



# Eastern Oregon Border Region Economic Development Board

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February 2, 2026

Ontario, OR

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## **Attendance**

**Members Present:** Taylor Rembowski, Cheri Hung, Ron Haidle, Daniel Longoni, Nickie Shira, Montessa Young

**Staff Present:** Shawna Peterson, Executive Director

**Staff Present Via Zoom:** Emily Conlon, Board Coordinator

**Guests Present:** Courtney Warner-Crowell, Oregon Governor's Office; Jeff Carpenter, Snake River Economic Development Alliance; Ryan Gentry, Edge Performance Sports; Tatiana Burgess, City of Ontario and Rural Roots Leadership Cohort Member; Tory Stinnett; Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation; Jessica Saxton, Beyond Bella Academy and Rural Roots Leadership Cohort Member; Marc Berg, Malheur County and Rural Roots Leadership Cohort Member

**Guests Present Via Zoom:** Derrick Noll, Energy Trust of Oregon; Dawn Hert, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

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

Taylor Rembowski chaired the board meeting in Chair Maeda's absence. Rembowski opened the meeting and board members and guests made introductions.

Cheri Hung made a motion to approve the January 5, 2026 meeting minutes. Ron Haidle seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

## **Public Comment**

Jeff Carpenter attended the meeting to introduce himself as the new Executive Director for the Snake River Economic Development Alliance.

## **Fiscal Report**

The board reviewed Executive Director Peterson's financial report, capturing the board's expenditures to date.

## **Executive Director Update**

Executive Director Peterson gave an update on her activities since last month's meeting and plans for the month ahead:

**Rural Roots.** The leadership program is going well and the board will hear from some of the members at today's meeting. Peterson noted that there will be a make up session for the

Parliamentary Procedure workshop from January and board staff will circulate that date when it is set.

**Third-Party Administrator.** Business Oregon will be assisting us with a Request for Proposals for a third-party administrator.

**Rezoning Review Board.** Peterson provided an update on a pending application that does not qualify for the rezoning.

**Town Hall and Legislative Session.** Local town hall meeting hosted by Senator McLane and Representative Owens were successful and Peterson will continue informing the board on the session as it is carried out this month.

## **Update from Edge Performance Sports**

Ryan Gentry attended the meeting to provide an update on the Edge property upgrades. Gentry stated that after more extensive planning and value engineering, they are ready to break ground on the project. The total project cost is approximately \$5million and October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 is the target completion date. The board discussed the project timeline, business logistics during construction, and the apprenticeship program.

## **Housing Incentive Application Approvals**

The board reviewed two Competitive Housing Incentive Program (CHIP) applications. Nickie Shira made a motion to approve CHIP application #103 and #104 in the amount of \$6,000 for a total of \$12,000. Daniel Longoni seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

## **Loan Program Application Approvals**

None.

## **Small Business Signage Grant Application Approvals**

The board reviewed two Small Business Signage Grant (SBSG) applications. Cheri Hung made a motion to approve application #13 in the amount of \$3,565.33 and application #14 in the amount of \$1,448.67. Nickie Shira seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

## **Loan Program Update**

The board reviewed the loan program summary spreadsheet. Craft3 infrastructure loans include:

- Fry Foods for \$250,000 with a maturity date of December 1, 2028
- Nuno Homes for \$250,000 with a maturity date of March 1, 2032
- Valley Family Health Care for \$250,000 with a maturity date of December 15, 2030

The Craft 3 summary also includes administration fees and costs.

Community in Action property improvement loans totals approximately \$463,000, with repayment to date of \$57,642.56. This program has been successful and Executive Director Peterson encourages considering a replenishment of funds to Community in Action.

The board discussed potential loan applications, which include CAPS Wholesale and a second loan to Nuno Homes. Peterson reported that Nuno Homes is pursuing a second \$250,000 loan for further housing development; Jaime Nuno of Nuno Homes has paid down his initial loan with a remaining balance of \$90,000. An additional infrastructure loan would create an outstanding balance of \$380,136. After discussion, Cheri Hung made a motion to approve an infrastructure loan in the amount of \$250,000 to Nuno Homes with 1% interest to be repaid as lots are sold. Daniel Longoni seconded the motion and all present board members voted in favor.

### **Rural Roots Leadership Program Project Presentation**

Tatiana Burgess presented the Rural Roots Leadership Academy’s proposed capstone project. The project includes the planning and beginning phases of development of Moore Park in downtown Ontario. Specifically, the cohort is pursuing adding a concrete pad to the park. The group is working closely with city planning and Revitalize Ontario regarding how their project aligns with these organizations’ vision for Moore Park. Burgess discussed relationship building, seeking outside funding and weighing the potential scope of the project. The group is working on a grant application for submission to the board.

### **Next Meeting / Agenda**

The next meeting will be March 2, 2026. Agenda items will include a Fiscal Report from Oregon Community Foundation, an Executive Director update, and insight from the Malheur County Assessor.

Meeting closed at 5:00pm.

Approved by: Andrew Maeda 03/02/26  
Andrew Maeda, Board Chair Date  
Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Board