

ELKO COUNTY ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**March 21, 2008**  
**Great Basin College, 1500 College Avenue**  
**Social Room**

**PRESENT:**

Elaine Barkdull Spencer  
Diana Duncan Elwess  
Norlene Wilson

Chris Melville  
Greg Brorby

**BOARD**

Dan Hoover  
Mike Bangen  
Phyllis Peterson  
Mike Franzoia  
Mary Korpi  
John Rice  
Charlie Myers  
Angela Hansen  
Cal Stark

**GUESTS**

Ken Krater  
Bob Shriver  
Kraig Knudsen  
Marianne Kobak  
Keyth Durham  
Ferrel Hansen  
Mark Robbins

**REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT:** City of Carlin Cliff Eklund, Barrick Be-Be Adams, Elko Daily Free Press Rhonda Zuraff, Great Basin Bank Shirley Alen, Gold Dust West Mike Hachquet, Red Lion Inn & Casino's David Zornes, NNRH David Hansen

**A. CALL TO ORDER:** ECEDA Chairman, Greg Brorby opened the meeting

**B. ROLL CALL:** Each Board Member introduced themselves.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

**Rural Nevada Development Council** presented information to the board regarding products that are available to qualified applicants. Specializing in low to very low income households and helping people who are unable to get traditional financing.

**Ruby Vista Ranch** representatives presented information about the project that they are developing in Spring Creek on the "Big W" Ranch. It will be a master planned community with mixed land use. The development will offer schools, apartments, condos, custom homes, parks, and retail properties. Their desire and design is to preserve the open spaces. Elaine commented that the project met the established points of a quality of life community. This is an asset to the Elko/Spring Creek area and a project to be proud of.

**D. CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Executive Director Elaine Barkdull Spencer provided newspaper articles from the Elko Daily Free Press relating to ECEDA, also photos from the Boise Tradeshow booth. Elaine also introduce the new Operations Coordinator- Diana Duncan- Elwess, she has taken over for Lisa Hofheines who has currently moved on.

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**E. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 15, 2008 MEETING MINUTES:**

**Action Item:** Charlie Myers motioned approval of the minutes, Angela Hansen second the motion. The attending Board Members approved the minutes with Mary Korpi abstaining.

**F. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS FOR FEBRUARY 2008.** Elaine Barkdull Spencer reviewed the February expenditures and budget figures with the board. Mary Korpi questioned the large expenditure to Northern Nevada Business Weekly. Elaine explained that it was a prepayment for future ads

**Action Item:** Mary Korpi motioned the approval of the warrants, Charlie Myers second the motion. The attending Board Members approved the warrants unanimously.

**G. UPDATES**

- 1) **WELLS EARTHQUAKE ASSISTANCE:** Elaine brought up waiving the fee for next year's dues. It will be voted on at the next meeting and placed on the agenda as an action item. She also stated that since the Earthquake Wells may meet criteria for an Enterprise Zone and that there may be federal money available, she will look into the availability. Charlie Myers requested that ECEDA recognize Jolene Supp for her outstanding work in Wells during and after the Earthquake. The County will be recognizing her also.
- 2) **WEST WENDOVER REQUEST FOR ECEDA ACTION:** Chris Melville requested help with the Ruby Pipeline. Elaine had gathered information and offered her assistance to West Wendover. Mayor Franzoia passed on pertinent information to Chris that he did not have and no action was taken by the board. The Ruby Pipeline was proposed 7 years ago and will be completed in the next 3 years.
- 3) **NEW MEMBER:** Sierra Home and Office Solutions membership  
**Action Item:** Cal Stark motion to accept the membership, Second by Charlie Myers. The attending Board Member approved the membership unanimously.

**H. UPDATES**

- 1) **NNRR PROJECT:** The Railport is being marketed to reputable developers for purchase. Moving forward with raising the flood plain and changing the flow of the creek. The Department of Wildlife has given their okay, still waiting for State of Nevada Engineering and Environmental Protection to give their ok. Pacific Steel has been doing dirt work.
- 2) **RENO AIR SERVICE UPDATE:** Mayor Franzoia reported that they are looking into Merced to Reno to Elko service. No eta at this time.
- 3) **LEADS:** Elaine has been working with an electric cable manufacturing company for a site in Wells, they were not worried about the earthquake and still look forward to coming. Thai food restaurant has shown interest in Elko. Ablah Construction is expanding. Lowe's moving forward along with the shopping center it will anchor. Mining support business is coming, and the downtown expansion of 12<sup>th</sup> Street. At this time not much interest from out of state site selectors.

