



2020 Willow Run, Suite 100 | Enid, OK 73703  
P: 580 233 4232 | F: 580 242 5603 | TDD: 1 800 722 0353 or 711  
[www.growenid.com](http://www.growenid.com)

ERDA Board Meeting Minutes  
May 12, 2022

Attending: Sandra Robinett, Scott Northcutt, Kyle Williams, George Pankonin, Rob Stallings, Don Roberts, Jon Blankenship, Jerald Gilbert, Jason Turnbow, Dwight Hughes, Scott Athey

Absent: Matt Parrish, Brian Henson, Martie Oyler, Whitney Roberts

Staff: Lisa Powell, Debbie Moore, Trent Misak, Cara Evans

Public: Rex Bland, Derek Darr

Call to order: Sandra Robinett called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Quorum was noted to be present.

Minutes: Minutes from the board meeting held March 10, 2022 were presented for approval. Motion to approve as presented by George Pankonin with second by Dwight Hughes was unanimously approved.

Financial reports through March 31, 2022 were presented for approval by Scott Athey. All questions were answered and motion to approve financials as presented by Scott Northcutt with second by Rob Stallings was unanimously approved.

Stride Wealth Management Account: Lisa Powell and Scott Athey explained to get a better interest rate on the funds currently held as cash in a Stride Wealth Management account, and to avert the hefty \$1,000 annual fee that will be charged June 1, 2022, staff will move \$250,000 to a money market account at Stride and move \$250,000 to a new account for a 12-month CD at Bank of Kremlin. The remaining balance of approximately \$30,000 would be deposited in ERDA's operating account at Security National Bank. Signers on the new account at Bank of Kremlin will be the ERDA Executive Team of Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer as well as ERDA's Executive Director. No action is to be taken by the board.

Autry Partnership: Lisa Powell and Dwight Hughes announced a new ERDA/Autry partnership. Dwight Hughes reported he has realigned some of the staff positions at Autry, and together with ERDA, an agreement was formalized effective April 1, 2022, to embed Cara Evans at ERDA working full time, paid by Autry until June 30<sup>th</sup>. At that time, a new partnership agreement will be considered. Lisa Powell shared that Cara Evans has worked alongside ERDA since 2010 when she was one of the first Strate Center incubator tenants. Cara is a cofounder of Enid Women in Business and has served in various roles at Autry since beginning there 9 years ago. Cara has also worked with her dad, Tom Evans, at Encompass FSI. Cara is currently working on the Center for Workforce Excellence application. Dwight Hughes mentioned Cara has a unique skillset and this new partnership is a perfect marriage of Career Tech and



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Economic Development working together. Cara told the board she is happy to merge her talents over both ERDA and Autry.

**Budget Presentation:** Lisa Powell shared ERDA's budget presentation she provided for City Council. The presentation included ERDA's scope of work as outlined in the EEDA contract for services, FY 21-22 priorities, funding amounts and return on Investment figures, FY 22-23 priorities, etc. The board verbalized appreciation to Lisa for her efforts in economic development for the City of Enid and was especially pleased with the return-on-investment figures shown.

**Housing Study Proposal:** Lisa Powell shared the updated proposal from RDG includes the town hall meetings as the board requested. The new fee is \$40,500 and the study would be completed in 7-9 months. This study will bring to light our housing needs as well any programs available to help with redevelopment. Motion by George Pankonin and second by Rob Stallings to move forward with RDG performing the housing study at the newly proposed rate with the understanding it should be completed in 7 to 9 months. Motion was unanimously approved.

**Finance Committee:** Sandra Robinett, Chairwoman of the Board appointed the Finance Committee with the Board Treasurer serving as chair as per the Bylaws and 3 additional members are to be on this committee. Jerald Gilbert, Don Roberts, and Jon Blankenship were appointed and agreed to serve.

**Quarterly Meeting Changes:** Lisa Powell reminded the board they currently meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month and 4 times that meeting is a luncheon at Oakwood Country Club with members and other guests attending. Lisa has considered no longer having the July luncheon due to vacations and lower attendance at that time. We would still have the October luncheon as usual and change the January luncheon to be a Members Only enhanced meeting with possibly some roundtable discussions that would add value for our members. We would have the annual meeting in April as usual. By not having a luncheon in July, we can have a board meeting with the new board members at the beginning of the new fiscal year. Lisa asked for feedback from the board if they had any questions or concerns about these changes. No action to be taken by the board.

#### **Executive Director Report:**

Lisa Powell will attend the Cleanpower show in San Antonio, TX next week along with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. Lisa explained we are not trying to recruit new renewable energy but are keeping up with all the partners we have currently. Takkion is a company we are in negotiations with to bring a new company to Enid with 80 new jobs and they will be a part of the Cleanpower show.

**Marketing Video:** ERDA's new marketing video created by Neon Cloud was played. The board commented on how much they like the new video and mentioned various ways it could be used to showcase Enid. It was noted there will be smaller videos cut from the longer one as soon as the final edits are completed.





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**Board Retreat:** Sandra Robinett and Lisa Powell shared the board retreat will be held at a new venue and at a new time this year with a shorter agenda. The date continues to be August 11<sup>th</sup> and will be in the evening. More information will be sent to each board member and the City Clerk as soon as possible.

**Sales Tax:** Lisa Powell and Jon Blankenship shared that a sales tax increase being proposed to support the Garfield County jail is anticipated in June and could be on the August ballot. There are real issues associated with the funding needs for the jail and the overcrowding issues. Jon explained his concern is in the broader view because Enid already has a large sales tax at 9.1%. If the increase is approved by the people at the ballot box, the new sales tax rate would be 9.4%. Enid's sales tax would then be higher than Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Edmond, and Stillwater. It was noted the county received \$12.5 million dollars in ARPA funds.

**Public Discussion:** None

**Recess to convene into Executive Session:** Motion to recess to convene into executive session by Don Roberts with second by George Pankonin was unanimously approved.

**Reconvene:** Motion to reconvene into rescheduled regular session by Don Roberts with second by George Pankonin was unanimously approved.

**Action out of Executive Session:**

Motion by Don Roberts with second by Dwight Hughes to move \$20,000 to the equipment grant fund and award a \$20,000 equipment grant to Wako, LLC. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by George Pankonin with second by Rob Stallings to award an infrastructure grant to Jumbo Foods in the amount of \$25,000 was unanimously approved.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Kyle Williams with second by Scott Northcutt was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debbie Moore".

Debbie Moore, Staff

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sandra Robinett".

Sandra Robinett, Chairwoman