



Board Meeting

Thursday, February 10, 2022

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Join via Zoom by clicking [HERE](#)

Passcode: 2022

Via Zoom Phone: 1-669-900-9128

Meeting ID: 885 7468 8282

Passcode: 2022

AGENDA

- | | | | |
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| 1) | 9:00 | Call to Order & Agenda Review | Chair, Commissioner Buch |
| 2) | 9:10 | Roll Call | Staff, Justin Peterson |
| 3) | 9:20 | Public Comment | Chair |
| 4) | 9:30 | Minutes of September 30, 2021 Meeting (Attachment A) | Chair |

ACTION: Approval of Minutes

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| 5) | 9:35 | Discussion: Regional Economic Update - Presentation Patrick O'Connor is the Regional Economist for Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Linn and Benton Counties. Patrick will provide an update on the economic conditions in the region. | Staff, Jenny Glass and Guest, Pat O'Connor |
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| 6) | 10:00 | Final Approval to add the RAIN amended language and CWEDD metrics framework to the CEDS appendix The CWEDD Board approved Staff to submit the public notice to amend the CEDS. No comments were received and Staff recommends the CWEDD Board formally approve the amendments. | Staff, Justin Peterson |
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ACTION: Approval to add the RAIN amended language and the CWEDD metrics to the CEDS appendix.

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| 7) | 10:10 | Discussion: CEDS Working Groups (Attachment B) <i>The CWEDD Board has been discussing work groups and how they will function. Work groups are intended to be action-oriented and project-focused groups that carry out regional priorities. Work groups convene on a specific topic, share updates with the CWEDD board, and share what CWEDD Board members can do to support the work. The goal is to</i> | Staff, Jenny Glass and Justin Peterson |
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increase communication and strategic action between the working groups and the CWEDD Board.

- *Broadband Action Team (BAT)*
- *Cascades West Regional Consortium (CWRC)*
- *Early Childhood Education*
- *Other workgroup updates?*

8) 10:45 Other Business

Chair/Staff

- *Jurisdiction Updates*
- *2022 Meeting Schedule (Attachment C)*

9) 11:00 Adjournment

Chair

Next Meeting: May 12, 2022

Attendance (For Quorum Purposes)

| OCWCOG Members | Title | Jurisdiction | Attendance |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Nancy Wyse | Commissioner | Benton County | |
| Claire Hall | Commissioner | Lincoln County | |
| Jim Lepin | Mayor | City of Millersburg | |
| Sherrie Sprenger | Commissioner | Linn County | |
| Chas Jones | Councilor | City of Philomath | |
| Dean Sawyer | Mayor | City of Newport | |
| Paul Shuytema | Executive Director | EDALC | |
| Chris Workman | City Manager | City of Philomath | |
| Kelly Hart | Director | City of Lebanon | |
| John Pascone | President | AMEDC | |
| Pam Barlow-Lind | Tribal Planner | CTSI | |
| Kate Porsche | Economic Development | City of Corvallis | |
| Lane Members | Title | Jurisdiction | Attendance |
| Greg James | Board Member | WillamaLane Parks and Rec | |
| Tom Cotter | Council Member | City of Veneta | |
| Randy Groves | City Councilor | City of Eugene | |
| Heather Buch | Commissioner | Lane County | |
| Sherry Duerst-Higgins | Board Member | Lane Education Service District | |
| Susy Lacer | Board President | Siuslaw Public Library District | |
| Greg Ervin | Council Member | City of Cottage Grove | |
| Matt Michel | City Manager | City of Veneta | |

Quorum Requirement: CWEDD business may be conducted provided a quorum of members attends. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the membership of the District Board. The CWEDD members may participate by telephone or other means of electronic communication, provided the meeting is called to order at a meeting place where the public can attend, hear, understand and/or read the comments of the members participating by telephone or electronic means and the members so participating can fully hear, understand, and/or read the comments of the other members participating in the meeting.

