



Executive Committee

Thursday, May 28, 2026

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

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Meeting ID: 286 248 952 613 75

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Phone Conference ID: 941 884 270#

Contact: Susan Patterson (spatterson@ocwcoq.org)

AGENDA

- | | | | |
|----|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1) | 11:00 | Call to Order & Agenda Review | Chair Paul Schuytema |
| 2) | 11:02 | Roll Call | Staff |
| 3) | 11:05 | Public Comment | Chair Paul Schuytema |
| 4) | 11:08 | March 19, 2026, Minutes Approval
(Attachment A pg. 03) | Chair Paul Schuytema |

ACTION: Approval of Minutes

- | | | | |
|----|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 5) | 11:10 | June 11, 2026, CWEDD Draft Meeting agenda
(Attachment B pg. 07)
Draft agenda for review. | Staff |
|----|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|

Action: Approval of Agenda

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|----|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 6) | 11:15 | CWEDD Regional Meeting Discussion (Fall 2026)
Determine Logistics, Structure, and Theme <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theme/Focus• Date/Time:• Location• Agenda Items (TBA)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Oregon Employment Dept Economic Forecast○ Working Group Updates• Group Activity: Prioritization/Table Conversation• Wrap Up and Evaluation | Staff |
| 7) | 11:40 | Strategic Discussion on CWEDD Board Goals
(Attachment C pg. 10) | Staff |



The 25-30 CEDS was recently adopted. How do we continue the momentum?

- Continue CEDS Priority Areas Discussion – Priority Area 2 continued (Approaches prioritized at the March 19, 2026, meeting)
 - *Facilitate connections between business development centers, economic development organizations, business incubators and accelerators to create a clear and obvious bridge of support between the start-up and growth phases of new businesses.*
 - *Facilitate coordination between education institution higher education and community colleges), economic organizations and regional businesses to continue to our regional entrepreneurial ecosystem supporting in businesses region-wide.*

8) 11:55 Other Business

All

- Executive Committee Member Updates
- CWEDD Executive Committee Appointment
- Future Board Presentations: (e.g., Access to Power/Energy, State Energy Plan, Eugene Airport)

9) 12:00 Adjournment

Chair Paul Schuytema

The next meeting will be on Thursday, August 27, 2026.

CWEDD Executive Committee Roster 2026	
Vacant	Vacant
Ron Whitlatch	City of Lebanon, City Manager
Paul Schuytema	EDALC, Lincoln County, Executive Director
Greg Ervin	City of Collage Grove, City Councilor
Nancy Wyse	Benton County, County Commissioner

QUORUM REQUIREMENT: “A quorum shall be three of five members present. Alternates may serve on the Executive Committee if the representative is not able to attend a meeting and if the representative decides. The Executive Committee shall be conducted in compliance with the Oregon Public Meetings Laws as described in ORS 192.610 through ORS 192.690.” (CWEDD Bylaws Section VI B.4).



CWEDD EXECUTIVE MEETING
Thursday, February 26, 2025
11:00am - 12:00pm
 Microsoft Team's Meeting Remote Connection

Members: Councilor Greg Ervin, Ron Whitlatch, Paul Schuytema, Commissioner Nancy Wyse

Staff: Planning Supervisor Justin Peterson, Interim EDA Supervisor Susan Patterson, CED Director Matt Lehman, Executive Assistant Ashlyn Muzechenko

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	DECISION / CONCLUSION
1. Call to Order & Agenda Review	<p>The Chair, Paul Schuytema, called the February CWEDD Executive Committee meeting to order 11:01am.</p> <p>There were no additions or other changes to the agenda.</p>	The meeting was called to order at 11:01am by The Chair Paul Schuytema
2. Roll Call	CWEDD Staff Justin Peterson conducted roll calls for the members and staff in attendance.	Roll call was conducted.
3. Public Comments	There were no members of the public present, therefore there were no public comments presented to the CWEDD Executive Committee.	There were no public comments.
<p>4. Approval of Minutes of November 20, 2025 (Attachment A)</p> <p>Action: Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>Councilor Greg Ervin moved to approve the CWEDD Executive Committee minutes of November 20, 2025. Ron Whitlatch seconded. The motion carried successfully, and the minutes were approved.</p> <p>Councilor Greg Ervin voted for approval. Ron Whitlatch voted for approval. Chair Paul Schuytema voted for approval. Commissioner Nancy Wyse There were no votes against.</p>	The CWEDD Executive Committee Approved of the November meeting minutes unanimously.
<p>5. Election of Officers and Executive Committee</p> <p>Action: Discussion</p>	<p>The election of officers is scheduled for the March CWEDD Board meeting.</p> <p>Staff would like to discuss with the Chair, Vice-chair, and executive committee if there were those willing to continue their position at those seats.</p> <p>Peterson shared the Chairmanship History for the CWEDD Board.</p> <p>Councilor Ervin and Paul Schutemya expressed interest in continuing</p>	

