



## REAL AZ Development Council

March 10, 2011 – 12:00pm (NATC – Taylor)

Present: Cindy Nicolds, Sharon Adams, Hank Rogers, Mike Cole, Eric Ritz, Eric Duthie, Mark Abrams, Nolan Larson, Paul Esparza, Steve North, Bill Greenwood, Paul Watson, Jim Ferguson, Travis Merrill, Jeff McCormick, Hunter Moore

### 1. Welcome / introductions:

Eric Duthie welcomed those in attendance and introductions were made.

### 2. Approval of minutes from February 10, 2011 meeting:

Sharon Adams made a correction to the minutes of February 10, 2011 stating that her name was not listed on those in attendance.

**A motion was made by Paul Watson, seconded by Travis Merrill to approve the minutes of February 10, 2011 Real AZ Development Council meeting as written with correction.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

### 3. RADC By-Laws review and adoption – Steve North

Steve said that everyone has had the chance to review bylaws and he has received no feedback.

#### **Concerns:**

#### **Cindy Nicolds:**

Indicated concern about the responsibility to present a Quarterly Newsletter;  
We need to further identify the benefits of Bronze level membership;  
Do we want “pop-up ads” on the website?

**Sharon Adams:**

Article 4, section 2: She supports what we are trying to do but is concerned about representation and the need to have other funding streams. The people who can participate are sitting at the table. She sees the need but is not sure if enough people who should be here, are here.

**Mike Cole:**

Article 4, Section 8: Questioned removal of the Public Sector Director position by RADC and if this is this something we want to do. Is it the chair or the person in the chair that would be removed? He feels the same standard should be used with the public and private sectors.

**Bill Greenwood:**

Article 8, Section 1: Feels conflict of interest should include all voting members not all private investors of RADC.

**Eric Ritz:**

He reminded the group that he has inquiries about participation, mainly concerning the use of the website for advertising. The membership process needs to be specifically identified to show how members at various levels can gain votes on the Board.

Group discussion included:

- The seats that are not now involved in communication and how eventually some may come on so leave this opportunity;
- The types of groups to be at the table;
- Should every city have a vote;
- Do larger groups get classified as platinum with three seats on the board or does everyone at the platinum level get a voting seat;
- Do we create levels and do we fill seats until we can achieve levels;
- The levels are to start whether voting member or not;
- The right is to be identified;
- When spending money we need to be a player, this is the reason for levels and being able to vote;
- We are a younger organization and people need to see the benefits;
- Size of voting board and voting board members;
- If we get larger groups to participate who will get the benefit regionally;
- Is the idea of some who could be players can't because of the funding;

**A motion was made by Paul Watson, seconded by Hank Rogers to accept the Real Arizona Development Council Bylaws as written with the option to amend at a later date**

**Following discussion Paul Watson withdrew his motion.**

After further discussion:

**A motion was made by Hank Rogers to accept the Real Arizona Development Council Bylaws as written with the option to amend at a later date**

**The motion failed due to the lack of a second**

Following more discussion:

**A motion was made by Jim Ferguson, seconded by Hank Rogers to accept the Real Arizona Development Council Bylaws as presented with the changes identified:**

**Add to the end of Article IV, Section 2:**

***“The total number of board seats can be adjusted by a simple majority vote of the full board of directors”***

**Change Article IV, Section 6 – second sentence:**

**Change from “written” notice of each Board Meeting to “Notice” of each Board Meeting**

**Article 4, Section 8:**

**Change first sentence from – A public sector director may not be removed by “RADC action” To “A public sector director may be removed by “a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total number of directors in office after such director was advised in writing of the charges against him or her and afforded the opportunity to be heard by the full board. The respective governing body will select a new director to replace the removed director.”**

**Article 6, Section 1 - second sentence**

**Change: The Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer of RADC shall be “elected” to the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer of RADC shall be “seated”**

**Article 8, Section 1:**

**First sentence, second line, change: “all private sector investors of RADC” to “all voting members of RADC”.**

**The motion passed unanimously**

**4. Arizona Commerce Authority grant review conference call – Steve North**

Steve reported the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) conference call is scheduled regarding our grant application which failed. They sent an email stating they would do conference calls on results of their decisions. Hank stated he has a time scheduled with them, Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. and he will be happy to ask any questions for RADC. Questions anyone has for ACA can be emailed to Hank.

**5. Update concerning Northeastern Arizona Sustainable Consortium (NASC); Complementary paths of NASC and RADC – Hank Rogers**

Hank reported the Consortium will be coming to see them in April and there is some opposition. Eric Duthie said a meeting was held two weeks ago with public visitors and there was a good exchange of comments.

