



# Eastern Oregon Border Region Economic Development Board

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March 7, 2022

Ontario, OR

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## **Attendance**

**Members Present:** Tiffany Cruickshank, Board Chair; Dana Young; Ron Haidle

**Members Present Via Zoom:** Roberto Gamboa; Stuart Reitz; Melisa Drugge

**Staff Present:** Lisa Reeser, Board Coordinator; Shawna Peterson, EOBB Executive Director

**Guests Present Via Zoom:** Courtney Warner-Crowell, Office of the Governor; Feather Sams Huesties, Business Oregon; Representative Mark Owens

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm.

## **Welcome, Introductions, Minute Approval**

Chair Cruickshank opened the meeting. Board members, guests and audience members made introductions.

Dana Young amended the February 7, 2022 minutes, correcting the spelling of David Koehler and made a motion to approve the February 7, 2022 meeting minutes as amended. Ron Haidle seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

## **Public Comment**

Dana Young announced the Eastern Oregon Economic Summit will be taking place June 16-17 in Hermiston, Oregon. The first day will include tours and the second day is the summit. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Career and Technical Education Building at Treasure Valley Community College on April 22 at 3:30pm.

## **Fiscal Report**

As of March 3, 2022 the Border Fund has a total of \$3,851,909.77.

## **2022 Legislative Session Update**

Representative Mark Owens joined the Border Board meeting via Zoom to update the board on the happenings during the 2022 Legislative Session. He covered policy that will affect or could have affected the Border Region, briefly speaking about HB 4002B, SB 1506, SB 1521 and SB 1510. He then spoke about funding; \$2 million will go to the Malheur County Fairgrounds, Treasure Valley Community College will receive funding for a renewable energy apprenticeship program and \$6 million will go to Oregon Business Development Department to replenish the Border Fund. Representative Owens finished with next steps for the Border Board members, encouraging the Border Board members to begin brainstorming policy ideas for the 2023 session, as well as further funding ideas. All legislative concepts

need to be submitted by September 19, 2022 which means the board will need to start working with legislative council by May or June.

## Introduction of Role and Program

Feather Sams Huesties introduced herself and her new role with Oregon Business Development Department. She also spoke on what is currently being focused on in the Border Region, water treatment being a big item.

## Executive Director Report

Executive Director Shawna Peterson submitted an executive summary and reported her activities since last month's meeting. She and Lisa Reeser are still receiving responses to the State of the Border Region request, with the due date for those extended. She and Chair Cruickshank have been invited to present at the REAL-Oregon agricultural leadership program on March 15. Three of the Border Board's grants are open for applications and will close on March 31. The two loan programs being administered through Craft3 are ready to launch. Executive Director Peterson announced the Snake River Economic Development Alliance will be holding their annual breakfast on March 31 from 7am-9am, you can contact her for more information.

## Incentive Program Application Approvals

Dana Young made a motion to approve one Competitive Housing Incentive Program application in the amount of \$6,000, one Property Improvement Rebate Program in the amount of \$9,167 and the tax incentive portion for one Competitive Housing Incentive Program applicant in the amount of \$599.40. Ron Haidle seconded the motion and all present board members were in favor.

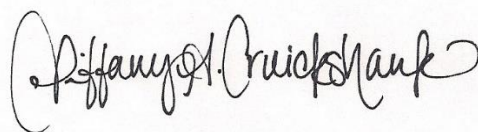
## EOBB Program Discussion

The board has been tasked by Chair Cruickshank with brainstorming ideas for future funding programs and initiatives that will benefit economic development in the Border Region, as well as new policy ideas or changes to current policy. Executive Director Peterson will present a proposal during the April meeting to open a listening phase that will include local small business owners, municipalities and large companies in the Border Region.

## Next Meeting/Agenda Build

The next Border Board meeting will be held on April 4, 2022 from 6pm-8pm, in the Hanigan Board Room at Treasure Valley Community College. The agenda items will include a fiscal report from Oregon Community Foundation, an executive director update, a legislative update from Senator Findley, and brainstorming session for new legislative ideas for the 2023 session.

Meeting closed at 4:45 pm.



Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Tiffany Cruickshank, Board Chair  
Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Board

4/4/2022

Date