	<p>to serve in the Chair and Vice-Chair positions for their third and final years.</p> <p>Ron Whitlatch noted he will continue to serve on the Executive Committee.</p> <p>Commissioner Wyse noted she would be willing to continue the Executive committee for next year.</p> <p>Staff will be reaching out to Mayor Bryan Cutchen to ensure they would like to continue to serve on the executive committee.</p>	
<p>6. March 19, 2026, CWEDD Board Draft Meeting Agenda (Attachment B)</p>	<p>Peterson shared the draft CWEDD Board meeting agenda for the March 19, 2026, meeting.</p> <p>Councilor Ervin noted he is very interested in the economic development bottlenecks in Oregon like power and other resources. Discussion on these topics would be great to add to the agenda.</p> <p>The group agreed this would be a great conversation for the next meeting so homework and groundwork could be done on the topic.</p> <p>Chair Schuytema noted it would be important on this agenda to discuss regional meeting ideas for the 2026 calendar year.</p> <p>The Committee approved of the agenda by consensus.</p> <p>Councilor Greg Ervin voted for approval. Ron Whitlatch voted for approval. Chair Paul Schuytema voted for approval. Commissioner Nancy Wyse There were no votes against.</p>	<p>The CWEDD Executive Committee members approved of the March Board meeting agenda by consensus.</p>
<p>7. Strategic Discussion on CWEDD Board Goals</p>	<p>Peterson shared the 25-30 CEDS that were recently adopted and asked the committee how they would like to continue the momentum.</p> <p>Chair Schuytema added we may be able to ask members to review a</p>	

	<p>priority area ahead of every meeting to come ready to discuss at each board meeting. Additionally adding in the email, placing a link to the CWEDD CEDS video to get folks to engage as well.</p> <p>The group discussed the CEDS priority areas, and a possible CWEDD Regional meeting in Fall of 2026.</p> <p>Chair Schuytema noted the next venue idea for the larger meeting would be possibly in Lane County to get more engagement from the members.</p> <p>Peterson reminded Priority area 2 is in business growth and economic development.</p> <p>Chair Schuytema noted it would be nice to send the invite out to everyone who is invited to the practitioners' luncheons. As well as those on the Lane Economic Development Committee.</p>	
<p>8. Other Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bylaws and Membership Update • Executive Committee Member Updates • Letter of Support Updates • 2026 Meeting Schedule 	<p>Other Business:</p> <p><i>CWEDD Executive Committee Meeting Schedule</i> Peterson shared the 2026 meeting schedule for the CWEDD Executive committee.</p> <p><i>Letter of Support Updates (EDALC, Mass Timber – RDI, and Mapleton Water District)</i> Peterson shared with the letters of support; there have been 3 that have come through.</p> <p><i>Bylaws and Membership Update-</i> Peterson shared the following as the new bylaws:</p>	

	<p>(A) The District shall be governed by a District Board of twenty (20) members, appointed as specified below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) membership shall include twelve (12) members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Three (3) members shall be on the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments Executive Board with one each from Benton, Lincoln, and Linn counties. ○ Six (6) members shall be representatives of a city, county, or tribal government with two (2) each from Benton, Lincoln, and Linn counties. ○ Three (3) members shall be representatives of an economic interest group in the OCWCOG region (e.g. University, Community College, Chamber of Commerce, Workforce Board, Small Business Development Center, Business Representative, etc.) • Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) membership shall include eight (8) members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Six (6) members shall be members of the Lane Council of Governments Board of Directors. ○ Two (2) members shall be members of the Lane Economic Committee (LEC). <p>Executive Committee Member Updates - Councilor Ervin noted the City of Cottage Grove will be discussing coaching and partnering with EDA and identifying bottlenecks in their jurisdiction.</p> <p>Ron Whitlatch shared for Lebanon the housing is increasing and there has been a large amount of grant work done. For the Economic Development side, there is updated wetland delineation coming up on a large parcel as well. Out of 120 acres in 2016 80 have been determined as wetlands.</p> <p>Commissioner Wyse shared there are no updates from Benton County.</p> <p>Chair Schuytema shared the Lincoln County Economic Summit is coming up soon and is close to sold out.</p>	
9. Adjournment	<i>The next CWEDD Executive Meeting is scheduled for May 2026.</i>	The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm by The Chair Paul Schuytema.



