

**NORTHEASTERN NEVADA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT'S
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

**Great Basin College
VIA ZOOM**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82622298037>

Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 1:00 pm

A. CALL TO ORDER: By NNEEDD Chair of the Board, Anthony Dowling, NV Energy.

The agenda for this meeting of the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District (NNEEDD) 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.

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

B. ROLL CALL: Introductions of Board Members and Guests

Sheldon Mudd-NNEEDD Director and NNRDA Executive Director
Anthony Dowling-NNEEDD Chairman and NV Energy
Rich McKay-NNEEDD Elected Official and Eureka County
John Schifer-NNEEDD Workforce Development and Employ NV
Luke Fitzgerald-NNEEDD Vice-Chair and Koinonia Construction
Kris Ashdown-NNRDA Assistant

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.

There was no public comment.

D. MINUTES:

1) Approval of the April 24, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

ACTION: Anthony Dowling made a motion to approve the April 24, 2024 Board of Director's Meeting Minutes. Rich McKay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2) Approval of the May 21, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

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ACTION: Anthony Dowling made a motion to approve the May 21, 2024 Board of Director's Meeting Minutes. Rich McKay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. NNEDD FINANCIALS:

1) Review and approval of financials for April 2024 - July 2024.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

ACTION: Rich McKay made a motion to approve the Financials for April 2024-July 2024. John Schifer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

1) Presentation & review of EDD activity, EDA engagement, & possible steps for moving forward.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

REPORT: Sheldon went over the reason why NNRDA wanted to be approved as an Economic Development District and all the misinformation that we encountered along the way. We began the process in 2019 and finally got approved late 2022. After we were approved, we hired an Executive Director who moved from Oklahoma for the position then a few months later we were made aware that our funding would run out at the end of June 2024. We would have to apply for additional funding and IF we got approved we would not receive the new funding for 9 months. At this point, NNRDA could not justify covering the NNEDD for that amount of time and not even be guaranteed funding moving forward. Sheldon eventually connected with EDA's Regional Director, Chris Cox, who sat down with Sheldon for over 2 hours and explained everything in detail with step by step instructions and information – Sheldon indicated that he wished this would have been explained in the beginning! Although it was wonderful to finally get solid answers it was also very discouraging because everything we had been led to understand up to this point was simply inaccurate. Sheldon indicated that much of this was likely because there was information flowing from and through several different sources including new EDA representatives, the UNR UCED staff and, GOED. Bottom line is Mr. Cox confirmed that all this hired person would do is send emails and create a CEDS. Sheldon told him there's already too many entities sending emails and we already have a CEDS. Sheldon asked him what funding is available to us. Mr. Cox confirmed that we hold the umbrella for the funding but each community would have to apply for grants independently. The only funding the NNEDD would be able to apply for would be for Technical Assistant Grants (studies). Again, this is not what we were led to believe in the beginning. We simply do not feel that we need more studies complete, we want action and tangible results! Sheldon suggests that, at this time, we set the EDD on a shelf then if/when we need it we will access it. Further, that we should pursue a "test" project to see if/how to secure community development funding, analyze that process and the result and go from there. We have missed the EDD funding cycle for this year so this should give us a year to decide if we want to continue as an EDD and if so, what does that look like? If we do decide to keep up with the reporting as well as get a little money back from the EDA, then we will need to hire a part time person to keep up with work. It does take a lot of time to keep up with all the reporting. Sheldon feels like we can meet twice a year to see how it's going.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

2) Presentation, review, and approval of 2024 Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

DISCUSSION: Sheldon explained that one of the requirements for becoming an EDD was creating a CEDS. NNRDA had already completed a CEDS for each of our communities utilizing Fred Steinmann with UNR to turn the information we collected from each community into a Technical Report. The EDA wanted the report dialed down and also told Sheldon it was missing a few elements required by the EDA. Sheldon worked through the holiday redoing this whole document. He sent it in to the EDA and they came back and asked him to add more detail in the "Resilience" section. He resent the document and the EDA indicated it

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could move forward with a Board Approval. After being approved by this Board, it will go out to the public for a 30 day public comment period then it can be sent back to the EDA for final approval.

ACTION: Anthony Dowling made a motion to approve the 2024 Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Luke Fitzgerald seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

G. REPORTS

- 1) **Status Report and Leads:** Staff will provide status on various activities, projects and leads.
NO FURTHER REPORTING

H. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Board members will be provided the opportunity to give a short report on their agency, business or community.

- I. **ADJOURN.** Luke Fitzgerald made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Anthony Dowling seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 1:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Kris Ashdown, NNRDA Executive Assistant