

**MINUTES OF
THE EDWARDS COMMUNITY ALLIANCE
MEETING**

AUGUST 10, 2009

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

ECA PROJECT STATUS

Land Use Compatibility: Mr. Welling said there is nothing to report.

Education:

Dr. Uhazy said the National Science Foundation has a grant for 6th graders. The grant worth \$150,000 to schools is focused on Math and Technology.

Mr. Johnstone said the Antelope Valley has submitted a proposal to the Community College Foundation for a Gates Grant that is worth several million dollars over the 10 year life of the Grant. Antelope Valley College was selected to participate in this Grant because of the many partnerships that exist to further education. Currently, the Grant covers the geographic boundaries of AVC's District but is expandable to cover other areas of the Greater Antelope Valley after implementation. In fact, the results of this Grant must be exportable to any school district in the U.S.

President Deaver briefed the attendees of a recent decision by the East Kern Educational Resources Network (EKERN) to invite company representatives to the next EKERN meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to let companies/employers know what we are trying to do with teacher/counselor tours of various facilities. Hopefully these tours will begin again after the new school year gets underway. Mr. Scott said we are still waiting on feedback from Edwards to begin tours on base.

Johnstone said there have been several follow-up calls between Mr. Santarelli, Director of the Lancaster University Center Fresno Engineering Program and Dr Walsh, Associate Dean College of Engineering, Cal Poly San Louis Obispo after Dr. Walsh's visit to the LUC. The calls have been very positive and plans for SLO to take over the LUC engineering program are moving forward.

Salute to Youth: Mr. Scott reminded the attendees that Salute to Youth will take place on September 18th at Plant 42 in Palmdale. We are still looking for funds for busing students to the event. ECA previously approved \$1,000 to assist schools with transportation. College

Information Night will be held the following week on September 23rd. This event is normally held at Highland High School in Palmdale.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Welling distributed a Financial Report reflecting a balance of \$15, 868.24 as of August 9th. James has not received a new budget yet from Kern County for next year. The new budget should reflect at least a 10% reduction from the current budget. **(Breaking News—Since our meeting James was notified that the Board of Supervisors were unable to fund any non-profit groups for next year due to the budget situation.)**

OPEN DISCUSSION

Flight Test Historical Foundation: The Foundation is asking for help from the community to suggest appropriate educational programs for the museum. It turns out DoD has a program called STARBASE that is sponsored by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. The program provides students with 20-25 hours of challenging “hands-on, mind-on” activities in aviation, science, technology, engineering, math, and space exploration. Military volunteers donate their time to the program showing students how classroom concepts apply to “real world” situations. DoD STARBASE focuses on elementary students, primarily fifth graders. There are only two bases in California supporting this program, one in San Diego and one in Sacramento. This could be a good program to implement at the Edwards Museum. For more info go to: <http://www.starbasedod.com>.

Space Challenge Curriculum: Lockheed Martin has a Space Day event each year in early May. Lockheed locally has expressed interest in supporting a Mojave-like Space Challenge in the Lancaster/Palmdale area next year. Their Space Day tool kit contains lesson plans and event organizer to help organize a Space Day event. The tool kit can be found at <http://www.spaceday.org/>.

Masters Degree Program: Ms. Losoncy briefed that Cornell University is offering a new Systems Engineering Distance Learning Master of Engineering Degree. This program can be completed completely by distance learning with the exception of two summer residential weeks on campus. For more information go to: http://www.systemseng.cornell.edu/dl_home.html.

Board of Trade: Johnstone said the Antelope Valley Board of Trade recently installed Cathy Hart as President. Cathy is very interested in reaching out to the region and working together. The BOT is a regional organization and should include the while region in its efforts. Cathy would like to see this happen and has Jack Stewart from Rosamond to help her. Johnstone suggested organizations should contact Cathy and invite her to their meetings to hear first hand her goals. Cathy can be reached at 661-726-5608.

The meeting adjourned at 8.40 AM.

The next meeting will be on September 14, 2009.

Sincerely,

Robert Johnstone, Technical Advisor

ATCH: Financial Report