CWEDD BOARD MEETING
Thursday, September 30, 2021
9:00 – 11:00 am
Zoom Remote Connection

DRAFT MINUTES

(Attendees: Please see meeting notes Attachment 1)

| TOPIC | DISCUSSION | DECISION / CONCLUSION |
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| 1. Call to Order & Agenda Review | | <p>Meeting called to order at 9:01 am by Chair Commissioner Heather Buch.</p> <p>Staff Justin Peterson conducted roll call.</p> <p>There were no changes to the agenda.</p> |
| 2. Roll Call | | Staff Justin Peterson conducted roll call. |
| 3. Public Comments | | There was no public comment. |
| 4. Minutes of June 10, 2021 | Kelly Hart moved to approve the June 10 th meeting minutes. Commissioner Pat Malone seconded the motion. Motion carried. | Consensus to approve the June 10, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. |
| 5. Oregon Ocean Innovation Hub – Build Back Better Grant Application Letter of Support | <p>Staff Jenny Glass reference Attachment B; Letter of Support from Coalition Partner. Glass reported that this is a partnership that OCWCOG and CWEDD are joining. The work has been building over the past couple of years to establish Oregon ocean innovation hubs along the Oregon Coast. Partners have been coming together to support the effort.</p> <p>Paul Schuytema advised that the work has been going on for fourteen</p> | Consensus to approve the letter of support for the Oregon Ocean Innovation Hub. |

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| | <p>to sixteen months. The effort is to bring in additional EDA funds when the latest round of AARP funding became available. The Build Back Better (BBB) is a regional grant program build around solidifying a specific sector of the economy. It is a two grant phase program with the first one being a technical assistance planning grant which allows the recipients of that grant to prepare for phase two. OSU will be the lead applicant for phase one and the umbrella organization for phase two.</p> <p>The project will build pathways to blue careers which blends together curriculums at Oregon's community colleges. It will help develop new career programs and certifications that will work backwards into the high schools for career credits and through the stem hub (e.g. mechatronics, welding, etc.). The center component is innovation and entrepreneurship focusing into the blue accelerator model.</p> <p>RAIN will most likely be involved in phase two and the third phase is the economic development, retention, expansion, and building access to capital. This will all be under the umbrella of OSU and eventually become its own 501c3. At the end of the project, the cost is approximately \$80-100 million. It is a coast wide effort.</p> <p>Melissa Murphy with Business Oregon stated that the blue economy is a statewide effort.</p> <p>Caroline Cummings with RAIN advised that they have been in partnership for this work and the work that they are doing includes the entire Oregon coast and the discussed project is key to the entire effort.</p> <p>Mayor Jim Lepin moved to approve the letter of support. Commissioner Pat Malone seconded the motion. Motion carried.</p> | |
| 6. CWEDD Bylaws Update and Executive Committee Call for | Glass reported that over the past few months, the group has been discussing an update to the bylaws to include an Executive Committee to be able to work in between Board meetings and attend to urgent | Staff to update the bylaws based on the discussion. |

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| Volunteers | <p>matters as well as assist with Board agenda development. Glass moved on to review the draft bylaws updates with members.</p> <p>Greg James stated that the updates looks good, the action makes sense, and it gives a level of authority while tying back to the larger Board which is very thoughtful. He did notice a typo on section 3c “allocation” to “a location”. James suggested adding language to include virtual meeting language.</p> <p>Pam Barlow-Lind stated that the bylaws update may be a good time to develop policies on the exercise of power for the Executive Committee and bring back for Board review in order to not clutter up the bylaws.</p> <p><i>Greg James moved for approval with additional language as discussed. Motion seconded by Greg Ervin. Motion carried.</i></p> <p>Glass noted that the CWEDD now has the authority to create an Executive Committee. The committee is made up of the Chair and Vice Chair of the CWEDD Board and three additional members. Glass asked for three volunteers who would like to serve on the committee.</p> <p>Commissioner Malone volunteered Kate Porsche who gladly accepted. Paul Schuytema volunteered. Greg James suggested Randy Groves whom also accepted. Groves noted that he believes in the work and is happy to serve.</p> <p><i>Greg James moved to approve the CWEDD Executive Committee membership as discussed. Commissioner Malone seconded the motion. Motion carried.</i></p> | <p>CWEDD Executive Committee members include:</p> <p>Commissioner Heather Buch, Mayor Jim Lepin, Kate Porsche, Paul Schuytema, and Randy Groves</p> |
| 7. July 8 th Meeting Recap and Approval to add CWEDD Metrics Framework to CEDS Appendix | <p>Peterson reported there were approximately eight attendees at the July meeting. Aniko Drlik-Muehleck with the Institute for Policy Research and Engagement provided a presentation on the metrics framework and CEDS Appendix.</p> <p>The metrics framework looks at how resilience could be measured and included a county profile. It provides a good overview from each of the</p> | <p>Consensus to approve adding the metrics framework as an appendix to the CEDS</p> |

