



## **NRGRDA – Board Meeting**

### **June 10, 2024, Black Knight Country Club**

Chairman Greg Rogers called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm. The following were present:

- Board Members – Greg Rogers, Tom Cochran, Larry Meador, Bill Baker, Robert Shafer, Craig Chapman, Rob Rappold, Heather Johnson, Heather Ouimette, Allison Taylor, Ted Kula
- Staff members – Jina Belcher, Judy Moore, Crystal Silver

### **REPORTS:**

~ April 15, 2024, Board Meeting minutes were presented to the board – motion to approve was made by Larry Meador; seconded by Tom Cochran; motion carried with none opposed.

~ NRGRDA acceptance of financials for April 2024 and May 2024 – After discussion and updates related to both NRGRDA and Hive, a Motion to approve the financials was made by Rob Shafer; seconded by Bill Baker; motion carried with none opposed.

### **The Hive/NRGRDA Report:**

- Fundraising strategy and NRG working Group funding updates: progressing with a feasible study by Convergent Nonprofit to create a fundraising strategy, aiming for an initial goal of 750,000. Also secured \$750,000 in SBA funds for TA to aid projects.
- The update on the Appalachian Heights Project reveals the ongoing efforts to address the water supply issue at the Pipe Laydown Yard on Rte. 19. There are legal challenges from Beckley Water Company, the involvement of the Raleigh County Commission, and the potential annexation of Mount Hope into Raleigh County to resolve the problem.
- Updates on special projects, such as the Tech Launch Lab and the Hive Replication Project are provided, along with progress on the textile lab and the retail and food incubation hubs.
- There is a need for customer service training in the tourism industry and the need for consistent hospitality training.
- Discussed the protentional funding opportunities for hosting training programs and collaborating with other businesses and organizations, including applying for grants and reaching out to state programs.
- WVU Tech withdrew the additional funding support for a program, prompting a reevaluation of collegiate entrepreneurship plans.

### **Discussion and/or Decision Items:**

- Recognizing that the Finance Committee approved the budget presented for FY 2025 a motion was made by Bill Baker to approve the FY25 Budget as presented; seconded by Larry Meador; motion carried with none opposed.



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- The NRGRDA By-Laws Next steps was not ready to be voted on at this time. Making another amendment
- The Beckley Landfill- Shooting Range was discussed. Mayor Rappold expressing his preference to exclude the shooting range from the deed back to the city of Beckley. Also discussed the need for clarity on liability coverage and the potential subdivision of the property to separate the shooting range. A motion to approve the subdivide shooting range property and deed back to the City of Beckley was made by Heather Johnson; seconded by Allison Taylor; motion carried with Mayor Rappold abstained.
- There was a discussion of the Arrow/We-R-Farmers Property Development in Fayette County. Allison stressed the importance of conducting a feasibility study and securing funding for the project. A motion was made by Bill Baker to commit the 50k in TA to support master planning; seconded by Larry Meador; motion carried with none opposed.
- There was a discussion on Property Release Agreement. Needing a concrete plan before approaching the board for permission to conduct a study. There was also talk about seeking easement and right of way, and the potential for a release agreement with the Boy Scouts for property access. There was also a discussion about a release agreement related to a property lawsuit involving Rich Johnson and the Fayette County Urban Renewal Authority. Allison and others agreed to the need for a clear release document and the subdivision of properties. A motion as made to work with the Attorney and Fayette County Commission to update the release and transfer for the Wolf Creek Park Lawsuit Settlement and allow Jina to execute one completed by Bill Baker; seconded by Allison Taylor: motion carried with none opposed.

➤ **OLD AND NEW BUSINESS: None**

The next board meeting is scheduled for August 19th, 2024 @ 4pm in Nicholas County.

With a motion and second, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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Greg Rogers, Chairman