

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, January 24th at 1:00 pm

**A. CALL TO ORDER: By NNRDA Chairman of the Board, Nikita Grover with Kinross Gold.**

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](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:**

Richard Braithwaite-City of Carlin

Reece Keener-City of Elko

Chris Melville-City of West Wendover

Nikita Grover-Kinross-Bald Mtn

Daniel Pace-Southwest Gas

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Annette Kerr-ECVA

Susan Goddard-EDFP

Anthony Dowling-NV Energy

Donna Bath-Silver Lion Farms

**GUESTS:**

Shirley Alen-Kellerman-RNDC

Shari Davis-GOED

**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.

**There was no public comment.**

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 December 13, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**ACTION: Chris Melville made a motion to approve the December 13, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes. Nikita Grover seconded the motion. Reece Keener abstained. The motion passed unanimously.**

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**E. NNRDA FINANCIALS:**

- 1) Review and approval of financials for December 2023.

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**ACTION: Reece Keener made a motion to approve the Financials for December 2023. Chris Melville seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**F. NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) Presentation and discussion regarding NNRDA involvement in the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) 2024 annual conference, March 3-6, 2024.

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**DISCUSSION:** Sheldon Mudd let the Board know that NNRDA has been a part of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) annual conferences in the past. NNRDA was represented up until COVID and we haven't attended since. The Governor's Office has asked Sheldon to attend and participate this year. When Sheldon first attended PDAC back in 2016 Nevada had little to no exposure; there's billions of investment dollars that flow through there and we want to get some of those dollars to come here. Sheldon has testified before the Nevada Division of Minerals about the importance of having a footprint here at this event. As a result, there's a huge pavilion to be set up for Nevada to showcase what we offer. This event brings in about 25,000 people. For the last few years, we have provided brochures for the event but have not made the trip. Sheldon was approached by a few gentlemen from the mining and mineral sectors and was asked if he'd be willing to go to speak on behalf of the business side of Nevada then GOED asked Sheldon to speak on Tuesday (Nevada Day) about Nevada's Silver Link program and to encourage Canadian Companies to look into the program.

**ACTION: Richard Braithwaite made a motion for approve NNRDA's involvement/attendance at the PDAC 2024 annual conference, March 3-6, 2024. Reece Keener seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

- 2) Presentation and discussion regarding NNRDA involvement in the 2024 International Mine Expo in Las Vegas in September 24-26, 2024.

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**DISCUSSION: Sheldon Mudd let the Board know that he wanted them to be aware of the Expo and to keep it on their radar. This would fall into next year's budget cycle so we don't need a vote until then. NNRDA is looking at what a booth would cost if we could get one by the front entrance. Sheldon would like someone to be in the booth to answer questions and others out walking the floor. NNRDA would like to have at least 4 people go for good coverage. This Expo is THE Expo to go to and it's right in our backyard. Annette Kerr with ECVA told the Board that they are in the process of securing a booth for free but if that doesn't pan out then they are willing to share a booth if it's allowed. Susan Goddard with EDFP said they will be attending as well. Sheldon mentioned maybe setting up a reception of sorts to invite interested folks to come to.**

**NO ACTION TAKEN.**

- 3) Presentation and discussion regarding On Target Nevada 2024 and establishment of planning committee.

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**DISCUSSION: Sheldon asked who would like to be on the committee this year. Nikita Grover, Reece Keener, and Susan Goddard said they'd be happy to help plan next year's event. Sheldon would like to find a famous person to speak, where the Site Selectors and the public would want to come (and pay their own way). We have found someone but it's not going to be cheap! He speaks about overcoming all the obstacles and how he was able to become a gold medalist. Sheldon said we could play off the "gold medalist and our gold mining community" Maybe we can get sponsors to help pay for the event. Chris**

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**Melville said West Wendover would be willing to be a sponsor. Richard Braithwaite asked if we thought about trying to procure a band to bring folks in. Shari Davis and/or Alex could be on the committee if needed. At a previous meeting Beth Savedra and Mackenna Velez had offered to be on the committee as well. The tentative date is September 16, 2024.**

**G. REPORTS**

- 1) **Status Report and Leads:** Staff will provide status on various activities, projects and leads.  
**REPORTS:** Sheldon started off with **Leads and Developments**. For the last month we've been working on Project Hydrogen which has been moving right along and hopefully within the next month they will have a contract signed so there will be an announcement for that. Project Pennywise out of Wells has been cleared so we can talk about who they are and what they plan to do. The company is called Coppers out of Pennsylvania. They treat telephone poles. They are working with Union Pacific to try and determine what that looks like. We may need some help with Federal funds to help get the railroad up to par so it can go into the industrial park. It's at least a \$20 million dollar project and will bring in 15-20 jobs. Sheldon has met with several other small companies with a few being out of Canada.  
**Business retention.** We have been in a heck of a fight trying to get licensing moved forward for Silver Lion Farms in White Pine County. There have been many letters written and phone calls made trying to realize the company's full potential.  
**From a marketing standpoint,** Business in Focus Magazine is working on another article for Northeastern Nevada. This will be the fourth or fifth article in the last 5 years that Northeastern Nevada has been highlighted in this magazine.  
**Some of the Initiatives** NNRDA has been working on – SilverLink program went live in December. This is for the gap in the mining supply chain. Any person/company within the mining supply chain can enter specific supply chain gaps that they are experiencing. Unfortunately, no one has been inputting information so far. In trying to get participation, Sheldon has offered up a prize for the person who makes the most entries into the system by February 29, 2024. Sheldon stated that if this initiative does not work, NNRDA will most likely take a step back from the mining supply chain gap business because we have tried everything as well as thinking outside of the box to help fix this need.  
Another Initiative is the Nevada RED Zone Proposal that Sheldon has given to the state. NNRDA had these brochures printed and have distributed them to the Governor and all the various representatives of state and local offices. If anyone would want a copy, feel free to stop by our office or we can mail one to you.  
**Community Development.** We have wrapped up all the yearly updates for the CEDS. It's now in the hands of UNR School of Business who are adding the final touches to the reports.  
We conducted interviews for the EDD Director position. We have one more in-person interview with a gal from Oklahoma who will be in Elko next week for a few days. Hopefully we will have an offer letter shortly afterwards.  
While working with Jackpot on their CEDS, they indicated that they would really like a broadcast school for their community because all their radio and tv stations come from Idaho. They have a company called GoGov who are developing an app for Jackpot that the citizens can download and then will have quick, accurate official notifications at any time. We haven't seen the final product but it should be available soon.  
Sheldon has been writing CDBG support letters for communities who qualify and have been doing a bit of Economic Development District reporting.  
Lastly, Sheldon wanted to mention that the Governor's Chief of Staff, Ben Kieckhefer has announced that he will be leaving at the beginning of the year. Ryan Cherry will be taking Ben's role as Chief of Staff.
- 2) **RNDC:** Report from Shirley Alen-Kellerman, RNDC, Business Lending Representative.  
RNDC had nothing to report.

**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. Richard Braithwaite made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nikita Grover seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.**

**Respectfully submitted:**

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KA  
**Kris Ashdown, NNRDA Executive Assistant**