Board Meeting

June 11, 2026
9:00 am – 11:00 am

**Pacific Maritime Heritage Center (Bayfront)
333 SE Bay Blvd., Newport, OR 97365**

or

Join Virtually via Teams

TEAMS Meeting by clicking [HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 254 291 114 930 4

Passcode: GL2NZ34k

Mobile 1 Click Number:

[+ 1 872-242-8088](#)

Phone Conference ID: 572 135 787#

Contact: Susan Patterson (spatterson@ocwcog.org)

AGENDA

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|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1. | 9:00 Call to Order & Agenda Review
<i>Welcome to Lincoln County!</i> | Chair Paul Schuytema |
| 2. | 9:05 Roll Call | Staff |
| 3. | 9:08 Public Comment | Chair Paul Schuytema |
| 4. | 9:10 Minutes of March 19, 2026, Meeting (Attachment A)
ACTION: Approval of Minutes | Chair Paul Schuytema |
| 5. | 9:12 CWEDD Executive Committee Appointment
ACTION: Appoint CWEDD Exec Board member | Chair Paul Schuytema |
| 6. | 9:15 Fall Regional Meeting
Preliminary logistics, date/time, structure, and theme
ACTION: Discussion | Staff, Susan Patterson |
| 7. | 9:30 CEDS Priorities Area 2 and Proposed Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Area 2: Grow Economic Vitality Through Business Development, Approaches 2 and 3 • Economic and Disaster Resiliency • Economic Development Practitioner Convenings ACTION: Discussion | Staff, Justin Peterson and Susan Patterson |

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| 8. | 9:45 | Lincoln County Economic Report
Link to the full report: Lincoln County, Oregon Economy Status in Middle 2020's | Chair Paul Schuytema |
| | | ACTION: Information | |
| 9. | 10:00 | Georgia Pacific Toledo – Local and Regional Economic impact and report. | Andrea Formo,
Georgia Pacific,
Toledo |
| | | ACTION: Discussion | |
| 10. | 10:40 | Lincoln City EPA Community-Wide Assessment
<i>An overview of how the City of Lincoln City used EPA Community-Wide Assessment funding to identify brownfields, complete environmental assessments, and support redevelopment projects throughout the community. Specifically highlighting key accomplishments, lessons learned, and next steps following completion of the grant.</i> | Guest, Seth Lenaerts –
Lincoln City |
| | | ACTION: Discussion | |
| 11. | 10:50 | Discussion: CEDS Working Groups (Open time for any questions) (Attachment D) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Innovation Hubs</i> • <i>Broadband Action Team (BAT)</i> • <i>Blue Economy Update from EDALC</i> • <i>Cascades West Regional Consortium (CWRC)</i> • <i>Early Childhood Education (on pause)</i> • <i>Rural Economic Alliance (REAL)</i> • <i>Lane Economic Committee (LEC)</i> • <i>Other workgroup updates?</i> | Chair/Staff,
Susan Patterson |
| 12. | 10:55 | Other Business (time permitting) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Regionally Significant Updates – by County (Examples – a large manufacturing company announced a new site, other board meetings you attend)</i> • <i>Topics for remaining 2026 meetings?</i> | Chair/Staff,
Susan Patterson |
| 13. | 11:00 | Adjournment
<i>Next Meeting: September 10, 2026 in Benton County</i> | Chair |
| 14. | 11:05 | Port Dock 5 “Shop the Dock” Tour – View over the harbor
Tour of the Newport Port Dock 5 to learn all about commercial fishing in Newport. | Dr. Angee Doerr |
| 15. | 11:30 | Lunch at Clearwater restaurant. | Chair |

