

**Southern Nevada Enterprise Community Board
City of Las Vegas City Hall, 495 S. Main St.
Council Chambers
City of Las Vegas Internet Address: www.lasvegasnevada.gov**

MINUTES

November 6, 2023

3:30 PM

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR McCURDY called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR McCURDY and MEMBERS NEAL (seated as Chair after Item 6), CREAR, MONROE-MORENO, STEELE (seated as Vice Chair after Item 6), SCOTT (via teleconference), McNEAL and GARCIA ANDERSON

NOTE: ASHA JONES, Chief of Staff, was present as the Nevada Congressional Delegation Designee for MEMBER HORSFORD

ALSO PRESENT: EMILY KU, Management Analyst II for the City of Las Vegas, VANESSA CHAVEZ-HOLMAN and BRIAN CARROLL, Deputy City Clerks for the City of Las Vegas

2. Announcement Regarding: Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations in accordance with the noticing standards as outlined in NRS 241.020: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; the City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov; and the Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov.

3. Public Comment: Comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters on the agenda for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited

Minutes:

None.

4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of July 17, 2023

Motion made by Daniele Monroe-Moreno to Approve

Passed For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

For-Dina Neal, Cedric Crear, William McCurdy II, Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Nic Steele, Dontae Scott, Janice McNeal, Ruth Garcia Anderson, Nevada Congressional Delegation Designee;

5. Report by Emily Ku, Management Analyst II for the City of Las Vegas, regarding the Summary Budget Status Report for the Southern Nevada Community Project Fund

Minutes:

EMILY KU, Management Analyst II, stated the account total is \$6,990. There were no questions or comments from the Members.

6. Discussion for possible action regarding the election of Chair and Vice Chair

Minutes:

CHAIR McCURDY noted he has other commitments that have come forward and can no longer serve as Chair. MEMBER NEAL nominated herself for the position of Chair, and MEMBER STEELE nominated himself for the position of Vice Chair.

Motion made by Cedric Crear to Approve the nomination of Member Dina Neal as Chair and Member Nic Steele as Vice Chair

Passed For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

For-Dina Neal, Cedric Crear, William McCurdy II, Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Nic Steele, Dontae Scott, Janice McNeal, Ruth Garcia Anderson, Nevada Congressional Delegation Designee;

7. Presentation by Miles Dickson, Chief Executive Officer and President, Nevada Grant Lab, regarding the Southern Nevada Regional Coalition's application to the U.S. Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Distressed Area Recompete Pilot Program for Phase 1 Recompete Plan Approval

Minutes:

MILES DICKSON, Chief Executive Officer and President for Nevada Grant Lab, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record and attached as backup, to explain that Nevada Grant Lab is a non-profit organization with a mission to support local governments, state agencies, and public bodies as they apply for and administer federal funding to Nevadans. This is accomplished through capacity building, grant services, building connections, and providing technical assistance. Over the last two years, they have completed roughly 75 workshops with topics such as building federal grant applications, budgets, evidence, and the technical submission process. MR. DICKSON shared that Nevada Grant Lab is funded primarily through private and local philanthropy, and he thanked local donors as well as the City of North Las Vegas and Clark County for their collaboration. The Recompete Pilot Program began in March 2023 when the Economic Development Administration (EDA) requested countrywide comments about the program's design. This program was designed to invest \$200 million in distressed communities to help close the prime-age employment gap. Nevada Grant Lab's role in this project was to locate Notice of Funding Opportunities and help the region select applications for funding. In addition, they assisted with data and research analysis, project management, and application support as they built their project requests and budgets. MR. DICKSON asked partners to provide comments to the EDA about challenges seen in the prime-age employment gap, and he commended Clark County for submitting comments. Throughout the summer, Nevada Grant Lab hosted regular meetings to help build the application that was submitted on October 5, 2023. The program is a two-phase competition with a wide-ranged eligibility criteria that is focused on place-based, ground-up economic development to create or connect people to jobs. The program is authorized to spend \$1 billion over the next five years and funds are only appropriated for this year due to the uncertainty of Congress reapproving the program. MR. DICKSON said it was tempting to apply for several different applications throughout the program, and their strategy focused on completing one application very well and to obtain the implementation funding. He stated this was due to implementation funding only being approved for one year. He said Las Vegas is classified by the EDA as one of the largest regions in both size and population that is persistently in distress. The application centered on connecting people to existing jobs rather than creating new jobs in order to provide real impact to the community. They looked into the most distressed communities in Southern Nevada and created a project focused on proactive outreach and supportive services for workers, skill-building and training programs, program leadership and management, and employee engagement. MR. DICKSON went on to highlight the high-level budget plan that estimated \$53 million for the overall project. He acknowledged the lead applicant IRENE BUSTAMANTE ADAMS, Deputy Director for Workforce Connections, and the 18 different organizations, which are named as sub-awardees, for their help building the application under strict time constraints. Additionally, he commended the EDA's work for diligently sharing the program and making it the most competitive grant in EDA history.

Addressing MEMBER GARCIA ANDERSON'S concerns as to the types of studies that will be done on each phase of the project, MR. DICKSON clarified that the application was not submitted to complete a study. He reviewed the three types of applications that included a grant to study only; however, Nevada Grant Lab encouraged the applicants to seek the implementation grant. He confirmed that there would be no additional studies or planning conducted as the grant would be supplemented by studies that already exist.

