

**18 Nov 2008 Monte Vista
Upper Rio Grande Economic Development Council
Regular Meeting Minute
Monte Villa Inn**

The meeting was called to order by President Don Van Wormer. There were no changes to the agenda.

On motion by Jim Claire and second by Jon Boyd, the previous meeting minutes were approved.

On motion by Barbara Musick and second by Bonnie Asplin, the Treasurer's Report was approved.

The first order of business was that Suzanne Benton had resigned in order to even-out the odd year elections, and she will run for re-election in December. A nominating committee of Barbara Musick and Jon Boyd will seek nominees for the other two open positions on the board.

Barbara Musick has the new Community Profile booklets. In addition to new photographs and organization, the Profile has been changed to be more time sensitive and can be reprinted without additional changes.

The changes to the By-Laws were then reviewed. Article II changes were approved. Article IV changes were approved. Article V changes were approved. Article VI changes were approved. After discussion it was decided the By-Laws with all changes were okay.

Discussion of the number of Board Members, which is being reduced to seven for the purpose of reaching quorum at Directors meetings, brought attention to the fact that the President is not a voting position unless there is a tie.

Mike Wisdom updated the group on the Targeted Industry Study and requested that the URGEDC in concert with the RGC Commissioners host three public meetings to present the findings. He requested that the meetings be held from 4:30 to 6:30 pm on three different nights, with one meeting in Monte Vista to be organized by Don Van Wormer and Jim Claire, one meeting in Del Norte to be organized by Marty Asplin and TJ Brown, and a meeting in South Fork to be organized by Jon Boyd and Barbara Musick.

Don then introduced guests who TJ Brown invited to the meeting. They were Josh Lillian and Tiffany Hicks.

The meeting was then handed over to Tom Pescatore, who did a power point presentation entitled "Chances and Challenges: Post Peak Reality for the San Luis Valley." He discussed oil production and its diminishing capacity. As oil gets more difficult to produce, the cost gets higher and the return goes down.

He then discussed hyper-grading, which is approaching because the easy harvesting of minerals is gone. This creates more and more drastic fluctuations in the price-to-demand ratio. We will have to adjust to a world of less and not more.

Energy is needed for everything that drives our world: food, employment, tourism, property development, etc.

It is time that the San Luis Valley start pursuing its own opportunities, such as rail road, biomass, geothermal, solar, wind, mining, and hot springs produce. He suggested consideration of a regional association to help guide the Valley to a post-carbon economy. Don thanked Tom for his helping us to focus on the difficulties that lie ahead.

Next month's meeting is in South Fork.

Suzanne reminded everyone of a meeting with Tom Malicheck at the Amphitheater site on Tuesday at 1:30 pm.

Jon Boyd stated that the Beaver Creek Christian Youth Camp is working on building a 24/7 facility at the camp that can be used for meetings. He requested a letter of support from URGEDC; everyone voted, yes.

Don Van Wormer mentioned that the city of Monte Vista is updating its Master Plan and is holding a meeting that evening at 6:00 pm at Town Hall.

Submitted,
Marty Asplin, secretary