



Eastern Oregon Border Region Economic Development Board

March 4, 2024

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Attendance

Members Present: Dana Young, Nickie Shira, Taylor Rembowski, Andrew Maeda, Cheri Hung, Montessa Young

Members Present Via Zoom: Melisa Drugge, Business Oregon

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

Guests Present: Derrick Noll, Energy Trust of Oregon; Brian Bond, Malheur ESD

Guests Present Via Zoom: Dawn Hert, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development; Feather Sams-Huesties, Business Oregon

Meeting was called to order at 3:07pm.

Welcome, Introductions, Minute Approval

Chair Dana Young opened the meeting and board members and guests made introductions.

Taylor Rembowski made a motion to approve the February 5, 2024 meeting minutes. Andrew Maeda seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

Public Comment

None.

New Board Member Introduction

Board members and guests present made introductions; new board member Cheri Hung introduced herself to the board.

Fiscal Report

Executive Director Shawna Peterson reviewed the OCF fiscal report/statements. As of February 29, 2024, the Border Board fund has a total of \$5,619,172.95. 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. This month, Peterson attended the Fry Foods ribbon cutting on behalf of the board. She was able to discuss potential grant opportunities as well as interest in the

board's leadership program. Peterson has secured a private tour with Nyssa's Agri-Beef grain milling site on March 8th, 2024 and all board members are invited to attend.

Executive Director Shawna Peterson continues to follow the legislative session and noted that it is proceeding as anticipated with a focus on advancing the Governor's housing priorities and a revisit of Measure 110. Peterson was introduced to Mike McLane, who is currently running for Senator Findley's senate seat, and will continue to build and keep relationships there on behalf of the border board.

Executive Director Peterson continues to work through the ongoing leadership program proposal and is encouraging board members to think about prospective participants. Peterson is looking to advance both the leadership program and business incubator concepts now that the new board seat has been filled and the new budget has been adopted.

Malheur Works Internship Program Update

Brian Bond attended the meeting to provide an update on the Malheur ESD Malheur Works Internship Program. This is a 9-week program for graduated seniors. The program has three components: a paid internship providing work experience, a mentorship provided by community professionals, and professional development workshops. Malheur Works received a border board grant in 2021; Brian Bond, Internship Coordinator, provided an update to the board and showcased how the board's funding has impacted the program and the Border Region. Nickie Shira commented that the Malheur Works program used the border board's grant funding to leverage other grant funds, and that it helped bring in over \$400,000 in further grants.

Andrew Maeda commented that the Malheur Works Internship Program could be a great model in other places in Oregon and could be potentially beneficial to the Oregon Youth Works Advisory Board. The program aligns with the board's priorities and could be added to the list of potential legislative concepts.

The board thanked Brian Bond and Nickie Shira for their update and look forward to seeing how the program continues in the Border Region.

Incentive Program Application Approvals

The board considered 2 applications for the Competitive Housing Incentive Program (CHIP) and 3 re-applications for the tax incentive portion of the CHIP. Taylor Rembowski made a motion to approve applications #54 and #55 in the amount of \$6,000 each for a total of \$12,000 and the re-applications #72-#74 in the amount of \$1,500 each for a total of \$4,500. Nickie Shira seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

Legislative Update

Executive Director Shawna Peterson covered the legislative update in her Executive Director update.

Land Use Review Board Update

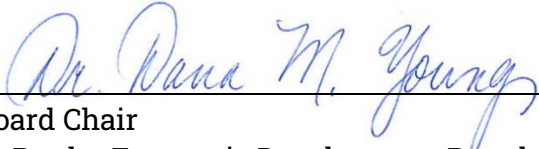
Executive Director Shawna Peterson attended the first SB16/70 Land Use Review Board meeting this month. The board consists of 4 representatives in the county and plans to review a maximum

of 4 applications at each meeting. Senate Bill 16 allows rezoning of EFU land in the Border Region to rural residential, under identified provisions and subject to county review board approval. This month, they approved 4 applications, which created a total of 7 2-acre lots. Peterson anticipates more applications and will keep the board up to date on applications and review.

Next Meeting / Agenda

The board will review new grant applications at the upcoming May meeting. Board Staff will work on suggested parameters for scoring on the Scoring Sheets to help guide board scoring. Board Staff will also continue work on the CHIP yard signs and have a design ready for approval at the April board meeting. The next board meeting is April 1, 2024. Agenda items will include a Fiscal Report from Oregon Community Foundation, and an executive director update.

Meeting closed at 4:50pm.

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