

New Mexico Spaceport Authority

March 8, 2011

10:30 AM

NMSU Regents Room Educational Services Center
Las Cruces, NM 88001

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Holdridge at 10:30am.

Roll call was taken with six members present: quorum confirmed.

Guests and officials present included: Chris Anderson, Executive Director NMSA; Sandra Franco, NMSA; Belinda Lucero, NMSA; Chad Rabon, NMSA; Aaron Prescott, NMSA; Bill Gutman, NMSA; Lou Gomez, NMSA; David Wilson, Wilson-Binkley; Greg Neal, D. Kent Evans, Max Kiehne, James Webb, Gerry Falls, Kyle Falls, Wayne Savage, Michele Garcia, Jim Hayhoe, Donna Larsen, Todd Dickson, Pat Hynes, Bruce Lewis, John Roberts, George Whitesides, Scott Weaver, Julia Tizard, Jon Turnipseed, Marina Simpson, Will Pomerantz, Hike Holston, Rob Spence, Kathy Roxlau.

Members Present:

Rick Holdridge (Chairman)

David Buchholtz

Jerry Stagner

Ben Woods

Irv Diamond

Sid Gutierrez

Not Present

Scott Krahling

Introductions: Chairman Rick Holdridge

Approval of Agenda:

Motion: Director Gutierrez moved to approve the agenda. Director Stagner seconded the motion; motion unanimously approved; motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

October 5, 2010

December 7, 2010

January 5, 2011

February 28, 2011

Motion: Director Woods moved to approve the NMSA Board minutes for October 5, 2010, Director Stagner seconded the motion with change in language to reflect additional electrical costs with Sierra Electric. Motion unanimously approved; motion carried.

Motion: Director Woods moved to approve the NMSA Board minutes for December 7, 2010. Director Stagner seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved; motion carried.

Motion: Director Woods moved to approve the NMSA Board minutes for January 5, 2011. Director Stagner seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved; motion carried.

Motion: Director Woods moved to approve the NMSA Board minutes for February 28. Director Stagner seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved; motion carried.

Open Meeting Act Resolution (Action Item)

Counsel, Wade Jackson, presented the Board the revised Open Meeting Resolution, NMSA 1978 10-15-1 through 4. It states, except as may be otherwise provided in the Constitution or the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, all meetings of a quorum of members of any board, council, commission, administrative adjudicatory body or other policymaking body of any state or local public agency held for the purpose of formulating public policy, discussing public business or for the purpose of taking any action within the authority of or the delegated authority of such body, are declared to be public meetings open to the public at all times. Director Diamond moved to approve the Open Meeting Act Resolution. Director Gutierrez seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved; motion carried.

History of Spaceport-Discussion

Lou Gomez, Program Manager of NMSA gave a briefing to the Board on Spaceport America History and Background.

New Mexico Spaceport Authority Briefing

Chad Rabon gave the Economic Development Engine briefing. Discussed the four prong strategy for Economic Development.

1. Contractual Services
2. Economic Development
3. Tourism and Visitor Experience
4. Research and Development/Education

Contractual Services: RFP'S currently out are Protective Services, General Services, and Technical Services. A Bidder Registry was developed and is currently on the website. The registry facilitates those providing and seeking services, a way of connecting Contractors with Sub-contractors. 220 businesses are currently registered. Coming soon will be an employment registry, connecting jobs with job seekers at Spaceport America.

Economic Development Operational RFP pre-proposal conference and site walks were held in December 2010. Very positive outcome for prospective leads for job creation in Southern New Mexico. Current Stakeholders/Partners are Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance (MVEDA), Sierra County Economic Development Organization (SCEDO) and Lautman Economic Architecture. Estimated Projects valued at about \$50M in Southern New Mexico. Director Buchholtz asked where this number came from. Chad responded that these were estimates from the private sector investment leads.

Tourism and Visitor Experience: Aaron Prescott presented the results of a National Survey that was conducted, forecasting an estimated 562,000 annual visitors to the site. Additional demographics research to be conducted. Director Stagner asked for more information on tourism and the impacts to be brought up at the next meeting in more detail.

