

**MINUTES OF
THE EDWARDS COMMUNITY ALLIANCE
MEETING**

FEBRUARY 9, 2009

President Deaver opened the meeting at 8:00 AM. Directors in attendance: Deaver, Edmiston, Jamison, Painter, Welling. Others present: Johnstone, Losoncy, Uhazy, Williams, Witt.

ECA PROJECT STATUS

Land Use Compatibility: If the decision is made to put solar projects at the High Desert University site they may interfere with flight operations at Mojave Air and Space Port. Johnstone related that while he was working at Edwards they flew directly at the solar plant at Kramer Junction to determine if there was a problem with flight operations. Flights were flown at various altitudes and look angles to the solar plant. No problems were detected unless the aircraft was flown in a direct line-of-sight, looking directly into the solar arrays.

Education:

Dialogue II Planning meeting-The Board of Trade Dialogue II Planning Committee has decided on the new National Test Pilot School hangar at Mojave Airport as the site for the Dialogue. Should the hangar continue to have construction problems the Mojave High School gym is being considered as a back-up.

High Desert University Foundation-The Foundation has voted to increase the number of Directors by adding one additional Director from each county. On a request from Johnstone, the ECA members in attendance recommended Les Uhazy as a representative from Kern County. Les accepted the nomination and recommended Mike Dutton from the SOAR program for consideration for an LA County representative. Mr. Dutton will be retiring soon and is highly committed to education.

Johnstone mentioned that the Foundation received a request from the Palmdale Chamber to attend a fund raising meeting to discuss raising funds for the university. The decision was made to support the Foundation by raising funds from their charity golf event.

FINANCIAL REPORT

James Welling provided a financial report showing a balance in the checking account as of February 7, 2009 of \$33, 778.79. See attached. This report reflects receipt of \$31, 500 from Kern County for this fiscal year.

OPEN DISCUSSION

4-H Science Symposium-The Rosamond and Antelope Valley 4-H councils are hosting a 4-H Science Symposium on April 18th, 2009. Dr. Les Uhazy, Dean of Math and Science at Antelope Valley College volunteered to represent ECA at this event. He has been involved with planning for the event.

CSU Board of Trustees Approves Cal Poly Technology Park: The California State University Board of Trustees approved Cal Poly's request to design and build the proposed Technology Park Project Building. The project will be a 25,000 square foot, two story building. The building will be leased to private high-tech firms seeking to locate their businesses on Cal Poly's campus, enabling them to work closely with the university's renowned faculty and students. The goal of the public-private partnerships is to spur innovative technologies, facilitate research grants, create new jobs, provide internships for students, and deliver quality experiences that fit well with Cal Poly's learn-by-doing philosophy. By Mike Multari

Stanford Announces \$100 million Energy Institute: Stanford University today announced the creation of a \$100 million energy-research institute that will house, among other things, a new sustainable-energy research center. Stanford currently spends \$30 million a year on energy research, according to the statement, and the extra \$100 million will help hire more faculty members and bring in more graduate students. By Kate Galbraith.

These two articles indicate that the concept for a High Desert Polytechnic University is on the right track.

College degrees are still a plus: For one group of workers, the recession hasn't quite so hard. Their unemployment rate was nearly half that of the overall workforce in December. When they do lose jobs, they tend to find work more quickly than others. Their wages are higher, and they typically have enough savings to survive between jobs. Yes it still pays to get a college degree. A high school diploma raises the average wage about 32 percent, from \$11.38 to \$15.01 per hour. If high school grads attend college but don't get a degree, their wages rise about 13 percent more. But if they graduate, their average hourly wage leaps 77 percent to \$26.51 an hour. Getting an advanced degree boosts earnings 27 percent, to \$33.57, according to a 2008 study from the Economic Policy Institute. Daily News, 1/11/09 by Christopher Leonard, The Associated Press.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 AM.

The next meeting will be on March 9th.

Sincerely,

Robert Johnstone, Technical Advisor

Attachment: Financial Report