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| | <p>four counties. There are eight questions that were developed to measure resilience. The goal is to add the metrics as an appendix item to the CEDS document in addition to the RAIN amendments that were previously approved.</p> <p>Paul Schuytema noted that he attended the July meeting and that it was exciting to see the type of research to put together what these metrics would be. A lot of it was anecdotal and not a surprise but through the data, it made you think of things in a different way that hadn't originally thought about. Schuytema supports adding it to the CEDS and noted that it will be a useful tool.</p> <p>Commissioner Malone moved to approve adding the metrics framework as an appendix to the CEDS. Paul Schuytema seconded the motion. Motion carried.</p> <p>Chair Buch returned to the previous agenda item in order for the Board to approve the CWEDD Executive Committee membership.</p> | |
| 8. Regional Priorities Survey | <p>Peterson provided an overview of the regional priorities survey results. He noted that the discussion will lead into the working group's discussion.</p> <p>The survey was sent out to approximately 280 economic development members and stakeholders. The goal of the survey was to engage members and stakeholders to better inform the half day workshop that was unfortunately cancelled. Additionally, the intent was to better understand the economic development priorities in the region, and highlight what is already being done. Of the 280 survey recipients, 27 responses were received from all four counties.</p> <p>Survey Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The top five priority areas identified were; Business Retention and Expansion, Regional Collaboration and Partnerships, Economic Resilience, Infrastructure Resilience, and infrastructure Expansion. • There were fourteen respondents who indicated they already | |

