

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

IN PERSON
Great Basin College
1500 College Parkway
McMullen Hall #103
Elko, NV 89801

VIRTUAL
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85342958065>

Thursday, August 28, 2025 at 1:00 pm

A. CALL TO ORDER: By NNEEDD Chair of the Board, Brianne Morfin, WaFd.

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

Board Members:

Brianne Morfin-Wafd	Danena Ike-Temoake Tribe
Sarah Negrete-GBC	Luke Fitzgerald-Koinonia Construction

Staff:

Sheldon Mudd-NNRDA	Kris Ashdown-NNRDA
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Guest:

Katheryn Basso

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 January 21, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

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ACTION: Brianne Morfin made a motion to approve the January 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes. Luke Fitzgerald seconded the motion. Danena Ike abstained. Motion passed.

E. NNEDD FINANCIALS:

1) Review and approval of financials for August 2024 - July 2025. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

ACTION: Brianne Morfin made a motion to approve the Financials for August 2024-July 2025. Luke Fitzgerald seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

1) Presentation, review, and possible action regarding proposed Female Operational Readiness & Gear Engineering (FORGE) Center by Kadri Clothing CEO, Katheryn Basso. (In accordance with CEDS Target Industry Sector: Aerospace & Defense, Objective #2, page 28) **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

PRESENTATION: Katheryn Basso provided an overview of her military background and presented her initiative to develop tailored tactical gear for women, addressing a significant gap in the market. She emphasized that properly designed gear is not only essential for functionality but also for the safety of female service members. Her proposal seeks a \$6 million grant to establish a Center of Excellence for women's apparel and safety equipment, with a focus on advanced manufacturing and research. Ms. Basso noted that her company, Kadri Clothing, was founded to meet this need and plans to employ 40 people while improving manufacturing efficiency through advanced sewing techniques. She is seeking funding and support from local, state, and federal partners, including NNRDA/NNEDD, to move the project forward.

ACTION: Luke Fitzgerald made a motion to adopt the Forge Center of Excellence Initiative as an official NNEDD goal and objective and provide support within our capacity. Brianne Morfin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2) Presentation, review, and possible action regarding the support of American Legion Post 15's Individual and Family Preparedness Program. (In accordance with CEDS Resilience Planning, Energy Distribution Disruption Mitigation, page 61) **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

DISCUSSION: Sheldon Mudd disclosed that he serves as Commander of the American Legion Post 15. He noted that the Legion had considered developing a program of this nature prior to his tenure. Upon learning more, he recognized its alignment with NNEDD's CEDS Initiatives. While the state and counties are strong in emergency preparedness, individual communities often lack resources. The proposed program will focus on educating families in basic preparedness skills—such as hydration and food storage—and will include giveaways to encourage participation.

ACTION: Luke Fitzgerald made a motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$2,000 to support the American Legion Post 15's RISE Program. Brianne Morfin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3) Presentation, review, and possible action regarding the proposed Victory Housing Initiative. (In accordance with CEDS Capacity Building Area: Housing & Development, Objective #1, page 34) **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

DISCUSSION: Sheldon Mudd presented the Victory Housing Initiative, which focuses on supporting small communities through the development of kit-style homes. One manufacturer offers models that can be assembled in as little as one day. The initiative aims to empower homeowners while collaborating with local builders, financial institutions, and government agencies to help address housing shortages.

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ACTION: Brianne Morfin made a motion to officially adopt the Victory Housing Initiative as an official goal or objective of the Economic Development District. 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.

H. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

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

I. ADJOURN. Meeting was adjourned at 2:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Kris Ashdown, NNRDA Executive Assistant