MEMBER STEELE thanked MR. DICKSON for the presentation and he praised his and Nevada Grant Lab's work. The Member noted there may be one award per state due to the amount of states that submitted an application, and he wondered how many other cities in the state of Nevada applied for this program. MR. DICKSON concurred with MEMBER STEELE and he shared that the EDA released a list of applicants and there were only three other applicants within Nevada.

8. Discussion for possible action regarding a letter of support for the Southern Nevada Regional Coalition's application to the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) Distressed Area Recompete Pilot Program for Phase 1 Recompete Plan Approval

Minutes:

See Item 7 for related discussion.

Motion made by Daniele Monroe-Moreno to Approve the submission of the Board's letter of support to EDA for the Recompete Grant

Passed For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

For-Dina Neal, Cedric Crear, William McCurdy II, Daniele Monroe-Moreno, Nic Steele, Dontae Scott, Janice McNeal, Ruth Garcia Anderson, Nevada Congressional Delegation Designee;

9. Presentation by Eric Garner, MPA, Interim Director of Small Business and Entrepreneurship Development, College of Southern Nevada, regarding the Nevada Grow Program and an application to the U.S. Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) Capital Readiness Program

Minutes:

College of Southern Nevada (CSN) representations ERIC GARNER, Interim Director of Small Business and Entrepreneurship Development, and CLARISSA COTA, North Las Vegas Campus Vice President, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record and attached a backup, to explain that the Nevada Grow program is a legislatively-funded incubator program run through CSN. MS. COTA shared that they are part of the Blackstone Launch Pad network, which consists of 55 institutions spanning across the country. Recently Nevada Grow was awarded a Minority Business Development Agency grant in collaboration with Access Community Capital, the Urban Chamber of Commerce and CSN. MR. GARNER advised that Nevada Grow is comprised of professionals from around the community, and 960 clients have joined since 2016. He shared that they were able to provide \$650,000 to small businesses through the SANDI NVenture Fund. \$125 million was received from the Treasury's State Small Business Credit Initiative and was used to create the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) and the Silver State Readiness Program (SSRP). He expected the public launch for SSRP to begin in January 2024 with over 9,000 small businesses enrolled, and he hoped for the return on investments to be roughly \$15 million. Lastly, MR. GARNER highlighted several supporters of the programs.

ACTING CHAIR McCURDY expressed excitement for the opportunity and thanked Nevada state Legislators for their hard work.

CHAIR NEAL asked if any outreach could be done prior to the estimated launch date. MR. GARNER said their website is developed, and they can send out brochures to make small businesses aware of the program. He opined that the best way to make the program successful is to have shared and collective support. MS. COTA added that the Members have been great partners, and she expressed gratitude for her platform. The Chair shared her plans to add an additional layer of education that would bring small businesses to the program. MR. GARNER stated he would bring up the topic at an upcoming meeting with Nevada Grow's partners and shareholders.

MEMBER STEELE clarified the application is a broad-intake process that assesses where small businesses are in their life cycle. He noted it puts early-stage businesses on a path with advisory services in incubator spaces while the more stable businesses are placed on the accelerated path. The prime purpose of the MBDA is to match businesses with programs and federal funds that will help them grow. CHAIR NEAL concurred and added that the opportunity for further dialogue will add another layer of collaboration and have a effect on the community. MEMBER STEELE agreed and encouraged the Members to utilize a program like this in order to reach communities across the state.

10. **Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items.** Comments made during this portion of the agenda by individual members shall refer solely to proposals for future agenda items and any discussion shall be limited to whether or not such proposed items are within the purview of the Board and/or whether such proposed items shall be placed on a future agenda. No discussion regarding the substance of any such proposed topic shall occur and no action shall be taken.

Minutes:
None.

11. **Citizens Participation:** Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Board. No subject may be acted upon by the Board unless that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion on any single subject, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.


Minutes:
KATHERINE DUNCAN, Harrison House, stated in addition to what is happening with the Economic Development Administration (EDA) there are over 20 federal agencies attempting to do business in disadvantaged communities. She encouraged the Board to work with the community in a more streamlined and engaged process. MS. DUNCAN noted the Harrison House was recently invited to work with Nevada Partners, and she asked every agency that would be receiving funding from the EDA to allocate a percentage of the budget to Nevada Partners. She believed the Members are paid to serve on the Board; however, there are several people without means who would like to attend these meetings. She opined that allocating funds for citizen participation would help engage the community in a much more meaningful way.

ACTING CHAIR McCURDY clarified that each Member of the Board serves as a volunteer. TASHIKA LAWSON, Historic Westside Revitalization Group, stated she was aware of funds that have been allocated while City of Las Vegas goes throughout the EDA application process. She noted there are more jobs than there are people, and she wanted to ensure that the funds received are used to link people to services. Additionally, MS. LAWSON shared that the City of North Las Vegas recently granted the Zion and Urban Overlay, which is an environmental training and research facility that is also an agricultural garden, and a cooperative grocery store is being pitched for the Historic Westside. She asked for guidance on how to provide connect more people to these Board meetings.

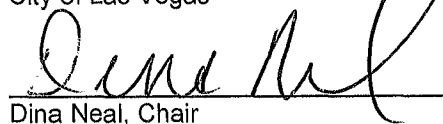
12. **Adjournment**

Minutes:
The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Vanessa Chavez-Holman, Deputy City Clerk
City of Las Vegas



Dina Neal, Chair

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN NRS 241.020:

The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov

The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov

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