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| | <p>use economic indicators and some stated they would use the CWEDD resiliency metrics developed by IPRE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local and state data sources already available include Housing Needs Assessment, Economic Opportunities Analysis, Oregon Employment Department Data, and Census Data. <p>Peterson went on to report that through the survey, staff was also able to identify economic development regional collaborative groups. Peterson shared the groups identified via zoom. He noted that during the breakout groups; additional groups may be identified.</p> <p>Greg James asked if non-profits will also be listed and stated that it might be useful to identify them under the “Other” section. Peterson stated that those groups can be included as well.</p> <p>Commissioner Malone stated that he is interested in a coordinated effort on wildfire intervention. Randy Groves supports Commissioner Malone’s interest as it is important to try to project businesses and community which directly affects the growth of the economy. He also noted that Onward Eugene is a group that may be added to the “Other” list.</p> <p>Mayor Lepin asked to include AMEDC to the list. He noted that AMEDC is the Albany-Millersburg Economic Develop Corporation. The intent is to grow the organization into a county wide economic development organization in Linn County. Mayor Lepin stated that there is a lot of work to achieve this but would like AMEDC to be noted in the running list.</p> <p>Katie Porsche wanted to ensure that her understanding was identifying regional economic development work. Peterson stated that while the intent was to identify regional groups; that would also include local groups. Kate Porsche moved on state that it would be helpful to have a list to be able to expand out the “Other” category. She noted that a google form might work for members to add to the list.</p> | |
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| | <p>Melissa Murphy with Business Oregon stated that it is exciting that AMEDC will take a more active role in Linn County; however, she wanted to ensure that Mayor Lepin and AMEDC realize that there is a group of rural communities (the MVP) that have been organizing for the last 2-3 years and they are ready to discuss what they've built. Murphy reiterated that she wants to ensure that those that are building out Ledge, realize that there is an EDO currently being built for the rural Linn Count communities. To this, Mayor Lepin responded that he is aware of the MVP. John Pascone added that he is also aware.</p> <p>Peterson moved on with the survey overview.</p> <p>Survey Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed economic development work: CEDS, Corvallis/Benton 2 year work plan, local Strategic Plan work, RAIN recovery and resiliency programs, support from IPRE, connecting businesses and entrepreneurs with resources, and budgeting for raining day funds. • Key improvements in the area of resilience: broadband expansion, diversity in business/industry (manufacturing), business registration program, more collaboration and business networking, housing, and rural vitality. • Examples of short term economic development projects: Incubators and Startups, Business and Workforce Support, More Data, Infrastructure Projects, and Technical Assistance in Planning and Other Areas. Respondents also listed projects currently being completed which result in economic development. • Highest priority for funding: broadband and fiber optics, affordable housing, water and sewer improvements, space for startup companies, blue economy development, transportation system plans, increased staffing, etc. • Do not have enough resources in the following areas: funding, broadband, affordable housing, childcare, transportation options, etc. • ARPA Funds: infrastructure; water and sewer, payback of | |
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| | <p>coronavirus expenses already incurred, pending decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated economic development staff: 1.8 average with some jurisdictions not have any economic development staff. • Final respondent thought: need more data, economic development takes dedicated funding, workforce investment/development are key components of economic development, Oregon needs to take action on high cost of housing and limited ability to develop large business expansion, CWEDD plays a unique role in helping mobilize EDA funds <p>Key takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top 3 priority areas were Economic Resilience, Regional Collaboration and Partnerships, and Business Retention and Expansion • Need to improve aging infrastructure and extend infrastructure to industrial properties • Broadband • Many jurisdictions are evaluating how economic development is funded • Many small communities have no dedicated economic development staff or only a few staff • Economic development and infrastructure development work together <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workgroups Discussions • Half Day Workshop <p>Randy Groves asked if there are any projects underway in the four counties that the goal is to build shovel ready sites for business development. Murphy stated that the funds received in this region are water/wastewater projects. Groves noted that in Lane County there are sites that are not shovel ready and it seems it would be something to consider as a strategy. Murphy responded that industrial lands shovel readiness is a major priority of the RST and something they</p> | |
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| | work on almost in a daily basis. She went on to advise that at this point, it is not a matter of competing with other shovel ready sites and that is due to none of the sites being shovel ready to be developed due to wetlands and infrastructure issues. The barriers to getting the industrial sites ready for recruitment and expansion are almost all on the same level. To this, Groves responded that he is thinking of state competition. Murphy agreed that that is the competition. Sara Means with Regional Solutions responded that she does not find any funds that are going specifically to industrial sites. | |
| 9. Discussion of CED Working Groups | Members were split into four virtual groups with a list of questions. The breakout groups will assist with identifying potential CEDS working groups, identify group leads, identify gaps, and identify priorities. Members returned to the main Board group and presented their findings (<i>see Attachment B to minutes</i>). | Please meeting notes Attachment 2. |
| 10. Other Business | Mayor Lepin asked for a list of today's attendees. | Staff will email out a list of attendees. |
| 11. Adjournment | | Meeting adjourned at 10:55 am. |



Community and Economic Development
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(541) 967-8551 • FAX (541) 967-4651 • TTY/TDD 711

MEMORANDUM

Date: February 3, 2022
To: CWEDD Board
From: CWEDD Staff
Re: Working Group Updates

Broadband Action Team (BAT)

- Geo mapping moving forward. Launch date mid-February
- Data should start coming in immediately. Statistically valid sample size being determined.
- Rachael Maddock-Hughes elected to sit on state-wide Rules Advisory Committee for the Broadband Fund. This RAC will help determine how funding is spent. She will advocate for policies and rules that support rural jurisdiction's to access these funds. May be over half a billion dollars over next five years. Right now, the known funding is approx. \$1.5M from universal service fees and \$120M from federal COVID funding sources.
- Middle-mile conversation: middle-mile is important to helping address broadband gaps. There is discussion about getting a working group together on this topic. Linn and Benton Counties are adjacent to middle mile in Lane County that could be extended, and Lincoln County is adjacent to Tillamook County, which is expanding middle mile (and could go south and east).

