

**ELKO COUNTY ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AUTHORITY  
(ECEDA)**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2007 AT 9:00 A.M.**

**GREAT BASIN COLLEGE – BERG CONFERENCE ROOM**

**GREAT BASIN COLLEGE - BERG HALL**

**PRESENT:** BeBe Adams                      Georgeann Dalton  
Cliff Eklund                                Pax Kelly  
Sheri Eklund Brown                      Summer Ehrmann  
Phyllis Peterson                         Mike Hachquet  
Helen Hornbarger                        John Rice  
Mary Korpi                                 Greg Brorby  
Elaine Barkdull Spencer                 Kim Abeyta

**GUESTS:** Chris Thurman, Southwest Gas, and Lori Gilbert, KENV-TV

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT:** City of Elko, Great Basin Bank, Northeastern Nevada Regional Hospital, Stewart Title, and UNR Fire Science Academy

1. **Call to Order** -ECEDA Chairman Greg Brorby opened the meeting. Greg Brorby reminded board members that comments for the Executive Director’s Mid-Year Review are due back by February 23, 2007.
2. **Public Comment** – no public comment was made.
3. **Correspondence** - Executive Director Elaine Barkdull Spencer provided newspaper articles from the Elko Daily Free Press, various publications relating to ECEDA and local economic development news.

4. **Approval of the January 2007 Regular Board Minutes** – The regular monthly board meeting was held on January 19, 2007 at Great Basin College, in Elko, Nevada.

**Action Item** – Phyllis Peterson made a motion to approve the January Board Minutes and Helen Hornbarger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Approval of Warrants for January 2007** - Warrants over \$500 submitted for Board signatures; warrants under \$500 approved by Executive Director Payment, list provided to the Board. Review of current expenditures/budget comparison

**Action Item** – Pax Kelly made a motion to approve the Warrants for January 2007 and Mary Korpi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Executive Committee Meeting**

Chairman Greg Brorby reported executive committee members discussed ECEDA's Bylaws and ECEDA's Policies and Procedures in preparation for the upcoming board retreat. Committee members also discussed budget preparation for the upcoming fiscal year and chose to approve the ECEDA budget for FY08 in April 2007 instead of at the annual board retreat that is scheduled to be held in May 2007.

Chairman Brorby and board members discussed and confirmed the date for the 2007-08 ECEDA Board Planning Retreat.

**Action Item:** Summer Ehrmann made a motion to approve the ECEDA Planning Retreat to be scheduled for Thursday, May 10, 2007 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Phyllis Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Lobbying/Legislative Affairs**

BeBe Adams briefed board members on proposed legislation for the upcoming Nevada Legislature's 74th session that may impact ECEDA's goals. BeBe Adams encouraged board members to choose a few bills that ECEDA should pursue and "hit it hard." Board members discussed and prioritized ECEDA's support for the following legislative bills.

1. Elko/Reno Air Service Bill
2. Mining Dependent Bill
3. Alternative Energy Bills (Geothermal)

**Action Item** – Pax Kelly made a motion to accept the prioritized list of ECEDA's legislative support and Cliff Eklund seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **New Members**

Executive Director Elaine Barkdull Spencer introduced District Manager Chris Thurman of Southwest Gas. The Board reviewed and approved Executive Membership for Southwest Gas.

**Action Item** – Sheri Eklund-Brown motioned to approve Southwest Gas for Executive membership and Summer Ehrmann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Update on NNRR Project**

County Commissioner Sheri Eklund Brown reported that appraisals for the 45 acres at the railport have been completed. Elko County is currently awaiting a response from the first potential railport customer for the purchase of 45 acres.

### **WREP (Wells Retail Enhancement Program)**

Pax Kelly stated that the first phase of the Nxlevel training was complete. The second phase will include more individual training with Nxlevel coach Hank James.

### **Leads Update**

Executive Director Elaine Barkdull Spencer reviewed leads worked on from January 11, 2007 through February 12, 2007. Elaine Barkdull Spencer advised Board Members that detailed information is confidential and located at the ECEDA office for further review.

## **6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Business Retention and Expansion Program**

Executive Director Elaine Barkdull Spencer reviewed the results of the Business Retention and Expansion Survey with Board Members. Elaine Barkdull Spencer stated that of the 400 surveys mailed out 16 % were completed and returned. Survey results showed a majority of respondents were interested in acquiring more information on marketing their business, workforce issues, and financing. Executive Director Elaine Barkdull Spencer announced the BR&E team would hold a Business-to-Business Expo on Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at Great Basin College from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Expo will allow business people to talk with business support vendors and attend sessions pertaining to their specific business needs. More information will be provided at the next scheduled board meeting.

### **Elko County Economic Issues Committee**

Chairman Greg Brorby reported the EEI meeting held on February 2<sup>nd</sup> was well attended. Committee members listened to a panel discussion on water issues in Elko County. The next EEI meeting will be held on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> and will include a panel discussion pertaining to infrastructure.

## **8. MEMBER REPORTS**

Each Board Member gave a brief report on the activities of their cities.

City of Wells – Pax Kelly gave a brief report

City of Elko –no representative was available to give a report.

City of Carlin – Cliff Eklund gave a brief report.

Elko County – Sheri Eklund Brown gave a brief report.

Each board member gave a brief presentation on their business activities.

The next board meeting will be held in Elko on Friday, March 16, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. at Great Basin College's Berg Hall Conference Room.

## **MEETING ADJOURNED**

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Abeyta

Office Manager