**CWEDD Board of Directors Meeting
June 11, 2026**

OCWCOG Members	Title	Jurisdiction	Attendance
Nancy Wyse/TBA	Commissioner	Benton County	TBA from OCWCOG Board
TBA		Lincoln County	TBA from OCWCOG Board
Alex Johnson II/TBA	Mayor	City of Albany	TBA from OCWCOG Board
Heather DeSart	Executive Director	NW Oregon Works	
Greg Price	Director	Oregon Coast Community College, SBDC	
Christie Dudenhofer	Executive Director of Semiconductor ED	Oregon State University	
Paul Schuytema	Executive Director	EDALC	
Chris Workman	City Manager	City of Philomath	
Ron Whitlatch	City Manager	City of Lebanon	
John Pascone	President	LEDG	
Pam Barlow-Lind	Planning Director	CTSI	
Christopher Jacobs	Economic Dev Director	Benton County	
Lane Members	Title	Jurisdiction	Attendance
Chris Wig	Board Member	Willamalane Parks and Rec District	
Patti Chappel	Board Member	Eugene People's Utility District	
Randy Groves	City Councilor	City of Eugene	
Robbie McCoy	Mayor	City of Veneta	
Steve Racca	Board Member	Fern Ridge Library District	
Pete Knox	Board Member	Lane Transit 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.

Priority Area 2

Grow Economic Vitality Through Business Development

#	Approach	Recommended Lead	Key Partners
1	Provide support to entrepreneurship, industrial innovation, business retention and business expansion efforts combined with workforce development efforts to create a thriving business environment.	CWEDD	Workforce dev agencies, SBDCs, entrepreneurship leads.
2	Facilitate connections between business development centers, economic development organizations, business incubators and accelerators to create a clear and obvious bridge of support between the start-up and growth phases of new businesses.	Workforce dev agencies	CWEDD, workforce investment boards, incubators, accelerators, SBDCs, state and federal regulatory agencies
3	Facilitate collaboration between educational institutions (both higher education and community colleges), economic support organizations and regional businesses to continue to grow our regional entrepreneurial ecosystem supporting innovative businesses region-wide.	School districts, community colleges, and universities	Workforce dev agencies
4	Develop a future-ready workforce pipeline by coordinating current & future business needs with higher education training, from STEM disciplines to career technical education.	WIBS and community colleges	Workforce dev agencies
5	Provide start-ups and existing businesses with technical assistance, resources and incentives to help them better thrive in our region.	SBDCs	Accelerators
6	Identify resources and develop relationships before shocks so that businesses can immediately access financial assistance post-shock.	Government loan officers, Business Oregon	CWEDD, EDA, Small Business Administration, community banks
7	Support discussions for regulatory changes at the local, state, and federal level to facilitate business growth and health.	CWEDD	Business Oregon, RST, city and county partners

Description: In order to thrive, the region must foster entrepreneurship, innovation, and workforce development through collaboration with educators, business support organizations, and economic development partners. Key initiatives include expanding technical assistance, bridging gaps between business incubation and growth, aligning workforce training with industry needs, and advocating for regulatory improvements. This approach ensures businesses at all stages and of all sizes have the resources, talent, and supportive policies needed to thrive and drive long-term economic prosperity

CWEDD's Role: As the designated economic development district of the region, CWEDD provides access to unique sources of Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding and programming. The District has an opportunity to offer resources and coordination that will support local-level business retention and expansion efforts and entrepreneurial ecosystems builders. **Over the next five years**, the District will provide research capacity, serve as an information hub, and facilitate important connections between business support providers, members, and federal programming.



Grow Economic Vitality Through Business Development Approach 1

Provide support to entrepreneurship, industrial innovation, business retention and business expansion efforts combined with workforce development efforts to create a thriving business environment through regional coordination.

Implementation Strategies

- a) Create and promote a database of incubators, accelerators, capital sources, and business support services available in the region.
- b) Assist with identifying and pursuing funding that would increase capacity of Small Business Development Centers, business incubators and accelerators.
- c) Help counties and cities establish their own business registration or tracking systems that will allow the collection of more and better data about business' needs in order to facilitate responsive government.
- d) Establish a network of local and regional staff who can help businesses navigate through permitting and other processes.
- e) Develop and publicize educational opportunities about the advantages of international trade for regional businesses that are interested in expanding into new markets.
- f) Coordinate workforce and entrepreneurship efforts through the CEDS working group process. Including integrating the Innovation Hub work as a working group.