Broadband, Cyber, and Other Programs

1. ReConnect Program – This existing Department of Agriculture program will provide almost \$2 billion in loans and grants for projects that provide broadband in rural areas. Applications will likely open in the 3rd quarter of 2022 (and towns in rural areas can apply to the current \$1.15B in loans and grant funding, application deadline: February 22, 2022).
2. Middle Mile Grants Program – This new \$1 billion program at the Department of Commerce provides grants for the construction, improvement or acquisition of middle mile broadband infrastructure. Applications will likely open during the second quarter of 2022.
3. State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program – This new \$1 billion program at the Department of Homeland Security makes available federal funds to state, local, and tribal governments to address cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats to information systems that they own or operate. Applications will likely open during the third quarter of 2022.

Early Childhood Education

OCWCOG staff Anne Whittington is convening early childhood education and economic development partners to explore strategies to support the region's childcare systems. The group met on Feb 3, 2022 and received an update about a proposed \$100 million childcare investment package (see attached) and discussed how the investment would support existing programs in the region. We also discussed an opening for a Business Liaison position with Linn Benton Community College's Parenting Education division. This position is crucial in continuing to address the economic challenges facing the region's employers and workforce. Here is the job summary and link to the position opening. Please spread the word:

"The position is designed to jumpstart new childcare facilities by addressing barriers to new and expanded quality childcare facilities. This individual will act as catalyst between private and public sectors in identifying opportunities to increase quality childcare through aligning employer participation, capital, land and public private partnerships. Duties include engaging employer participation, aligning state and local funding, qualifying appropriate available land as well as aligning private sector employers/partners to pursue viable new childcare facilities. Goals will be set for generating a net increase of childcare slots for infant through pre-school children, and new or expanded facilities to accommodate additional children. Regular reports will be provided to regional stakeholders on progress. This individual will have experience in forging partnerships, including public/private projects, development experience and be committed to increasing high-quality childcare in Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties."

<https://www.jobs.linnbenton.edu/postings/11065>

Cascades West Regional Consortium (CWRC)

- The CWRC received funding from Business Oregon's Special Public Works Fund (SPWF) to complete a Wetland Mitigation Feasibility Study that will look at the supply and demand of wetland mitigation credits in the region. OCWCOG is currently assisting with the RFP process which is ongoing.
- The next CWRC meeting is scheduled for March 18th at 11am. Please reach out to Alysia Rodgers (arodgers@ci.lebanon.or.us) or Justin Peterson (jpeterson@ocwcog.org) for more information.



2022 Child Care Investment Package

In 2021, the legislature passed HB 3073 which responded to the state's child care crisis and provided immediate and long-term relief to Oregon families most in need of child care by reducing parent copays and making needed reforms to the state's child care subsidy program: Employment Related Day Care (ERDC). HB 3073 also establishes the Department of Early Learning and Care (DELC) as an independent agency, consolidating child care and early learning administration and streamlining governance.

Federal COVID funds (\$224m) were used in Oregon to send direct grants—life lines— to providers working under impossible conditions: reduced ratios, heightened safety measures, inconsistent enrollment. These grants were geared toward preserving child care supply and keeping existing child care businesses operating.

Operating grants did help many child care businesses survive the height of the pandemic; however, Oregon has sustained a loss of about 20% of our pre-pandemic child care supply, increasing the number of children and families lacking access to care to a point of true emergency. Every county in Oregon was a child care desert prior to COVID; things are even worse now.

The pandemic has made clear that without care work, no other work can happen. We have seen the devastating impact on employment when parents can't find child care, especially for mothers and people of color. The legislature must act to invest in Oregon's child care supply immediately if we are to have an equitable economic recovery.

REBUILD CHILD CARE FUNDING SECTION - Total: \$65.7M - Monies spent by 9/1/24

Child Care was in short supply before the pandemic – now it's gone. Parents are facing waitlists everywhere and paying a significant portion of their family budget for care while providers who haven't left the industry, are barely scraping by or earning poverty wages. Care for infants, care in rural areas, evening and weekend care, and culturally specific care is in extremely short supply.

