



Eastern Oregon Border Region Economic Development Board

March 6, 2023

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Attendance

Members Present: Stuart Reitz, Ron Haidle, Bill Johnson, Andrew Maeda, Dana Young

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

Guests Present: Feather Sams-Huesties, Business Oregon; John Zueger, Vale Oregon

Guests Present Via Zoom: Steven Mitchell, Malheur Enterprise; Courtney Warner-Crowell, Oregon Governor's Office

Meeting was called to order at 3:00pm.

Welcome, Introductions, Minute Approval

Stuart Reitz opened the meeting. Board members, guests and audience members made introductions.

There was a typo on the February meeting minutes. Bill Johnson made a motion to approve the February minutes as amended. Dana Young seconded the motion and all present board members were in favor.

Public Comment

John Zueger, a resident of Vale, Oregon, attended the meeting to express his support of Senate Bill 70.

Fiscal Report

As of March 2, 2023, the Border Board fund has a total of \$2,295,726.36.

Executive Director Update and Legislative Update

Executive Director Shawna Peterson submitted an executive summary and reported her activities since last month's meeting. She has been working on Senate Bill 70 and is devoted to moving the bill along. She stays committed to engagement in the 2023 legislative session, as well as working on program updates and outreach.

Executive Director Peterson will be attending the Community Ag Summit breakfast in March, and will be a panelist at a Rural Development Initiatives / Center for Women's Leadership at Portland State University skill-building session in April. She co

Incentive Program Application Approvals

None.

Work Groups: Leadership Program and Business Incubator

Executive Director Shawna Peterson suggested creating work groups to hone in the focus and structure of the leadership program and the business incubator concept. Top priorities for the leadership program work group will be to identify potential board members, and to conduct research on existing models for leadership programs. Bill Johnson, Andrew Maeda, Dana Young, and Executive Director Shawna Peterson volunteered to participate in the work group. Top priorities for the business incubator work group will be to outline the structure of the business incubator, and to conduct research on existing models or potential resources. Bill Johnson, Ron Haidle, and Dana Young volunteered to participate in the work group.

Discussion: Large Requests Process

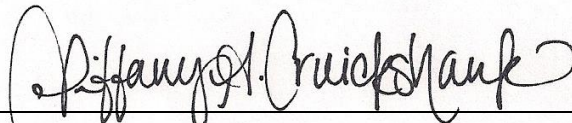
Andrew Maeda recused himself from this conversation as he has a pending request for funds from the Board. Executive Director Shawna Peterson prepared and brought to the board a slightly updated version of the large requests application. The board has yet to decide on a maximum request amount. The board discussed the idea of making this application a grant or a loan request; they discussed who would craft the loan terms, payout schedules, if there would be benchmarking tied to funding, repayment requirements, and the grant cycle. The board decided that they would like to see a process for both a grant request and a loan request. Board Staff will continue work on this application and proposal.

Next Meeting / Agenda Build

The next board meeting is April 3rd. Agenda items will include a Fiscal Report from Oregon Community Foundation, and executive director update, continued work on the large request proposal.

Meeting closed at 5:00pm.

Approved by: _____



Tiffany Cruickshank, Board Chair

Date

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