

## Spaceport America Regional Spaceport District

January 23, 2009

Hatch, NM

The meeting was called to order at 10:00am by Chairman Walter C. Armijo. Officials and guests present included: Steve Landeene, Spaceport America, Aaron Prescott, Spaceport America, Mary Ann Myers, Spaceport America, Belinda Lucero, Spaceport America, Mayor Judd Nordyke, Village of Hatch, James Hayhoe, Rob Spence, Safron Canja, Jay Hopkins, Sierra County Sentinel, and Linda Thompson, WNMU

### **Members Present:**

Scott Krahling – **Director**, Dona Ana County

Leticia Duarte-Benavidez – **Director**, Dona Ana County

Walter C. Armijo – **Director**, Sierra County

Alvin J. Campbell – **Director**, Sierra County

Aaron Prescott advised that the Governor will be appointing two members from the state during the legislative session.

Motion: Director Scott Krahling moved to appoint Director Walter C. Armijo as Chairman of the Regional Spaceport District. Director Alvin J. Campbell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motion: Director Leticia Duarte-Benavidez moved to appoint Director Scott Krahling as Vice Chairman of the Regional Spaceport District. Director Alvin J. Campbell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motion: Director Alvin J. Campbell moved to approve the agenda. Director Scott Krahling seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motion: Director Alvin J. Campbell moved to adopt the Open Meetings Resolution. Leticia Duarte-Benavidez seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### Overview and Objectives of SARSD:

Aaron Prescott advised Governor Richardson approved the Certificate of Formation for the Spaceport America Regional Spaceport District (SARSD). He also stated the Agreement between Dona Ana County and Sierra County and the Bylaws have been developed and were presented to the New Mexico Spaceport Authority for approval. He advised that this entity will oversee and facilitate the use of the tax revenues generated by the initiatives passed in Dona Ana and Sierra Counties to support spaceport construction and spaceport related projects. He explained the SARSD will receive 75% of the gross receipts tax collected and the County will receive the 25% for education. The revenues will be delivered to the New Mexico Spaceport Authority who will negotiate the bonds in the appropriate amounts for funding of construction. Mr. Prescott advised of the powers of the SARSD are outlined in the Bylaws and in the Spaceport District Formation Agreement. Mr. Prescott explained that this entity does not have the power to issue bonds

solely, impose taxes, or exercise eminent domain authority, and it cannot cease existence while bonds are in effect. He continued stating the following the issuance of bonds the duties of this Board will be the monitoring of the revenue streams to assure they can cover the issued bonds and that updates are provided on the progress of Spaceport America's construction. Discussion followed on the role of the Board in reference to the bonds. Mr. Prescott advised that the legislation states that the Board will cooperate with NMSA on construction project decisions but will have no direct authority to decide on projects.

Review and Approval of Bylaws for Adoption:

Motion: Director Scott Krahlung moved to approve the adoption of the Bylaws as of January 23, 2009. Director Alvin J. Campbell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of Resolution for State Joinder:

Motion: Director Krahlung moved to approve the amendment to change the date to January 23, 2009 on the First Amendment to the Regional Spaceport District Formation Agreement (Resolution for State Joinder) Section 1. C. Director Campbell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motion: Director Campbell moved to approve the First Amendment to the Regional Spaceport District Formation Agreement (Resolution for State Joinder). Director Krahlung seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Jim Hayhoe requested that the public comments be at the beginning of the meeting to provide an opportunity to give input to the agenda items. Discussion followed on the availability of documentation from the meetings. Mr. Prescott advised that documentation will be maintained by the Board and NMSA. The reporting of the funds was discussed and Mary Ann Myers advised that a fund will be set up for the District and will have to follow state processes and procurement code. She also advised reports will be provided to the Board.

Steve Landeene expressed gratitude to Dona Ana and Sierra County for their support of the spaceport project. He commented on the industry opportunities that will be generated by this project. Mr. Landeene advised that students are in the process of developing payloads for an educational launch that is scheduled in April.

Members of the Board expressed congratulations to Steve Landeene and Aaron Prescott for their hard work and the progress that has been made.

Steve Landeene proposed that an update on the spaceport project be given at each meeting. He advised that Gerald Martin, the construction management team is moving forward and the construction RFP's will be let in the next few weeks through March. He advised that if all goes as planned, construction should begin in March or April.

Discussion followed on the Welcome Centers and the long-term vision for the fire station in T or C, which is a spaceport café that will provide a high quality experience.

Director Krahlung questioned the status of the southern access to the spaceport. Steve Landeene advised that it has been put on hold due to issues with the location of the Welcome Center, and the issue of funding. He advised that Gerald Martin will be researching all aspects including a rail experience to provide the best experience possible.

Next Meeting:

Motion: Director Campbell moved to schedule meetings on the last Friday of the month and the next meeting on February 27, 2009 at 10:00am at the Hatch Village Hall in Hatch, NM. Director Duarte-Benavidez seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motion: Director Campbell moved to adjourn. Director Krahlung seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approved:

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Walter C. Armijo, Chairman

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Date