



Eastern Oregon Border Region Economic Development Board

May 1, 2023

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Attendance

Members Present: Chair Tiffany Cruickshank, Stuart Reitz, Ron Haidle, Andrew Maeda, Dana Young

Members Present Via Zoom: Bill Johnson

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

Guests Present: Taylor Rembowski, incoming board member; Montessa Young, incoming board member; John and Sherry Nalivka, Vale Heritage Reflections Mural Society; Frank and Patty Yraguen, Vale Heritage Reflections Mural Society; Feather Sams-Huesties, Business Oregon; Courtney Warner-Crowell, Office of Governor Tina Kotek

Guests Present Via Zoom: Nickie Shira, incoming board member; Steven Mitchell, Malheur Enterprise; Dawn Hert, Eastern Oregon Development of Land Conservation

Meeting was called to order at 3:00pm.

Welcome, Introductions, Minute Approval

Chair Tiffany Cruickshank opened the meeting and board members and guests made introductions.

Stuart Reitz made a motion to approve the May meeting minutes. Dana Young seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

Public Comment

None.

Cycle 7: Grant Application Discussion

The board reviewed the application summary presented by board staff. A total of 7 applications were submitted for scoring in this grant cycle. See Exhibit A for a complete list of funded and non-funded award decisions.

Both scoring above 77.8%, Luzetta's Flowers & Gifts and Green Light Baseball Performance, LLC scored in the highest level of the scoring matrix. Luzetta's Flowers & Gifts' request would help fund a creative learning lab where individuals and groups can teach, share, learn, and connect with resources. The learning lab would also provide access to support for small businesses. Green Light Baseball Performance, LLC's request would help fund a centrally located facility for baseball and

softball athletes to train. Dana Young made a motion to approve Luzetta's Flowers & Gifts grant request in the amount of \$25,000 and Green Light Baseball Performance, LLC's grant request in the amount of \$25,000. Stuart Reitz seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

BKI Border Farms, Inc. requested \$17,580 to help fund a new seasonal and local produce stand, which will also sell weekly subscription boxes of fresh produce. The application was strong and showed a one-to-one match of funding. Stuart Reitz made a motion to approve BKI Border Farms, Inc.'s grant request in the amount of \$17,580. Dana Young seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

Country View Golf Course submitted a request for \$25,000 to help fund the second phase of their irrigation system upgrade. Chair Cruickshank noted that the application could have highlighted the potential for community activities, lessons, and events. Ron Haidle made a motion to approve Country View Golf Course's grant request in the amount of \$25,000. The motion failed to advance and no vote was made on this application. The applicant will be notified and encouraged to re-apply in the next grant cycle.

Quick Bitez is a locally owned business requesting funds to replace a ventilation hood in order to meet permitting requirements. Stuart Reitz noted that funding a project such as this could help keep a local business open and a storefront filled. Bill Johnson made a motion to approve Quick Bitez's grant request in the amount of \$4,900. Ron Haidle seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

Vale Heritage Reflections Mural Society submitted a request for funding to help add murals to the City of Vale, and to upgrade existing murals. Tiffany Cruickshank recused herself from the discussion and vote, declaring a conflict of interest. After discussion, Bill Johnson made a motion to approve Vale Heritage Reflections Mural Society's grant request in the amount of \$8,100. Ron Haidle seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

Treasure Valley Community College Foundation requested funding to help in the creation of a Certified Surgical Technology Program. Dana Young recused herself from the discussion and vote, declaring a conflict of interest. After discussion, no vote was made on Treasure Valley Community College Foundation's application; the applicant will be notified and encouraged to re-apply in the next grant cycle.

Fiscal Report

As of April 27, 2023, the Border Board fund has a total of \$8,277,347.33. 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. Board Staff has reviewed all seven applications for scoring and has compiled all scoring in one packet for board discussion. The board can expect new applications for the Infrastructure Loan Program and the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program in the coming

month. Work ahead for Board Staff includes orienting new board members, engagement in the 2023 legislative session, and coordinating work groups on identified priorities from the board.

Legislative Update

Executive Director Peterson was able to spend 2 hours with 20 Oregon legislators who were in town for the Ways and Means Committee Road Show. She took away positive discussion and feedback regarding Senate Bill 70, and remains hopeful the board will get the bill passed. Overall, the presentation and discussion was very positive and warmly received.

Incentive Program Application Approvals

Andrew Maeda made a motion to approve Competitive Housing Incentive Program application #37 in the amount of \$6,000. Dana Young seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

Next Meeting / Agenda Build

The next board meeting is June 5th agenda items will include a Fiscal Report from Oregon Community Foundation, and executive director update, and a guest presenter from Valley Family Health Care.

Meeting closed at 4:50pm.

Approved by:  _____ Date _____
Dana Young, Board Chair
Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Board

Exhibit A
Cycle 7 Grant Applications

Scott Fairley Memorial Edge Grant – Funded

Name: BKI Border Farms, Inc.
Description: New Creation Farms Project
Total project cost: \$35,580
Requested amount: \$17,580
Awarded amount: \$17,580

Name: Green Light Baseball Performance, LLC
Description: Facility Project
Total project cost: \$138,700
Requested amount: \$25,000
Awarded amount: \$25,000

Name: Luzetta's Flowers & Gifts
Description: Creative Learning Lab Project
Total project cost: \$50,000
Requested amount: \$25,000
Awarded amount: \$25,000

Name: Quick Bitez, LLC
Description: New Range Hood Project
Total project cost: \$20,500
Requested amount: \$4,900
Awarded amount: \$4,900

Name: Vale Heritage Reflections Mural Society
Description: Mural Revitalization and Enhancement Project
Total project cost: \$12,300
Requested amount: \$8,100
Awarded amount: \$8,100

Scott Fairley Memorial Edge Grant – Not Funded

Name: Country View Golf Course
Description: Irrigation System Upgrades Project
Total project cost: \$64,362
Requested amount: \$25,000
Awarded amount: \$0

Education and Workforce Training Grant – Not Funded

Name: Treasure Valley Community College Foundation
Description: Certified Surgical Technology Program
Total project cost: \$550,000
Requested amount: \$100,000
Awarded amount: \$0