**6. RADC marketing future – Eric Duthie  
Based on ACA grant application (Lori Martinek suggestions)**

Eric Duthie said we have a copy of suggestions on the next stages of what we need to do regarding the ACA Grant Application. A lot of time has been spent in the last few months on ancillary issues and we need to prepare action items. Paul Watson asked what we think we are going to generate in the budget. Currently we have some idea but from the communities what we will have in July? We could have a preliminary budget at the next meeting and further discuss how we want this applied. Bill said all of us are signed onto the Sustainable Communities grant, which provides \$5000 a year for three years to each community. The first payment should be received before the end of this fiscal year. Bill suggested the towns commit \$1000-2,000 to the Corridor. As part of the planning process, it may reveal areas we want to focus on. If everyone put a portion of this funding into the Corridor, we could move forward on the website. Hank recommended we get the tribal entities involved. Steve said if we went addressed steps two and four, as identified in the grant application, we would be making progress while waiting for the planning process to complete. Eric Duthie suggested we get projects two and four going.

**A motion was made by Steve North, seconded by Paul Watson to accept the concept of the ACA grant contingent on funding**

At the next meeting we will bring back the project, come up with a game plan and get a commitment on funding.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

## 7. RADC Coordinator update– Eric Ritz

Eric Ritz reported that there has been no site selection activity. He appreciates putting forth the bylaws and would like to follow up with a Resolution.

## 8. Community/Partner updates – All

Eric Duthie - Town of Taylor: Brian Cole (consultant for the Sustainable Communities grant) contacted Lori Martinek to discuss options for complementing the Corridor and the SC; He thanked Travis Merrill for his attendance today as a representative of National Bank of Arizona; Eric reported that the Corridor received an invitation to present the RADC to the White Mountain Business Owners Roundtable on March 16<sup>th</sup> at Torreon followed by panel discussion after. Eric invited all to attend and participate on the panel.

Travis Merrill – National Bank of Arizona: Travis said that from what he is hearing today he feels like we are on the right track and would like to participate in the process.

Hunter Moore - Navajo County: expressed his concerns with the State budget since it is involving counties and cities. Navajo County was identified in the Goldwater Piglet Book, which is put out each year. There was bad information that put us over budget, which is not true. Navajo County wants to set that record straight, as they are working hard on the budget and discussing economic development opportunities.

Jim Ferguson – Winslow: reported on the proposed potash mining operation being looked at Southeast of Holbrook. This could be a huge project for this area which could mean up to 1000 jobs and would benefit Navajo and Apache Counties. They are holding a getting acquainted program on March 14<sup>th</sup>; Winslow had a Southwest correction bid on State RFP for a new prison which would have 5,000 beds. They are a good, strong, privately owned company and are opening 5 new prisons around the country. They now have them in Louisiana and Texas. This could mean 200 to 225 jobs according to the Department of Corrections. There will be a decision to award in 60 days so nothing is definite until mid-summer. This is a 12 – 18 month process. It would be located adjacent to the State Prison in Winslow; The State Forest contacted Winslow about them handling timber torn up by tornados for a temporary chipping operation but could give an advantage for other forest restoration programs.

Steve North - Show Low: The State proposed competitive advantage package provides significant benefits, such as a 2% reduction in corporate income tax; The Enterprise Zone project would be replaced by a jobs program, tripling qualifying jobs from 3000 to 9000, paid at the average county wage; Tomorrow they will be moving into new city hall facility; This year they will be holding their annual Show Low Days celebration the first week in June; There will be an outdoor recreation show and this year they will more vendors; Things are



going well for CVS Pharmacy and they intend on opening in early summer; Inquiries are picking up on both industrial and retail.

Paul Esparza - Pinetop/Lakeside: reported that the Economic Development Consultant is working with local business owners in the Penrod area to strengthen businesses. Interviews were conducted and town staff helped with business needs. There are 75 vacant buildings. They are waiting for final strategies and will work with property and business owners. Also had inquires regard med marijuana facilities.

Nolan Larson - Larson Waste: reported that the fuel prices have him concerned. They are going to be negotiating with the City of Holbrook on options with a sanitation project to help with an issue that would benefit them both.

Paul Watson – Snowflake: said they do have a number of good things going on. A small manufacturing looking to relocate renewal energy petroleum in area they have met with. The potash issue will be huge. He feels things are starting to turn a little bit.

Cindy Nicolds - Apache County: reported that in St. John they have started construction on a new Subway Restaurant.

Hank Rogers - Apache County: said they are working on a business incubator to possibly mesh with the HUD grant. He will visit with representatives concerning the HUD grant and when we get approval, it will be posted in the papers. He said we need to make sure our elected officials know what this is.

Mark Abrams - Frontier Communications: said there are issues with business moving out. They are going to all business doing a blitz to make sure they are doing well and to find out if there is any way they can help cut their costs. They have partnered with the Navajo County Attorney with victims' rights.

Mike Cole - Arizona Public Service: said from their perspective anything they can do to help the community is positive which is why they are here.

9. **Next meeting:** The next RADC meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2011 at 12 noon at the Northern Arizona Training Center in Taylor.

10. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:15

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Kelly Jones  
Town Clerk  
Town of Taylor