



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  
July 7, 2022  
Minutes

**Attendees:** Matt Parrish, George Pankonin, Rob Stallings, Jon Blankenship, Whitney Roberts, Martie Oyler, Sandra Robinett, Don Roberts, Scott Athey, Chris Jones, Kyle Williams, Todd Earl, Jerald Gilbert, Dwight Hughes

**Absent:** Dave Lamerton, Jenny Ahrens, David Lawrence

**Staff:** Lisa Powell, Debbie Moore, Trent Misak

**Public:** Derek Darr

**Call to Order:** Matt Parrish called the meeting to order and welcomed two new board members to this first meeting of the fiscal year.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting held June 9, 2022 were presented for approval. Motion to approve minutes as presented by George Pankonin with second by Sandra Robinett passed unanimously.

**Nominating Committee:** Sandra Robinett chaired the Nominating Committee and presented the following nominations for 2022-2023 slate of officers: Matt Parrish, Chairman; Kyle Williams, Vice Chair; Scott Athey, Secretary/Treasurer. There were no other nominations. Motion by Todd Earl to elect the slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee was seconded by George Pankonin and passed unanimously.

**Budget:** Lisa Powell presented a proposed budget for FY 2022-2023 with comparison figures from FY 2021-2022. Lisa pointed out a change in salary amounts and announced that Cara Evans is launching a consulting business effective July 1, 2022. This not only changes the salary line, but those dollars have been reallocated to the contract line item for hiring consultants. Cara will be contracted to continue her efforts with foreign trade zone designation, spec building work and other specific projects as needed. With our strategic focus on aviation and aerospace, we may also hire a consultant in the aviation industry to help us as the subject matter expert. Also, when the consultants are in Enid to make recommendations for Cimmaron Airpark, we have asked them to provide additional services (above what the grant covered) and make recommendations for Easterly Industrial Park. These funds may be tapped for their consulting services for Easterly Park. Motion to approve the FY 2022-2023 budget as presented by Sandra Robinett was seconded by George Pankonin and passed unanimously.

**Retail Attractions:** Lisa stated the contract with Rickey Hayes was previously \$55,000 per year. This year the contract before the board is for \$41,000 plus travel expenses. Lisa reminded the board that Rickey brings to us numerous existing professional relationships that benefit us greatly. Rickey attends conferences and meetings on our behalf and provides us access to valuable data. Motion by Martie Oyler to approve the proposed contract with Rickey Hayes was seconded by George Pankonin and passed unanimously.



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**Site Data:** Lisa explained we continue to track projects in our CRM. This helps us see what types of RFP's we are responding to. We can determine, from this report, that it takes the right land and/or a building to propose a suitable site and communities all over the state are vying for these projects. We need a cost-benefit analysis to determine what type of investment is needed at our sites such as extending water and sewer to Easterly Park. Easterly Park is a rail ready certified 400-acre park with no infrastructure. Tonya Crist is the consultant who is going to help us determine what makes the most sense and she will give us direction on possibly extending utilities and what the payback might be. The volume of potential projects has increased due to the pandemic as manufacturers are leaving heavily regulated and high taxed states. These business owners want to move and the Midwest is getting a lot of looks at these big projects. We used to look at buildings of 50,000 sq ft, but the sizes of property requested today is growing with each RFP. Jerald Gilbert said the city could look at doing the design work. We would then need to secure infrastructure funds and we are exploring funding sources. We have added infrastructure at our GCIA industrial park. There are 25 acres available at the corner plus another 20 acres that have been laid out as smaller parcels resulting in 7 sites at 4 acres each. Lisa also noted the electricity demand is through the roof on these projects. There is no action to be taken.

**Executive Director Report:** Lisa Powell updated the board on the following:

- July 12<sup>th</sup> attending the AOPA event for educators and guests. Enid public schools and Chisholm Public School have adopted the aviation program in their high schools. As a member of the Oklahoma Defense Industry Association, we are getting networked into the aviation industry here in the state as a step towards recruitment.
- August 11<sup>th</sup> will be the annual ERDA board retreat at 5pm at On the Sidewalk Café. City Council members will be invited to join us. Jennifer Springer, Site Selection and Business Expansion Director at the Oklahoma Department of Commerce will share with the board the state's wins, losses and look at trends in Oklahoma regarding Site Selection.
- October quarterly luncheon guest speaker will be Allison Garrett, the new Higher Ed Chancellor.
- July 19<sup>th</sup> NWOA guest speaker is Ken Corn, the new USDA Rural Development Director.
- July 19<sup>th</sup> Lisa will travel to Sioux Falls, SD to tour their facility and see their operations there. The facility in Enid will be 3 times the size as what they have in Sioux Falls.

**Public Discussion:** None.

**Recess to Convene into Executive Session:** Motion to recess and convene into Executive Session by Sandra Robinett was seconded by Dwight Hughes and passed unanimously.

**Reconvene into Special Session:** Motion to reconvene into Special Session by Don Roberts was seconded by George Pankonin and passed unanimously.

**Action from Executive Session:** Motion by Don Roberts to approve the equipment grant for PT in support of their planned purchase of an Inductotherm furnace. The reimbursement grant would pay 50% of the



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equipment cost up to a maximum award of \$20,000. The motion was seconded by Scott Athey and passed unanimously with the exception of Matt Parrish who abstained.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Martie Oyler was seconded by Don Roberts and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Debbie Moore, Staff

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Matt Parrish, Chair