1. Growing Oregon's Child Care Workforce:

\$21M Child Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention payments- Appropriation to Portland State University, Research and Sponsored Projects *waiting for approval from director of Sponsored Programs and PSU Dean

We must recruit new employees and retain our current child care workforce, as they continue to care for our children at great personal risk during the ongoing pandemic. This investment is needed to ensure we have the workforce needed to support current and new child care businesses. Child care businesses cite lack of employees and turnover of current staff as a barrier to serving all children needing care. This investment acknowledges the ongoing challenges for

this workforce due to low pay and high risk of exposure to COVID. Failing to invest in this fund will contribute to continued closures of child care businesses and reduced availability of child care now and into the future.

In order to provide financial incentives to recruit and retain high quality child care workers across the state, this funding will utilize the infrastructure of an existing financial incentive program in the Center for Oregon Center for Career Development in Child Care & Education (OCCD) at PSU. OCCD administers financial incentives for participation in Oregon Registry Online for child care workers (ORO) which tracks training hours, college coursework and degrees providers complete related to the early childhood care and education field. ORO registration is required for those working in licensed child care programs and available to those in licensed-exempt care settings as a way to improve quality for all types of child care. Foundational trainings are available in 5 languages.

OCCD will provide outreach, collect applications and distribute \$500 direct payments to those currently working as child care providers in 2022 and 2023.

- For 2022, those currently employed in child care and have worked in the field for at least three months in 2022 are eligible for \$500. The application period will be open between October and December.
- For 2023, those currently employed in child care and have worked in the field for at least six months in 2023 can apply and will be eligible for \$500. The application period will be open between July and December.

The Child Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund will both combat labor shortages in the field and promote professional development to achieve high quality care and education for children in care. As a current training partner to the ELD, OCCD already has a system in place to verify the current licensed workforce and to cut checks directly to providers through the Oregon Registry Online program, which helps providers track and plan their professional development. This appropriation request includes funding for direct payments to providers as well as costs associated with administering the program. See attached proposal for more information.

2. Grow New & Existing Child Care: \$44M total to Recruit, Train, Mentor, Expand:

\$22M Capacity Building Grant Fund Administered by Seeding Justice

This Child Care Capacity Building Grant Fund will provide funding to a variety of organizations and/or entities who can work directly with new and current early learning and child care providers to start new care facilities or to expand existing facilities to serve more children.

For a variety of reasons, the state agency that would normally administer a grant program like this does not have the current capacity to administer this program. We need a trusted outside partner with a strong racial, gender, and economic lens, and experience administering grant programs, to ensure we can get these funds out in the community and into the hands of providers in an equitable and timely way.

The best path forward, to ensure timely interventions to grow access to child care, will be for state funds to be allocated to Seeding Justice, a local 501c3 that has experience managing these types of funds and working with community partners to administer them.

Seeding Justice (formerly MRG Foundation) is Oregon's leading funder of social change organizing and is a 501c3 organization (EIN: 93-0691187). Seeding Justice's eight Community Funds are led by and benefit communities closest to the pain of injustice, aimed at shifting both wealth and power. The Funds have raised an additional \$7 million (and counting) in the last two years and continue to receive requests from Sovereign Nations, government agencies, CBOs, and lawmakers to open new Funds. In 2020-2021, Seeding Justice had the following impact:

- Awarded over \$4,949,139 to 236+ Oregon grantees Launched the Oregon Worker Relief Infrastructure Fund (OWR) to resource CBOs helping undocumented workers access unemployment relief during COVID.
- Established the Chúush Fund with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs as a pathway to support tribal community members, infrastructure and other needed investments to restore access to clean water.
- Acted as recipient of ARPA funds, overseeing allocation of relief funding and administering three legislative directed funds.

