



Brad Little, Governor
Tom Kealey, Director

Economic Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Idaho Department of Commerce
April 24th, 2025

Members	Idaho Commerce Staff
Jeremy Grimm, <i>Region</i>	Tom Kealey, Director
Paul Kimmell, <i>Region II</i>	Jake Reynolds, Business Development & Operations Administrator
Brian Wonderlich <i>Region III (A)</i>	Jason Barnes, Business Attraction Manager
Randy Bauscher <i>Region IV</i>	Adam Bohrer, Business Attraction Specialist
Fred Titensor, <i>Region V</i>	Dennis Porter, Community Development Manager
John Radford <i>Region VI (A)</i>	Tony Tenne, Economic Development
Tom Beckwith, <i>Region VII</i>	Jamie Hayward, Management Assistant, recording secretary
Eve Knudtsen <i>At-Large</i>	
<i>(A) Absent</i>	Zane Hunter Sweitzer Lab
<i>(T) denotes via zoom meeting</i>	

Call to Order

Chairman Paul Kimmell called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM PDT with a quorum present.

Moved by: Jeremy Grimm

Seconded by: Tom Beckwith

Motion approved. Aye

Call for Conflict of Interest

Chair Paul Kimmell: none heard.

Idaho Tax Reimbursement Incentive Application: Details of Applications

The Council may act to enter Executive Session Pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(1)(d) to review records exempt from public disclosure under Idaho Code Section 74-107(1), 74-107(6), and/or 67-4708

Moved by: Jeremy Grimm

Seconded: Randy Bauscher

Roll call vote:

- Paul Kimmell **AYE**
- Tom Beckwith **AYE**
- Eve Knudtsen **AYE**

- Fred Titensor **AYE**

Motion approved.

Adam Boher & Jason Barnes from the BAT Team went over projects Cranberry & Arion applications and went over scoring modules, initial score modules, application and nix code and statistics. BAT team showed graphic presentations for economic indicators and induced numbers and scoring.

Idaho Tax Reimbursement Incentive Application Decision: Cranberry Motion:

- In the matter of the application for **Cranberry** I move that the Council approve the application and instruct the Director to enter into an agreement with Cranberry, upon the following terms:
- A post-performance refundable tax credit which represents 15% of new state revenue for 7 Years.
- Tax credit certificate issued post-performance upon review and verification by Commerce.
- No less than 20 new jobs for a rural county or 50 new jobs for an urban county, or 60% of the total annual projected new jobs, whichever is greater.
- Average annual wages must equal or exceed the average county wage, which is subject to change annually.
- The company must maintain operations in Idaho for the term of the agreement.
- Any additional terms deemed necessary by the Director not otherwise conflicting with the above conditions.

Moved by: Fred Titensor

Seconded: Jeremy Grimm

Roll call vote:

- Eve Knudtsen **AYE**
- Paul Kimmell **AYE**
- Randy Bauscher **AYE**
- Tom Beckwith **AYE**

Motion approved.

Idaho Tax Reimbursement Incentive Application Decision: Arion Motion:

- In the matter of the application for **Arion** I move that the Council approve the application and instruct the Director to enter into an agreement with Cranberry, upon the following terms:
- A post-performance refundable tax credit which represents 15% of new state revenue for 7 Years.
- Tax credit certificate issued post-performance upon review and verification by Commerce.
- No less than 20 new jobs for a rural county or 50 new jobs for an urban county, or 60% of the total annual projected new jobs, whichever is greater.

- Average annual wages must equal or exceed the average county wage, which is subject to change annually.
- The company must maintain operations in Idaho for the term of the agreement.
- Any additional terms deemed necessary by the Director not otherwise conflicting with the above conditions.

Moved by: Fred Titensor

Seconded by: Eve Knudtsen

- Paul Kimmell **AYE**
- Randy Bauscher **AYE**
- Tom Beckwith **AYE**
- Jeremy Grimm **AYE**

Motion approved.

