



Bear River Association of Governments

Box Elder County | Cache County | Rich County

170 N Main, Logan, UT 84321 • 35 E 100 S, Brigham City, UT 84302

Phone: 435.752.7242 • Fax: 435.752.6962 • Web: brag.utah.gov

Cache County Economic Opportunity Advisory Board Friday, 10 July 2026 at 3PM

Physical Address: 199 North Main Street, Logan, Utah 84321
Cache County Historic Courthouse
Council Chambers

MINUTES

1. Welcome & Roll-Call: Chair Mark Hurd called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken, noting a quorum of three voting members present, plus ex-officio attendees.

Attendees:

- a. Voting Members Present: Mark Hurd (Chair), Brian Carver (Vice-Chair), Keegan Garrity.
- b. Ex-Officio and Others Present: Alma Burgess (Ex-Officio), Shawn Milne (Presenter/BRAG), Cambria (BRAG Intern).

2. Approval of Agenda: Shawn Milne requested an amendment to the printed agenda to strike Item 6 ("Approval of Infrastructure Grant Application Process"), noting it was an artifact from a Box Elder County meeting and did not apply to Cache County.

- a. Motion: A motion was made by Keegan Garrity to approve the agenda with the aforementioned amendment.
- b. Vote: Passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes: The board reviewed the minutes from May 2025. It was noted that the draft minutes failed to record the names of those present at that meeting.

- a. Motion: Brian Carver moved to continue the approval of the minutes to the next meeting so a full roll call could be added to the record. Seconded by Keegan Garrity.
- b. Vote: Passed unanimously.

4. Annual Review of Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA): Shawn Milne provided a brief annual OPMA training. He reminded the board that public business must be conducted openly, notice requirements must be met at least 24 hours in advance, and actionable items must be clearly listed on the agenda. Milne and the board also discussed the



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need to adopt an electronic/hybrid meeting policy to govern when remote members count toward a quorum, suggesting they mirror the County Council's recently passed policy.

5. Review of Membership Roster & Leadership Elections: Milne reviewed the membership roster and explained recent changes to GOED administrative rules. The new rules stipulate that elected officials cannot sit on the CEO board if the board provides recommendations directly to the legislative body they serve on. Consequently, members Mark Hurd, George Daines, and Keegan Garrity will need to step down from the board. Additionally, member Daryl Simmons requested to be removed due to personal reasons. This leaves three remaining voting members. The county council will be voting to add more members at their upcoming meeting.

- a. Elections: Keegan Garrity made a motion to elect Brian Carver as the new Chair of the CEO Board. The motion was seconded by Mark Hurd and passed unanimously. The election for Vice-Chair was deferred until the County Council appoints new members to reconstitute the board. Mark Hurd continued to chair the remainder of the meeting.

6. Debrief of 47G's D.C. Advocacy Trip: Chair Hurd debriefed the board on his June advocacy trip to Washington D.C. with 47G, an aerospace and defense organization. Hurd reported that the trip was highly successful in showcasing Cache County's economic impact, with local companies being highlighted in almost every meeting. Milne added information regarding advancements at the local airport (LGU), noting a grant for airport electrification, beta testing for electric aircraft, and a push to position Cache Valley as an air taxi stop for the 2034 Olympics.

7. Review of FY26: Milne reviewed the Fiscal Year 2026 allocations, which included an \$18,500 match for a rural communities opportunity zone (RCOG) agriculture report study, an \$18,500 matching grant for the airport fuel farm, and \$161,500 for the BRAG contract. Milne also provided informational updates on ongoing economic development projects, including "Project Back 40" (a local business expansion involving the potential use of a CRA) and a current RFI code-named "Lioness" for cold storage and microbiology lab space.

8. Recommendations for FY27 Rural County Grant Funding: The board discussed recommendations for the FY27 Rural County Grant (\$200,000 total) to submit to the County Council. The FY27 application will need to be submitted before the September 1st deadline.

- a. Motion: Brian Carver moved to recommend continuing the current funding arrangement with BRAG, which includes grant writing, grant management, business retention & recruitment, and the county's memberships for 47G and GSLI. The motion was seconded by Keegan Garrity and passed unanimously.
- b. Remaining Funds: Approximately \$39,000 remains available to allocate. The board discussed prioritizing the airport, an economic impact study for the recreation center, supporting the Bridgerland Technical College business hub, and other possibilities. The board opted to defer specific monetary recommendations for this remainder until they could gather more precise needs. Mr. Milne was directed to discuss a potential need with Bridgerland Technical College's Business & Innovation Hub.



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9. Determine Next CEO Board Meeting: Due to upcoming deadlines and the need to follow up after the next County Council meeting (scheduled for July 28th), the board set their next meeting for Wednesday, August 19, 2026, prior to 5:00 PM.

10. Review of New RCG Contract Process for FY27: Milne informed the board of new GOED administrative rules requiring a formalized, memorialized contract detailing the specific metrics and objectives expected from BRAG. This contract must be approved by the County Council prior to the September 1 grant submission. Milne will have a draft ready for review at the August 19th meeting.

11. Information Items:

- a. Opportunity Zone 2.0: Milne submitted two Cache County census tracts to the state for the new Opportunity Zone program: the USU Research Park area and the Bridgerland Technical College/LGU airport area.
- b. GSLI Advert: Milne shared an advertisement placed in a site selector trade magazine that highlights Cache County's diverse economy, specifically noting high-tech (Space Dynamics Lab) and agriculture/manufacturing (Pepperidge Farm).
- c. Updated EDD Board: The Economic Development District (EDD) board is being reconstituted to move away from relying solely on the BRAG governing board. The new structure will limit elected official representation to between 51% and 65% and will create an advisory board of 9 to 13 industry representatives to help guide the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Milne invited outgoing Chair Mark Hurd to join this new EDD board.

12. Adjournment: Following closing remarks, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Mark Hurd.