



REGULAR MEETING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD (EDAB)

Held at the Grand Center Conference Room

182 N 500 W

Moab, Utah 84532

[Screen Recording](#) | [Room Recording](#)

MINUTES

March 29th, 2023 | 3:00pm

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

Members in Attendance August Granath, Mary McGann, Forrest Rodgers, Chris Wilson, Karen Guzman-Newton, Meghan McFall, Melisa Jeffers, Elissa Martin

Members in Attendance Remotely

Huseyin Deniz, Shalee Bryant, Jazmine Duncan, Kelly Thornton, Carly Castle, Elissa Martin

Members not in Attendance Emily Campbell

Also Present Ben Alter (Grand County Economic Development (GCED)), Rob Walker (Moab Community Childcare (MCC) Board Chair, former EDAB member), Jenny Gleason (Moab Area Travel Council Advisory Board (TCAB) Chair), Sarah Kyle (Powerhouse Events), Chris Baird (Grand County Strategic Development Director)

Welcome

00:01:10

Introductions

00:01:35

Conflicts of interest, disclosures, ex-parte communication

00:05:20 - None at this time

Citizens to -be- heard

00:09:10 - None at this time

Presentations, if any

August Granath, Economic Development Director

{Attached "Economic Development Advisory Board Regular Meeting"}

Economic Development Advisory Board Regular Meeting, August Granath

00:10:10

August reviewed the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity's Rural County Grant (RCG) program expectations and stipulations with board members, including items funded to date and remaining funding priorities. August discussed Chris Baird's suggestions that Grand County pay out The Grand Summit and AmeriCorps VISTA expenses from transient room tax (TRT) diversification funds and free up those committed funds for other purposes. August also briefly discussed deadlines for using TRT diversification funds due to the passage of HB416.

Discussion and Action Items:

A. Overview Of The Grand Summit 2023

{Attached "The Grand Summit 2023 - EDAB Overview"}

00:19:20

Ben introduced Sarah Kyle from Powerhouse Events, noting their support of the summit. Ben presented a slide deck that recapped The Grand Summit (held on March 1st, 2023) and included information on attendees, sponsorships, event programming, and feedback. Karen asked about the number of paying attendees and if speakers were counted in that number. Ben and Sarah responded that speakers' tickets were free and that the exact number of paying attendees would be calculated. They also discussed the ticket price breakdown. August discussed the possible creation of a Grand Summit Planning And Coordination Committee, explaining that this would help GCED's future planning efforts and that past summits had benefited from a steering committee. Forrest and August discussed an ideal timeline for advising GCED on future summits and Forrest invited August to present a committee proposal at a future meeting.

B. Discuss/Action On A Recommendation To The Grand County Commission To Award Moab Community Childcare (MCC) A \$75,000.00 Grant

{Attached "MCC's 2023 EDAB Grant Proposal," "3Q22 Impact Report," "4Q22 Impact Report"}

00:33:35

Forrest invited Rob to discuss his funding proposal. Rob reviewed EDAB's investigation of Moab's childcare ecosystem and its previous funding of MCC, discussing MCC's progress as outlined in the provided quarter report and grant proposal documents. Mary expressed her appreciation for Rob's economic analysis provided in the documents. Jazmine asked how long the proposed funds would sustain MCC's current operations if awarded, to which Rob estimated around 3 years and discussed MCC's active pursuit of additional funding sources. Karen asked Rob about employment guarantees and wages. Rob discussed the MCC structure which supports both MCC staff and other Moab-area providers. Karen asked for clarification on MCC's Rural Communities Opportunity Grant (RCOG) and Rob discussed their ongoing work with the Moab Free Health Clinic. Chris Wilson asked a clarifying question on the timeline and expectations regarding the expenditure of RCG funds which August answered. Chris Wilson, Kelly, Forrest, Mary, and Shalee expressed support for MCC's work. Karen made a motion to forward a recommendation to the Grand County Commission for a \$75,000.00 award to MCC. Shalee seconded the motion. Shalee asked for clarification about MCC's childcare waitlist. Rob discussed the age groups MCC directly serves as well as the age groups it supports through the support of other providers. Forrest called for a vote. **Passed unanimously.**

C. Review/Revision Of Rural County Grant FY23 Proposed Expenditures

{Attached "2023 Diversification and RCG Programs," "EDD VAD DRAFT"}

01:00:55

August reviewed the funds available for and prioritized items as part of the RCG and invited discussion. Chris asked for clarification on the spending process as proposed in the prioritized items. August discussed how funds could be made available should The Grand Summit and AmeriCorps VISTA costs be paid out of TRT diversification funds and alternatives.

D. Discuss The Post-HB416 Planning Process

{Attached “Economic Development Advisory Board Regular Meeting”}

01:08:10

Forrest introduced discussion on how, with economic diversification funding ceased by HB416, the EDAB will begin to work more with the TCAB to define economic development goals for Grand County in tandem with the future economic development strategic planning process. August reviewed guiding questions for the discussion. August and Forrest introduced an exercise; members were asked to take time to answer the questions, “What does economic development mean to you?” and “What does economic diversification mean to you?”. Members took about 10 minutes to answer these questions. Ben read out messages received in the Zoom chat in response to the posed questions. Members then took turns discussing their responses. August discussed how these responses would inform future RCG, RCOG, and TRT diversification spending as well as the strategic planning process.

E. Future Agenda Items & Upcoming Deadlines

01:55:20

F. Recap: Decisions Summary & Member Comments

01:55:20

Adjourn

01:56:30

Karen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chris Wilson seconded the motion. **Passed unanimously.**