Indicators of Success

Supporting Metrics	Collection Frequency	Data Lead	Sources
The databases as described in strategies (a), (b) and (c), number of businesses engaged as described in strategies (d) and (e).	Every plan update	CWEDD, member cities	CWEDD, regulatory partners, and its membership



Alignment



US Economic Development Administration



Regional Solutions

Grow Economic Vitality Through Business Development Approaches 2 and 3

- 2) Facilitate connections between business development centers, economic development organizations, business incubators and accelerators to create a clear and obvious bridge of support between the start-up and growth phases of new businesses.
- 3) Facilitate collaboration between educational institutions (both higher education and community colleges), economic support organizations and regional businesses to continue to grow our regional entrepreneurial ecosystem supporting innovative businesses region-wide.

Implementation Strategies

- a) Facilitate annual meetings with representatives from business development centers and incubators/accelerators to discuss the process referrals between support providers.
- b) Facilitate annual meetings with representatives from educational institutions to build connections between regional needs and academic course offerings.
- c) Organize a forum on regional innovation networking to facilitate the exchange of ideas and talent across sectors and geography.

Indicators of Success

Supporting Metrics	Collection Frequency	Data Lead	Sources
Number of events held, number of attendees, and organizations/sectors represented at each event	Every plan update	CWEDD, SBDCs	CWEDD



Alignment



US Economic Development Administration



Regional Solutions

Grow Economic Vitality Through Business Development Approach 4

Develop a future-ready workforce pipeline by coordinating current & future business needs with higher education training, from STEM disciplines to career technical education.

Implementation Strategies

- a) Support the development of a STEM and career and technical education (CTE) workforce pipeline by coordinating programming between employers and educational institutions, including high schools, community colleges, and universities.
- b) Identify key industries and employers based on local comparative advantages and national trends. Industries could include: mass timber, computer chip manufacturing, engineering, oceanics, software, and more.
- c) Connect local workforce initiatives with EDA investment strategies to increase the capacity of the pipeline

Indicators of Success

Supporting Metrics	Collection Frequency	Data Lead	Sources
STEM job growth rate and regional STEM cluster investments	Every plan update	CWEDD	Census, Oregon by the Numbers



Grow Economic Vitality Through Business Development Approach 5

Provide start-ups and existing businesses with technical assistance, resources and incentives to help them better thrive in our region.

Implementation Strategies

- a) Support Small Development Centers (SBDCs), incubators, and accelerators in developing resources to help operators develop and manage their business plans.
- b) Discuss potential shocks, threats, disasters and risk reduction strategies at local chamber or business association “Lunch and Learn” events to encourage businesses to create continuity of operations plans.
- c) Incentivize investments in business resilience for businesses that have business continuity plans (e.g. reduce business license fees; expedite plan review for retrofit/mitigation projects).

Indicators of Success

Supporting Metrics	Collection Frequency	Data Lead	Sources
Number of events held, number of attendees, and organizations/sectors represented at each event	Every plan update	Workforce agencies, SBDCs	Membership



Alignment



US Economic Development Administration



Regional Solutions

Grow Economic Vitality Through Business Development Approach 6

Identify resources and develop relationships before shocks so that businesses can immediately access financial assistance post-shock.

Implementation Strategies

- a) Identify external funding (particularly federal programs) to leverage local funds for business-related mitigation and recovery activities.
- b) Coordinate financial recovery programs with other recovery programs and efforts as described in Priority Area 1 Approach 3.

Indicators of Success

Supporting Metrics	Collection Frequency	Data Lead	Sources
Dollars dispersed, programs created, applications received	Every plan update	CWEDD	SBA, EDA, CWEDD membership



Alignment



US Economic Development Administration



Regional Solutions

Grow Economic Vitality Through Business Development Approach 7

Support discussions for regulatory changes at the local, state, and federal level to facilitate business growth and health.

Implementation Strategies

- a) Convene policy discussions between governments, economic development agencies, business interests, labor groups, and workforce development entities in alignment with other economic development organizations, like the Oregon Economic Development Association (OEDA).
- b) Provide business owner/operators with consistent opportunities to regularly provide feedback to CWEDD membership about the current business climate.

Indicators of Success

Supporting Metrics	Collection Frequency	Data Lead	Sources
Number of convenings with State and Federal partners	Every plan update	CWEDD	SBA, EDA, CWEDD membership