



Serving Baker, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow,
Umatilla, Union and Wallowa Counties

**EOWB Board of Directors
Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 15, 2026, 9:00 AM (PT)**

x	Quinn Anderson, Umpqua Bank		Jeff Gritz, Vice Chair Oregon & Southern Idaho.
x	Maisie Taylor, Blue Mountain Hospital	x	Brian Lemke, NW Carpenters Union
x	Bill Wyllie, Chester’s Thriftway	x	Mike Aldritt, AFL-CIO
	Martha Corrigan, Symmetry Care		Doug Dalton, Baker Technical Institute
x	Riley Hill, Greystone Builders LLC	x	Dana Young, TVCC
	Karla Jimenez, Beef Northwest		Mark Browning, BMCC
x	Kelly Morgan, Lamb Weston	x	Tory Stinnett, GEOEDC
	Joanna Larson, Northwest Beef Express	x	Matt Wilson, OED (Ex-Officio)
x	Susie Cederholm, Chair CHD Inc.	x	Kathy Cook, ODHS-VR
x	Kit Evans, Wallowa County Grain Growers		

***>9=quorum (51%), >4= (B)(25%)**

Guests Present: Lindsey Cole, Certified Professional Accountants
Harney County Commissioner Patty Dorroh, Chief Local Elected Official,
Eastern Oregon Jobs Council

EOWB Staff: Erin Carpenter, Farideh Alvijeh

Meeting Called to Order: 9:00 AM

By Susie Cederholm

Approve Draft Agenda

Motion to Approve: Kit Evans

Second to Motion by: Riley Hill and Bill Wyllie

Motion Carries with Voice Vote, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions

Public Comment: None

2024-25 Program Year - Auditor Report Presentation

Ms. Cole noted that the audit covers the financial activities of the Eastern Oregon Workforce Board for the previous fiscal year. The report focuses on the financial statements and provides an overview of the organization’s fiscal health and compliance. One material weakness exists, which is that the auditor assists EOWB with drafting its financial statements. Ms. Cole estimates that over 90% of CPA audits have this finding and no changes are recommended.

Note: Detailed financial findings were presented via screen-share; refer to the EOWB Audit Report for specific line items and fiscal metrics.

Approve Adding Signer to EOWB Bank Account

Motion to Approve: Brian Lemke

Second to Motion by: Kelly Morgan

Motion Carries with Voice Vote, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions

Approve Removing Board Members Doug Dalton and Karla Jimenez for Non-Participation

Motion to Approve: Kelly Morgan

Second to Motion by: Bill Wyllie

Motion Carries with Voice Vote, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions

EOWB Updates - Erin Carpenter

Pathway Home Program - EOWB worked with the Training & Employment Consortium (TEC) to find ways to increase and improve services to adults transitioning out of Eastern Oregon's four Department of Corrections adult prison facilities. TEC will continue to serve the two Umatilla County Correctional Institutions and EOWB will continue to serve the Powder River Correctional Institution (PRCI) and will hire and train an additional staff member to enable EOWB to provide services in both the Snake River Correctional Institution and at PRCI. TEC will backup EOWB and EOWB will backup TEC.

Eastern Oregon Jobs Council - The Eastern Oregon Jobs Council (EOJC) is made up of one County Commissioner from each of EOWB's eight counties. Patty Dorroh is the Chief Local Elected Official. EOWB is the fiscal agent for the WIOA funds allocated to the eight EOJC counties. The EOJC has begun to meet more regularly.

EOWB Program Compliance and Finance Updates - Farideh Alvijeh

WIOA performance mid-year update - On September 30, 2025 a letter was sent to EOWB's service provider asking to improve its performance in several areas. EOWB expects improvement in the next report.

Monitoring reports - EOWB's monitoring by Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission once again had no findings and no observations.

Quest mid-year spending report - Quest funds are at 19% spent as of December 31, 2025. EOWB may need to modify the contract with TEC to help get these funds spent so that more Eastern Oregonians receive the help they need to get training and find good jobs, and to ensure they are not returned to the state.

ARPA spending report - ARPA funds are on track to be spent this year, but due to unspent funds by EOWB service providers last year and the year prior, there is additional money that EOWB will be using to provide direct participant services to help provide workforce development services to more Eastern Oregonians, and to avoid returning funds to the state.

Future Planning - Erin Carpenter

2025-26 WIOA Program Year Expectations - WIOA has still not been reauthorized. Funds have been reduced each year, last year was around a 15% reduction. EOWB is preparing for these funding cuts by finding more efficiencies and reducing spending where possible.

April 2026 Board Meeting Planning - The Board decided to continue holding the April Board Meeting in person and would like to see it scheduled for April 23 or April 30, 2026 in La Grande, based on board member input. Erin will send out a meeting invite on the most popular date using the meeting chat entries. This meeting will recap EOWB's 2025-26 projects and plan for the 2026-27 EOWB budget and initiatives.

Motion to Accept 2024-25 Program Year Independent Audit Report as Presented

Motion to Approve: Brian Lemke

Second to Motion by: Dana Young

Motion Carries with Voice Vote, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions

Adjourn: 9:51 am PT

Submitted by Erin Carpenter