Seeding Justice will work as the fiscal sponsor, providing the following services for a 10% administrative fee, which is already included in the \$18M appropriation:

- A representative from Seeding Justice will sit on the steering committee for strategic and informational purposes. Seeding Justice will not have a decision-making vote.
- Grantmaking will be made according to Steering Committee criteria.
- Will facilitate additional community fundraising efforts.
- Will facilitate communications efforts.
- Will facilitate community engagement efforts.
- Will provide financial tracking and reporting to the Steering Committee (monthly or quarterly).
- Will provide limited reporting on donors.
- Will provide limited reporting to funders.

Because all funds will be spent before the end of the calendar year 2024 and they are one time use – this fund would be an excellent use of the state's remaining ARPA dollars. See attached proposal for more details.

\$17.3M Direct Appropriations to Organizations ready to launch new provider efforts

Community based organizations have stepped up to the plate to rebuild our child care supply. "The Partners" as they are referred to are recruiting, training, and mentoring community members to become new providers or helping existing providers expand their child care offerings. What "The Partners" have discovered is that many new and existing providers need one time funds to start or expand their businesses.

Each Partner listed below has submitted a proposal about how they would spend their **allotted money between now and Sept 1, 2024. Because all funds will be spent before the end of the federal fiscal year 2024 and they are one time use – this fund would be an excellent use of the state’s remaining ARPA dollars.**

\$1.2M Euvalcree (Eastern Oregon)

\$7.9M United We Heal Training Trust (Statewide)

\$8.2M NeighborImpact (Central Oregon)

See attached proposals for more details.

\$5M Child Care Resource & Referral to support above efforts- Appropriation to ELD, to increase contracts.

The one time appropriations above will increase work for the state’s existing CCR&R’s who assist with training new child care providers. The Early Learning Division (ELD) will need to amend existing contracts with Orgeon’s 15 CCR&R’s to provide additional funding for this temporary work increase. Funding needs to be appropriated to ELD and they will work with DOJ to increase existing CCR&R contracts. As we invest in helping bring more providers online, strengthening our CCR system will be important to ensuring success for new providers.

INCREASED MARKET RATE FOR PROVIDERS - \$30M in HB 4005

In 2022, we must improve child care subsidy rates to the 2020 market rate survey’s 90th percentile. These percentiles allow parents who utilize subsidies to purchase the equivalent percent of child care slots in their community. However, the study lags two years behind current rates. Careful analysis of past data shows that implementing the most recent 90th percentile actually allows parents to purchase at least 75% of the current market rates due to the two year lag in data. In order for the Legislature to provide subsidy-eligible parents the ability to purchase at the 75th percentile of the current slots available— therefore affording more types of care in our current market—we must offer subsidy reimbursement rates at the 90th percentile of the most recent survey from 2020. Failing to do so reduces a family’s ability to find and afford care with the subsidy voucher.

SUPPORT DELC TRANSITION - \$4.3M additional funding in Department of Education budget for Early Learning Division (ELD)

In addition to the \$5.8M in the Emergency Board SPA, ELD needs and additional \$4.3M for a total of \$10.1M. The legislature must provide this funding to hire the staff necessary to ensure the newly formed Department of Early Learning and Care (DELC) can combine all child care and early learning programs and implement a comprehensive funding strategy that is essential to building supply and breaking from past purchasing strategies that have diminished providers’ financial viability. To establish an agency with the necessary centralized functions and the ability to scale its services in the future to better support providers, families, and children; DELC needs a total investment of \$10.1M to expand staff capacity.

This \$100 million funding framework takes the essential next steps toward rebuilding child care supply necessary to support Oregon’s economic recovery. A framework that honors the efforts of our child care work force and understands the lifelong value of a quality child care experience for our youngest Oregonians.



Cascades West Economic Development District (CWEDD) Board 2022 Meeting Dates

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://ocwcog.zoom.us/j/88574688282?pwd=QmgxNFhGV0o2ZkRqdnM2UHhTa2lVZz09>

Passcode: 2022

Phone: 1-253-215-8782

Meeting ID: 885 7468 8282

Passcode: 2022

Meets quarterly on the
2nd Thursday of the Month
9:00 – 11:00 am

February 10th

May 12th

August 11th

November 10th

(Dates may be cancelled and/or rescheduled
based on agenda content and holidays)