviced." Then hopefully we can help get it fixed. We encourage you to check out the website from time to time as well as help us promote it. If you have any questions or need the password to access the fillable form, contact NNRDA.

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

REPORT: Ms. Kellerman let the Board know that she and Kris attended the West Wendover ribbon cutting for their new downtown main street project. It was a beautiful day and a terrific event. West Wendover city manager, Chris Melville hosted the event and did a fantastic job explaining the years and years of hard work and determination to finally get to this point. Shirley has since received several phone calls from potential clients asking for RNDC's assistance.

RNDC's office has been very busy. Ms. Kellerman has submitted 5 applications just in the last few weeks. The Ely office has been booming with the RISE Program. This program is for local small (LSB) or diverse businesses (LDB). They have 1 million dollars to lend but if they follow the guidelines, the loan will be forgiven. The max per application is \$25,000. From October 11-November 30th there were over 80 applicants for the RISE funding.

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.** Chris Melville made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Beth Savedra seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

_____ KA _____
Kris Ashdown, NNRDA Executive Assistant