CDBG Budget & Application Overview

- Dennis Porter with the CBDG and RCIF Program went over agenda items for CDBG & RCIF funding, details for CDBG & CARES budget to review projects submitted. RCIF infrastructure and RCIF voting to fund or not to fund.
- Dennis provided briefing books to council, application and information and EAC and budget page and summary, showed the scoring and breakdown, allocation and the project timelines, statistics about the breakdown of funds and policies.
- He further explained that this would be obligate fully funded and rollover dollars and explained the budget, how many applications and breakdown and economic development and if funded today what would remain for funding and allocation cost.
- Dennis went over future proposed increase costs for public facilities and downtown revitalization maximum award and went over CBDG CARES 1, CARES 2 & CARES 3 projects and allocation costs and budget and deadline June 2026 funding.
- Reviewed RCIF funding, which are state funds for infrastructure to jobs program and funding and explained diff between RCIF and CBDG dollars and federal funds.
- Went over PY2025 CBDG projects and public facilities and scoring sheet slides, public facilities spreadsheet, map and explained scoring & briefing book, public facilities tab and section high to low and loan usually provided by DEQ and went over stats and grant dollars.
- Dennis went over the CBDG applications for review
 - City of Homedale, City of Murtaugh, City of Kooskia, City of Cascade, City of Elk River, City of Council, City of St. Anthony, City of Lava Hot Springs, City of Culdesac, City of Arimo, City of McCall, City of Pierce

Chairman Paul Kimmel announced the consider vote on the projects to council members.

Moved by Jeremy Grimm

Seconded by: Eve Knudtsen

- Paul Kimmell **AYE**
- Randy Bauscher **AYE**
- Tom Beckwith **AYE**
- Fred Titensor **AYE**

Motion approved

Break 10:35 am Chairman Kimmel called back to order 10:46 am

CDBG Community Presentations: Rathdrum Downtown & Boundary County Job Creation

- Dennis Porter and Tonny Tenne went over City of Rathdrum and Boundary County applications and provided briefing pages and explained the RCIF funding.
- Tony explained RCIFs project for Boundary County and members of Boundary County & City of Rathdrum gave presentations seeking funds to help city for community engagement and attract new business and growth.

Chairman Paul Kimmel called break 11:11 am & called back 11:18 am

Break for questions from EAC for presentations

Chairman Kimmel called break 11:41 am reconvened 11:46 am

CDBG Application Approvals

- Dennis went over the applications for ICDBG projects for City of Rexburg, City of Roberts & Franklin County with the council.

Jeremy Grimm moved EAC approved Sr. Community Center Project

Seconded by Fred Titensor

Roll call to vote

- Paul Kimmell **AYE**
- Randy Bauscher **AYE**
- Tom Beckwith **AYE**
- Eve Knudtsen **AYE**

Motion Approved

Jeremy Grimm moved to EAC approved RCIF applications recommendations.

Seconded motion by Randy Bauscher (Dennis Porter said based on bids bump up funding up \$10K for engineering and Jeremy approved amended motion up to \$10K)

Roll call to vote

- Paul Kimmell **AYE**
- Fred Titensor **AYE**
- Tom Beckwith **AYE**
- Eve Knudtsen **AYE**

Motion Approved

Jeremy Grimm moved to EAC to recommend CDBG 2025 applications for funding.

Seconded by Eve Knudtsen

Roll call to vote

- Paul Kimmell **AYE**
- Fred Titensor **AYE**

- Tom Beckwith **AYE**
- Randy Bauscher **AYE**

Motion Approved

New Business & Public Comment

- Jake commented article from Idaho Statesmen regarding Micron and Chobani and has interesting takes and about the average household and median house prices and Idaho affordability and workforce.
- Director Kealey added in person meeting was great this year and wanted EAC to meet more each year to get planning for the next in-person meeting, possibly October.

Chairman Kimmell: Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved by: Jeremy Grimm

Seconded by: Fred Titensor

Motion Approved

Meeting adjourns at 12:14 PM PDT.