

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (EOAB)

Held at Grand County Commission Chambers

125 E. Center St. Moab, Utah 84532

March 26, 2025

Recording of Session at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xk7U6lQpaj8>

CALL TO ORDER: Chris Wilson called to order meeting at 3:02 pm.

ATTENDING:

Chris Wilson (chair & Voting, Private Sector Representative), Stephen Stocks (Grand County Attorney), Melodie McCandless (Non-voting, Grand County Commission Representative), Jazmine Duncan (Voting, Representative from a Municipality in the County), Debra KcKee (non-voting, Utah Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity), Aaron Lindberg (Secretary, Voting, Private Sector Representative), Cora Phillips (Non-Voting, Director Moab Chamber of Commerce), Forrest Rodgers (Voting, Member of public who lives in the County), Melisa Jeffers (Voting, Member of public who lives in the County), Brittney Melton (Voting, Private Sector Representative), Randy Martin (Voting, Member appointed by Moab Area Chamber of Commerce), Mark Tyner (Voting, Grand County Administration), Dana Van Horn (non-voting, Grand County Clerk/Auditor Office) Quin Hall (non-voting Grand County Administration), Alexi Lamm (non-voting, City of Moab Elected Official or Staff Representative standing in for Cory Shurtleff).

EX-PARTE DISCLOSURES:

Steven Stocks advised on how and what needed to be disclosed by members.

Jazmine Duncan disclosed friends with the director of the BEACON program.

Forrest Rodgers recused himself of the Moab Museum Application.

Brittney Melton disclosed that she employed the applicant of Red Rock Plunge and recused herself from the Moab Chamber of Commerce application

Randy Martin recused himself from the Moab Chamber of Commerce and Grand County EMS applications

Melisa Jeffers disclosed that she has helped applicants in the process of applying throughout the years and treats them anonymously.

Chris Wilson recused himself of the applications of Artesian and Youth Garden Project

Aaron Lindberg disclosed that he has employed Zach Raney, and was a client of Kristen Moore, and has done work on the Moab Golf Course

Citizens To Be Heard: none @ 3:09 pm.

Approval Of Minutes:

Forrest moved to approve the January 15th and February 29th minutes. Melisa Jeffers seconded.

Britney then pointed out there was an error with Ashley Korenblat being listed on a subcommittee rather than her and suggested an amendment.

Chris called for a vote on the approval and the motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Approval Of Letter Of Support For The Moab Area Community Land Trust.

Chris explained that this letter helped the MACLT score points for obtaining funding/tax credits from federal sources because it showed local government support and had received county support in the past.

Jasmine motioned to approval, Melisa seconded. The Motion Passed unanimously.



Letter Here:

Amasa Arroyo Local Jurisdiction Support Letter Draft-LH (1) (1).pdf

Discussion/action Item: Presentation And Discussion Of RCG And RCOG Grant Application Scoring/Ranking

57 applications were submitted to the county.

Steven Explained how applicants that were not going to be approved by the Economic Development Advisory Board could still proceed to give their applications to the Grand County Commission.

James Dixon (entered the chat- Utah Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity), discussed with the board long-term strategies for future cycles of funds and how to fund the county's department of economic development, future funding of subgrants and future economic development.

Chris presented the list of applicants that were ranked on an online poll by voting board members.



Discussion focused on what the threshold was to continue working with which applicants and pass to a subcommittee.

Melisa made a motion to pass to a subcommittee to continue working with the top 12 applicants. Seconded by Britney. A mistake was discovered in ranking so Britney made a substitute motion to include the top 13 scored applicants, Randy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Brief discussion was about funding non-profit vs for profit.

Action Item:

Chris invited a motion to empower a subcommittee that was already created to design the next stages in the grant process.

Randy made the motion. Jazmine seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion then about extending next meeting, April 30th and having extra meeting may 7th.

Discussion Item: Economic Opportunity Advisory Board 2025 Goals

Chris presented 4 points in a handout:

1. Running a successful RCG and RCOG cycle. Selecting and getting funding for high-impact projects to strengthen our local economy. Creating and refining a template that can be used in future years.
2. Have the Commission endorse an economic development strategy for the County. The best vehicle for this is probably a general plan update, but other mechanisms may be considered.
3. Build economic development capacity at the County. This means supporting a process to create a budget for economic development staff time and a few other line items, then helping it through the budget process and ultimately gaining approval by the Commission.
4. Serve as a hub for local economic development, connecting key actors and developing a strong pipeline of ideas to strengthen the Grand County economy.

Action Item: Forrest moved to Adopt, Randy seconded- motion passed unanimously

Future Considerations:

Debra wanted to present on Utah next grant rounds. She also explained how San Juan County held workshops to help grant applicants succeed.

Adjournment: Chris adjourned meeting after there were no more future considerations at 4:38 p.m.

ATTEST:

Chris Wilson, Chair

Aaron Lindberg, Secretary

