



NRGRDA – Board Meeting

December 15, 2023 – In person

Chairman Greg Rogers called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm. The following were present:

- Board Members – Greg Rogers, Elizabeth Dix, Larry Meador, Bill Baker, Craig Chapman, Rob Rappold, Heather Johnson, Kris Antoline, Tom Louisos, Ted Kula,
- Staff members – Jina Belcher, Judy Moore, Crystal Silver, Beth Epperson, Andy Davis

REPORTS:

~ October 16, 2023, Board Meeting minutes and Special Meeting minutes November 27, 2023, were presented to the board – motion to approve was made by Larry Meador; seconded by Bill Baker and Rob Rappold; motion carried with none opposed.

~ NRGRDA acceptance of financials for October and November 2023 – After discussion and updates, a Motion to approve the financials was made by Larry Meador; seconded by Tom Louisos & Bill Baker; motion carried with none opposed.

~ Treasurers report was given by Jina Belcher since Greg Duckworth was out. She will email the Cash Balance to the board.

The NRGRDA report:

- Raleigh Co Memorial Airport is almost completed for the 98-acre site development project. AEP purchased 7 acres.
- Bradley Square/Appalachian Heights – the application for water extension for the Appalachian Heights project was submitted to the WV IJDC on 12/13/23 for review. Because funding is secured, sewer infrastructure development will begin soon.
- The State of WV Office of Economic Development recently launched its YesWV program to identify new potential industrial sites across WV. NRGRDA will be working with each county commission to determine two sites in each county to submit by the end of January.
- We have a few new prospects; Lyten-Raleigh, Data Center – Raleigh, Custard Stand Chili – Nicholas and Treplar – Raliegh or Fayette
- Klochner Pentaplast bond officially closed on Dec 5, 2023. Construction is underway and they are actively hiring for 75 jobs.
- On December 4, 2023, Appalachian Stave opened is Calvin, WV facility in Nicholas County.

The Hive/CRAN Report:

- October 12th Pitch Southern West Virginia Idea Competition.
- October 21st Bride Day displays. NRGRDA/WV Hive had a display and were joined by five HIVE Clients who were provided the opportunity to display and sell their products.

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- December 11th -12th We had co-starters boot camp. Which is a two-day learning opportunity providing entrepreneurs concrete tools to bring their business to life
- December 15th – Annual Open House and Awards Ceremony at Black Knight Country Club
- ARC Fruits of Labor/Communities of Healing grant closes 12/30/23. All deliverables surpassed and on target for closeout.
- USDA RBDG – 111 Main Street Project closes 9/30/26. Funding award to WV Hive - \$99k plus match in-kind/funds from the City of Beckley and the NRGRDA for \$342,000. Work in progress
- A funding proposal has been submitted to the Truist Foundation for \$100,000. If awarded, the funds will support the development of a mission-oriented loan fund to support minority and BIPOC small businesses.
- A textile Lab/Pattern building has been purchased (412 City Avenue, Beckley) and preparation for remodeling is in process.

Action Items:

- NRGRDA presented the 2024 Holiday Schedule. After discussion, a motion was made to approve by Larry Meador; seconded by Greg Rogers; with none opposed, motion carried.
- NRGRDA 2024 Board Schedule was presented. After discussion and one change, a motion was made to accept by Ted Kula; seconded by Bill Baker; with none opposed, motion carried.

~ After the NRGRDA, Hive/CRAN report and action items were completed, a Motion to enter executive session was made by Greg Rogers at 5:02pm; seconded by Ted Kula and Craig Chapman; motion carried with none opposed.

~ Once discussion was completed, a Motion to exit executive session was made by Craig Chapman; seconded by Bill Baker; motion carried with none opposed.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- The next board meeting is scheduled for February 12th, 2024 @ 4pm.

With a motion made by Bill Baker and a second by Rob Rappold, the meeting adjourned at 5:23p.m.