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**I. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- 1) BUSINESS RETENTION AND EXPANSION PROGRAM/WORKFORCE COMMITTEE:** Elaine reported that the Roundtable on March 7<sup>th</sup> was a huge success, 100 people attended. A lot of great information was passed around and people went away knowing more about what other business had to offer and what problems they faced and how to handle them. The next Roundtable will be held on April 11, 2008, 7:30 a.m. at Gold Dust West. The focus will be on training of workforce.
- 2) THE NEW ECONOMIC GOLD RUSH MARKETING CAMPAIGN:** Elaine reported that year to date \$80,000 has been spent, \$25,000 is still outstanding and approx. \$22,000 that has not been scheduled yet. The Marketing Committee will be asked to meet and discuss where to spend the rest of the money. Elaine asked that everyone take a look at the Web site and make comments. Also the Gold Rush Campaign will be entered into a competition to be judged in October by the IEDC. Our campaign will fall under the Promotional Awards- Paid Advertising Campaign category.

**J. BOARD MEMBER REPORT**

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

**Stewart Title:** Angela Hansen reported that things are going great and are looking forward to the changes that are coming to our community. There will be a blood drive for Dave Huckabee put on by Stewart Title and Board of Realtors on Sunday April 13, 2008.

**Elko County:** Charlie Myers asked for feedback from ECEDA on the 5 items on the Road Advisory Board. This board has been put into effect to help reduce staff costs, budget items and it combines other boards to make just 1 comprehensive board. Charlie has been working with Department of Wildlife with Question 1 Grant for a 45 to 54 acre park, fishery, and a lake for youth and handicap access. It will be relatively close to the city limits and will be a competitive advantage.

**City of Wells:** Cal Stark announced that there is a community fund raiser for Wells on April 5, 2008. Please come support the community in rebuilding.

**First American Title:** Phyllis Peterson commented that things are busy.

**Frontier:** Reported that they will be upgrading the fiber optic cable. They have 2 million to send by September in Elko County.

**Sierra Pacific Power:** Greg Brorby reported that growth is continuous in Northeastern Nevada. Sierra Pacific Power will be donating \$1000 to Wells Earthquake Relief. They have challenged other business to do the same.

**Newmont Gold:** Mary Korpi reported that the Environmental Statement on the Immigrant Project will be released soon. The TS Power Plant should be fully running in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. The Cat Logistics warehouse will have its grand opening in conjunction with the Mine Expo.

**South West Gas:** Mark Robbins is pleased to meet the board and to be working in Elko County. The Board welcomes Mark to the community.

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**West Wendover:** Chris Melville reported that the Industrial Park infrastructure is in place. They will be seeing casino expansion of 420 rooms and 60,000 sq ft. floor space. Also Peppermill has expansion plans in 2010 for 1200 room. They have received Question 1 Grant for the Lucky 7 Trail, City Hall has a rebid project of 7 or 8 million dollars, moving forward on a Recreation District.

**Great Basin College:** John Rice attended for Paul Killpatrick. He reported that enrollment is up and that they are retaining students through continuing education classes. They have expansion in Winnemucca and Pahrump. The EIT building is on schedule, opening at the end of June. He noted that they are having a budget challenge and that many teachers have delayed their merit increases and the college has established a hiring freeze. No layoffs have occurred, and the students are not losing out on education.

**Elko Daily Free Press:** Marianne Kobak reported that they were busy with stories at the Free Press. They had finished the Spring Mining Quarterly and were getting ready for the Mining Expo which they are sponsoring.

**K. SCHEULE NEXT MEETING:**

ECEDA'S regular Board of Directors will be held on April 18, 2008, 9:00 a.m. Great Basin College Berg Hall

**L. ADJOURN**

**Respectfully submitted:**

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**Diana Duncan Elwess**  
**Operations Coordinator**