



Eastern Oregon Border Region Economic Development Board

September 9, 2024

Ontario, OR

Attendance

Members Present: Taylor Rembowski, Cheri Hung, Ron Haidle, Montessa Young

Staff Present: Shawna Peterson, Executive Director; Emily Conlon, Board Coordinator

Guests Present: Feather Sams-Huesties, Business Oregon; Derrick Knoll, Energy Trust of Oregon

Guests Present Via Zoom: Tory Stinett, Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation; Tiffany Cruickshank, Owyhee Riding Club; Dawn Hert, Department of Land Conservation and Development

Meeting was called to order at 3:01pm.

Welcome, Introductions, Minute Approval

Taylor Rembowski acted as board chair in Chair Dana Young's absence. Taylor Rembowski opened the meeting and board members and guests made introductions.

Cheri Hung made a motion to approve the August 12th meeting minutes. Montessa Young seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

Public Comment

Tiffany Cruickshank joined as a volunteer of Owyhee Riding Club to provide an update on the grant received the last round. Cruickshank reported that the storm that hit Nyssa in June of this year destroyed many structures and fencing at the Owyhee Riding Club. She proposed that matching funds budgeted in their recent Scott Fairley Memorial Edge Grant application be used for repairs. Board members were in agreement that this use of funds was appropriate.

Fiscal Report

Executive Director Shawna Peterson reviewed the OCF fiscal report/statements. As of September 4, 2024, the Border Board fund has a total of \$4,509,448.53. The board also reviewed Executive Director Shawna Peterson's financial report detailing expenses and disbursements for the month.

Executive Director Update

Executive Director Shawna Peterson submitted an executive summary and reported her activities since last month's meeting. Current grant programs open for applications include the Scott Fairley Memorial Edge Grant, the Community Improvement Planning Grant, and the Ready Workforce Mobilization Grant. There is currently one application in process through the Oregon Community Foundation Portal and one submitted Edge grant application submitted to Board Staff. The

application window will close September 30 and board members will discuss submitted applications at their November board meeting.

Peterson updated the board on the Economic Equity Investment Program grant application. The due date has been extended and she will have the application circulated to the board and submitted by the new September 27th deadline.

Executive Director Peterson circulated the one-page legislative report submitted covering the investment into the Border Region from July 2023- June 2024, totaling \$4,173,876.67.

At the end of August, Peterson participated in a panel discussion with state Senators and Representatives on the Joint Committee on Transportation; the group shared ideas and priorities for the upcoming transportation package.

Peterson shared a conversation she had with a local realtor regarding the Competitive Housing Incentive Program regarding the program's policy that disallows the CHIP incentive to be transferred to the second buyer of the property. The board reviewed the incentive programs policies and agreed no changes will be made at this time.

Land Use Review Board Update

Executive Director Peterson updated the board on the Land Use Review Board at Malheur County. So far, the review board has approved 10 homesites, totaling 20 acres. At this month's meeting, one application was submitted and approved.

Legislative Update

The board discussed the upcoming legislative session. Potential border board concepts discussed included:

- **Reciprocal licensing.** This is a concept revisited by the border board, and would assist in making licensing and certification faster and more accessible in Oregon.
- **Owyhee access fee stop/toll road.** Taylor Rembowski shared with the board that the County is currently working on prevention of invasive species at Owyhee reservoir, which would include incorporating a boat inspection station. The board discussed using the installment of this station to add an access fee to the state park.
- **Cosmetology licensing in the Border Region.** Cheri Hung discussed the lack of cosmetology education locations in the Border Region and the reliance on cosmetology schools in Idaho. The board agreed the addition of a cosmetology licensing institute could be beneficial to the Border Region.

BRIGHT! Discussion

The board discussed the progress of the Economic Equity Investment Program application. Executive Director Peterson confirmed that Community in Action is more than capable of delivering the educational piece of the proposed program.

Incentive Programs Application Approvals

None.

Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program

The board reviewed one Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program application. Ron Haidle made a motion to approve application #13 in the amount of \$14,160. Montessa Young seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

Housing Incentive Outreach Discussion

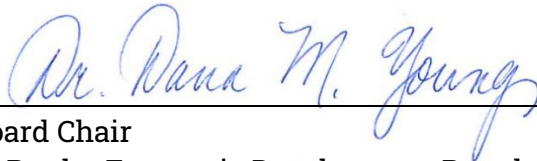
Taylor Rembowski met with a local realtor to discuss housing incentive programs. The board discussed funding a lunch with local realtors, lenders, and title companies to promote the housing incentive programs. Cheri Hung moved to initiate an event proposal from Board Staff. Ron Haidle seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

Next Meeting / Agenda

The next board meeting will be on October 7th, 2024. Agenda items will include a Fiscal Report from Oregon Community Foundation, an executive director update, Business Incubator / Maker Space discussion, upcoming board member vacancies, and legislative concepts.

Meeting closed at 4:19pm.

Approved by: _____



Dana Young, Board Chair

Date

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