



**REGIONAL SOLUTIONS OFFICE
GOVERNOR KATE BROWN**

**Greater Eastern Oregon Regional Solutions
Advisory Committee Meeting**

Representing Gilliam, Wheeler, Umatilla, Morrow, Grant, Harney and Malheur Counties

**Wednesday, March 20, 2019
2:00 -3:30 pm**

**Conference Call only:
877-411-9748, participant code: 1220301 #**

Minutes of the Meeting

2:00 pm Welcome and introductions – Rep. Lynn Findley, Convener

Rep. Lynn Findley called the meeting to order and Courtney Warner Crowell, Regional Solutions Coordinator did a roll call of the committee members and asked others on the phone to identify themselves.

2:05 pm Public Comment – all

There was no public comment.

2:10 pm Approval of previous minutes

Mike McLoughlin made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Rick Minster had a question about whether the Grant County project identified in the meeting minutes should instead be the City of John Day project. Courtney clarified that the Grant County project was the airport project and indeed sponsored by Grant County. Rick Minster then provided a second to the motion. The minutes were then approved unanimously.

2:15 pm Legislative Update- Rep. Lynn Findley

Rep. Lynn Findley gave an update on how things are going in the Legislature this session and gave a brief update on HB 2020 which is the cap and invest bill. He mentioned that significant changes would be coming out of committee in the coming days so there isn't much of an update.

- Governor's Recommended Budget- Courtney gave an update of key items in the Governor's budget that are relative to this region and economic development. These include:
 - Key emphasis on housing with \$130 million going towards the LIFT program and \$15 million for the Greater Oregon Housing Accelerator.
 - Regional Infrastructure Fund: \$15 million
 - Broadband office: \$5 million for rural broadband
 - \$16 million for the Wallowa Dam rehabilitation
- Agency priorities- Each of the agency representatives gave a short update on key items happening in the legislative session this year.



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2:25 pm **Committee Membership Update- Courtney Warner Crowell, Coordinator**

Courtney gave an update to some changes in the committee membership since our last meeting. Cam Preus left BMCC and the Governor has appointed Rep. Lynn Findley for our convener role. Additionally, Steve Shaffer is no longer the Gilliam County Judge and the Governor has appointed Morrow County Commissioner Melissa Lindsay to serve as the AOC representative on the committee. Elizabeth Farrar will fill the Gilliam County Commissioner seat and we are still waiting to hear who the Grant and Wheeler County Commissioner seats will be.

2:45 pm **Update on Regional Infrastructure Projects-** Courtney gave a summary reminder of the RIF process and how the projects were selected and the final amounts that were approved by the Grant and Loan Review committee and the Legislature.

- **City of Pendleton- UAV Test Range – Hangar Update-** Courtney explained that we are currently in the contract phase and the contracts have been drafted and are now with the city and awaiting signature. Additionally, Courtney shared that she had recently toured the hangar that was funded and got to see firsthand the growth that the industry is having in Pendleton. Courtney also shared that she will be working with the industry, the City of Pendleton, and various agencies to address workforce opportunities in the future.

3:00 pm **Key Project Updates- Regional Solutions Staff**

- **Border Board-** Scott Fairley gave an update on the progress of the Eastern Oregon Economic Development Border Board and an overview of their legislative proposals and their plans on spending the \$5 million that was allocated to them in the previous legislative session.
- **John Day Innovation Gateway-** Nancy Breuner gave an update on the John Day wastewater treatment facility project and updated the committee on the progress of the One Stop funding meeting and the permit pathway discussion with DEQ.
- **Treasure Valley Reload Facility-** Ken Patterson gave an update on the Reload facility and let the committee know that the project plan is currently with the Oregon Transportation Commission and they will be making a decision on moving forward in the coming months.
- **Umatilla Basin Water Projects-** Courtney Crowell gave an update on the status of the Umatilla Basin water infrastructure projects and an overview of the Umatilla Basin Basalt Bank Stabilization effort. Right now there is a bill in the legislature to fund the recommendations from the Governor's Basalt Bank workgroup.
- **Milton-Freewater Wine Production Facility-** Courtney gave an update on the wine production facility and let the committee know that they have found a private sector partner and are looking for funding for a market feasibility study and design and planning funding which RS is helping with.

3:05 pm **Rep. Lynn Findley adjourned the meeting.**



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Meeting Attendance

Advisory Board Members

Rep. Lynn Findley
Tim Mabry
Mike McLoughlin
Pete Runnels
Dan Joyce
Bill Tovey
Rick Minster
Peter Mitchell

Regional Solutions Team Members

Courtney Crowell
Scott Fairley
Shanna Bailey
Ken Patterson
Nancy Breuner
Nate Stice

Visitors

Tamra Mabbot
Jessica Keys