



REGULAR MEETING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD (EDAB)

Held at the City of Moab Conference Center

217 E Center Street
Moab, Utah 84532

[Recording](#)

MINUTES December 13th, 2023 | 3:00pm

****Time stamps correspond to the video****

Members in Attendance: Forrest Rodgers, Shalee Bryant, Michael Black, Melisa Jeffers, Karen Guzman-Newton, Chris Wilson, Jazmine Duncan, Mary McGann, Ben Fredregill (Grand County Economic Development)

Members in Attendance Remotely: Justin Bergeman, Elissa Martin

Members not in Attendance: Emily Campbell, Kelly Thornton, Huseyin Deniz

Also Present: Joette Langianese (City of Moab), Dave Sakrison (citizen-at-large), Ben Alter (citizen-at-large), Colette Cox (Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity), Sky White (Grand County Economic Development), Bega Metzner (Moab to Monument Valley Film Commission)

Welcome

00:06:41

Introductions

00:07:16

Conflicts of interest, disclosures, ex parte communication

00:10:30 - None at this time

Citizens to -be- heard

00:10:35 - None at this time

Presentations, if any

00:10:40 - None at this time

Discussion and Action Items:

A. Opportunities and Process for City/County Collaboration -Joette Langianese, Mary McGann

00:10:40

Discussion included:

- EDAB would like to add an elected City official to the EDAB in the future.
- City of Moab will appoint a candidate to participate in the Strategic Planning Process. Ben will follow up with Joette on next meeting dates.
- EDAB's purpose: Advisory Board to the EDD on grant allocation and economic development, active participant in Strategic Planning process and Governor's Office of Economic Opportunitiy grant process.
- Desire to work more closely with the City of Moab to promote economic development strategy and grant opportunities within the Ciy boundaries.
- Strategic Planning Process for the City of Moab is scheduled for mid-January.
- The City of Moab plans to bring on a consultant to assist with the development of a Sustainability Plan for Downtown Businesses focused on supporting business development needs in conjunction with future downtown infrastructure construction and repairs. This role will likely come on board in July 2024. The City of Moab will want to control the process but will welcome the County's participation.
- EDAB would like to have access to the planning process so that it can better support the County, City and local businesses with future marketing strategy development. Businesses are contacting the County to assist with promoting Downtown.
- EDAB would like to assist the City with the future development of downtown through grant opportunities.
- Collaboration between the City and County would allow both to look further into the future when planning.
- Discussion on EDAB member roles and which should have voting power if the bylaws are reviewed. Bylaws will be reviewed in the first meeting in 2024.
- City will keep the status quo until the bylaws are rewritten.

City of Moab Updates - *Joette Langianese*

- Staffing is in a good place.
- The City Council has accomplished a lot in the last 2 years. There has been a lot of planning taking place and 2024 the City will begin implementing. Planning has included the development of a Sustainability Plan, Hazardous Mitigation Plan and Parks and Recreation Master Plan, etc.
- Property taxes will go up in 2024.
- The forthcoming Downtown Plan focused on Sustainability and Infrastructure Development that will start being developed in 2024 will be a great opportunity for EDAB to support City's economic development efforts.
- Access to the Chamber's Business Survey results would be beneficial to the City in its future planning process.

B. EDAB Evolving Role and Recent Investments - Forrest Rodgers & Sky White
{EDAB Investment slide included in agenda packet}

00:42:30

Discussion included:

- EDAB would like to find a way to share these figures with the community into the future.

C. 2024 Economic Development Advisory Board Interviews - Karen Guzman-Newton as Interviewer

{Board applications included in agenda packet}

00:45:30

Interviews proceeded with the below candidates:

David Sakrison - 00:47:00

Ben Alter - 01:06:40

Forrest Rodgers - 01:29:20

Ashley Korenblat - 01:37:30

Discussion included:

- Consideration of Private sector designation criteria and what mix of candidates associations would create the strongest Board.
- Thank yous and appreciations to the Board on behalf of Karen Guzman-Newton.
- Consideration of longevity and experience within the community.
- Consideration of the importance of including non-profit experience on the Board.
- Consideration of a mixed demographic on the Board.
- Consideration of continuing EDAB experience to add to the Board effectiveness.
- Consideration of outdoor recreation industry experience on the Board.
- Consideration of representation of the marginalized community on the Board.
- Discussion on the open roles of Workforce Services and USU representation and who might be good candidates to fill these open roles in 2024.
- Bylaw revision and review discussed including adding a non-profit representative role and the total number of members that would make the most effective Board as a whole.

Chris Wilson makes a motion to recommend the applications of Forrest Rodgers, Ashley Korenblat and Ben Alter to the Commission to serve on EDAB beginning 1/1/2024.
Melisa Jeffers seconds the motion.

Discussion included supporting Dave Sakrison in place of Ben Alter to serve on EDAB and include a recommendation for Ben Alter to serve in a non-profit representation capacity if the Bylaws are updated to include an additional seat for this representation.

Karen Guzman-Newton makes a motion to recommend to the County Commission Dave Sakrison, Ashley Korenblat, and Forrest Rodgers for the open EDAB positions, and also makes a recommendation to add a non-profit sector representative to the Board of which Ben Alter is recommended to hold.

Chris Wislon seconds.

No Discussion.

All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

Consideration of Future Agenda Items

None

At 02:35:30, Forrest adjourned the meeting.