Research & Development/Education: NM Space Grant and NASA will host a Student Launch April 1, 2011. Over 800 students will be in attendance. NMSA is working on the creation of learning opportunities thru, co-ops, internships, apprenticeships and cap stone courses in area schools. Chairman Holdridge would like to see a detailed report on GRT's at the next meeting, explaining how the GRT funds are distributed among the counties.

Stakeholders and Critical Partnerships: Bill Gutman gave a briefing on the stakeholders and critical partnerships. NMSA has partnerships with the FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation, White Sands Missile Range, BLM, Local Land Owners, and Local and State Governments.

Construction Overview Chad Rabon provided a briefing of the current Status of Phase I Spaceport America Construction it is about 78% complete. Total Current Phase I Construction Costs are as follows: Current budget-\$113,795,736, actual cost/change orders-\$107,575,740 and contingency amount-\$6,219,996.

Adoption of Resolution to Approve Amendment 5 of the Agreement with Sierra Electric Co-op

New Mexico Spaceport Authority requested approval of a Fifth Amendment to the Electric Service Agreement (ESA) which was initiated with Sierra Electric on August 21, 2009. An amendment to the ESA is required to change the portion of the electric distribution line currently being constructed as an underground circuit to an overhead line. This will be constructed from the Frontier Substation to the Point of Transition at the Spaceport Authority's sole cost and expense. Approval will include Shoo-fly Construction and Transfer Storage and temporary relocation of a power line. Chairman Holdridge emphasized the importance of approval of this amendment. It is a critical path in completion of the project. Director Buchholtz asked if Counsel had reviewed and approved document being presented to the Board. Director Buchholtz asked for Counsel's recommendation. Counsel, Wade Jackson recommended this approval was necessary to move forward.

Director Stagner moved to approve the Adoption of Resolution Amendment 5 of the Agreement with Sierra Electric Co-op. Director Buchholtz seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved; motion carried.

Virgin Galactic President George Whitesides comments:

George Whitesides said he was pleased to report to the Board that Virgin Galactic is a very strong partner in Spaceport America. Virgin Galactic has invested 400 million to develop spaceflight vehicles. He realizes the strong partnership necessary with the partners and members of the community. He is looking forward to sharing important future milestones with Spaceport America. He is very encouraged by NMSA Staff and very appreciative of everyone with the project. He will consider WhiteKnight II request at the Holloman Air Force Base Open House October 8, 2011

Approval to Direct NMSA Staff to proceed with RFP process to acquire Auditor-Action Item

Approval by NMSA Board to direct NMSA Staff to begin the process of acquiring an Auditor to conduct an extensive audit of the current NMSA financial status. Director Diamond stated it was good business practice. Director Diamond will head a sub-committee, offer his expertise in the matter. Director Woods moved to approve to allow NMSA Staff to proceed with the RFP process acquiring an Auditor to audit NMSA Financials. Director Diamond will assist in the process. Director Stagner seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved; motion carried.

Public Comment-Dr. Pat Hynes invited all to come out to the New Mexico Space Grant's Student Launch Program on April 1, 2011. Over 800 students and teachers will participate. They will watch as a total of 22 experiments go into space. The experiments have been designed and built by middle school-college aged students.

Wayne Savage, Chair of the Doña Ana Commercial Space Committee , invited the Board to the Hispano Chamber of Commerce event March 18. About two dozen Mexican investors will meet with local business owners and industry experts. Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce will host Luncheon April 21, 2011.

Next Meeting- April 27, 2011-T or C

Action Items for next meeting:

Audit Process

Business Plan

Tourism Briefing

Budget

Safety-Liability Coverage

GRT Distribution for Education

Executive Session to Discuss Personnel matters (per NMSA10-15-1(H)(2))

The Chair state that he would entertain the motion to enter into executive session pursuant to 10-15-(H)(2) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussion of personnel matters:

Motion: Director Gutierrez Second: Director Stagner

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Holdridge	yes
Director Buchholtz	yes
Director Stagner	yes
Director Diamond	yes
Director Woods	yes
Director Gutierrez	yes

Back in Open Session: The Chair stated no action was taken and the matters discussed in the closed session were limited to those specified in the motion for closure.

Motion: Director Gutierrez Second: Director Stagner

Adjourn

Director Diamond moved to adjourn the meeting. Director Stagner seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Approved: 
Rick Holdridge, Chairman

Date: 5/3/11