

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

**Great Basin College
VIA ZOOM**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82834798211>

1500 College Parkway

Elko, NV 89801

Wednesday, February 25, at 1:00 pm

A. CALL TO ORDER: By NNRDA Chair of the Anthony Dowling with NV Energy.

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:

Jan Baum-City of Elko

Nathan Robertson-City of Ely

Cutter Love-City of W. Wendover

Jon Karr-Elko County

Rich McKay-Eureka County

Richard Braithwaite-City of Carlin

Jason Pengelly-City of Wells

Anthony Dowling-NV Energy

Brianne Morfin-WaFd Bank

Beth Savedra-City of Wells

BOARD MEMBERS:

Donna Bath-Silver Lion Farms

Daisia Shed-KGHM

Daniel Hayes-SW Gas

Nate Johnston-Staker Parson

Mary Kerner-RNDC

Susan Goddard-EDFP

Amber Donnelly-GBC

GUESTS:

Shari Davis-GOED

Lena O'Casio-USDA

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.

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There was no public comment.

D. MINUTES:

- 1) Approval of the July 2026 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

ACTION: Jon Karr made a motion to approve the July 2026 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes. Beth Savedra seconded the motion. Jan Baum abstained. The motion passed.

E. NNRDA FINANCIALS:

- 1) Review and approval of financials for July thru December 2025 and January 2026.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

ACTION: Jon Karr made a motion to approve the financials for July thru December 2025 and January 2026. Jan Baum seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Review, discussion, and possible action regarding the transfer of funds from NNRDA to NNEDD for the purpose of community and infrastructure development.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Discussion: Sheldon explained to the Board that over the past 7–8 years, NNRDA has strategically built up its financial reserves. The intent is to utilize a portion of these funds as seed money to help initiate tangible economic development projects.

As an example, the City of Wells requires an official design for a rail spur, with an estimated cost of \$250,000. While NNRDA would not fund the entire project, the concept is to contribute between \$20,000 and \$50,000 as seed funding. This initial investment could help leverage matching funds from other partners.

NNRDA plans to utilize the existing NNEDD account and Board structure as the mechanism through which these funds will be distributed. Members would be able to apply for funding assistance to support infrastructure-related needs. Additionally, maintaining funds within the NNEDD account may create opportunities to pursue grant funding, with NNRDA's seed money serving as matching funds.

At the January meeting, Richard Braithwaite suggested transferring an initial \$100,000 to the NNEDD account, evaluating the program's effectiveness, and then determining whether to allocate additional funds in the future.

Sheldon also clarified the connection between the EDD and NNRDA Boards, noting overlapping leadership roles: Brianne Morfin serves as NNRDA Vice Chair and EDD Chair; Rich McKay represents Eureka County for NNRDA and serves as the Public Official for the EDD; and Luke Fitzgerald serves as a private member for both NNRDA and the EDD.

Jon Karr asked how funding decisions would be made and whether expenditures would be reported annually. Sheldon responded that each project would be presented to the Board for approval, and once funded, updates would be reported at the subsequent NNRDA Board meeting.

ACTION: Jon Karr made a motion to approve the transfer of \$100,000 from NNRDA to NNEDD for the purpose of community and infrastructure development. Beth Savedra seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2) Review, discussion, and possible action regarding budget allocation for NNRDA 2026 "On Target" event scheduled for April 2, 2026.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Discussion: Mr. Mudd informed the Board that in previous years, NNRDA has requested a budget of up to \$20,000 for the "On Target" event. These funds are used to cover expenses such as the venue, catering, awards, and reimbursement of travel costs for invited site selectors who speak at the event.

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At the most recent event, total expenditures were less than \$17,000. Based on this, NNRDA believes that maintaining the same budget amount would be sufficient for future events.

ACTION: Beth Savedra made a motion to approve a \$20,000 budget for NNRDA's 2026 "On Target" event to be held on April 2, 2026. Richard Braithwaite seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- 3) Review, discussion, and possible action regarding annual performance review and merit raise for Executive Director, Sheldon Mudd. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

DISCUSSION: Anthony Dowling reviewed Sheldon Mudd's annual performance review that he and several board members evaluated Sheldon's performance throughout the year. Mr. Mudd received high rankings and praise for his dedication to his communities and peers. After some discussion action was taken.

ACTION: Brianne Morfin made a motion to approve a 5% merit increase for the Executive Director. Nathan Robertson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

G. REPORTS

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

REPORT: Sheldon Mudd gave the following report for the board.

INFORMATION AND MONTHS ACTIVITIES

- **GOED Rural Presentation – February 5th**
- **Participated in Eureka CEDS Workshop – February 11th**
- **Hosted a reception for the Quebec Mining Show – February 19th**
- **Hosted a meeting with Patriot Critical Metals – February 20th**
- **READY AIM ACADEMY is slowly gaining participants – Information card were sent to all chambers and city and county clerks.**

MARKETING

- **Google targeted marketing included the Apex Defense show in Washington, DC, the Retail Industry Supply Chain Conference in Orlando, FL, the National Security Space Association in Virginia and the Supply Chain & Logistics Convention in Las Vegas. Total from these events NNRDA got 46,425 Impressions and 1,201 Interactions.**

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

- **Project Drive Train – Equipment Share landed in Carlin. NNRDA was involved in the site selection process from the beginning and for a few months in but then they went radio silent with us. Joe with Coldwell Banker let us know that they landed in the RedCor building. Congratulations to Carlin.**
- **We have 6 projects in the Inquiry stage and have 9 projects in the Lead phase with 3 of those happening this month. One of those three is very exciting. Of the 9, four are very active and currently working with. Then we have 5 Prospects Projects which Sheldon explained these are projects who have come to visit with us and have had site visits.**
- **Sheldon responded to an RFI earlier this week which involves recycling certain materials.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Amazon will be having an Information and Hiring Event – March 14th.**
- **NNRDA's "On Target NV" event – April 2nd.**

- 2) **RNDC:** Report from Shirley Alen-Kellerman, RNDC, Business Lending Representative.
No report from RNDC this month. Shirley was attending another meeting.

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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 2:05pm.

Respectfully submitted:

_____ KA _____
Kris Ashdown, NNRDA Executive Assistant