



**Carbon Community Economic Development (CED) Board
Regular Meeting
June 16, 2026 10:30 AM
751 E 100 N Suite #2600 Price, Utah 84501**

Board Members Present:

Layne Miller
Daniel Luke
Jon Richens
Oran Stainbrook

Board Members Absent:

Zak Konakis

Others Present:

Shanny Wilson
Larry Jensen

Overview

Board members reviewed and approved the 2027 grant application, emphasizing the need for a detailed project description, economic impact, and timeline. The also discussed the 2027 grant rubric, focusing on job creation, strategic fit, and project readiness.

Action Items

Email the board the statistic sheet Shanny shared

Agenda

1. Welcome and roll call – Layne Miller
2. Review, discuss, and approve previous meeting minutes from May 19, 2026 – Layne Miller
Motion – Jon
Second – Daniel
Approved
3. Rural County Grant 2025 recipient report(s), if any –
No reports
4. Review, discuss, and approve the 2027 grant application – Shanny Wilson
Shanny presented updates to the 2027 grant application, including making letters of support optional, clarifying that funding applications open on July 1, and expanding project description categories to include new or updated equipment, workforce development, and infrastructure. Shanny Wilson also clarified the definition of in-kind contributions as non-monetary goods, services, or expertise that must be tracked at fair market value.
The board formally approved the adjustments made to the 2027 grant application.

Motion – Daniel

Second – Jon

5. Continue discussing the 2027 grant rubric – Jon Richens

Jon's new rubric consists of a two-gate system: a pass-fail eligibility check followed by an economic impact scoring process that ranks projects based on categories like job creation, tax base, and strategic fit. The board engaged in a discussion regarding who defines "strategic fit" and how to account for the unique economic needs of the county, with participants suggesting that they must rely on local expertise. The board reached a consensus that the rubric should serve as a helpful guide rather than a set of rules that could limit their ability to fund beneficial projects. The members agreed that while they aim to avoid repeat funding if possible, they want to maintain the flexibility to support beneficial projects. Daniel noted that the scoring process acts as a security measure by providing a documented justification for their decisions, which is useful when responding to public inquiries. Jon committed to developing an Excel-based score sheet to streamline the application ranking process, replacing the previous method of using individual sheets per application.

6. Economic update – Larry Jensen

Larry updated the group on a partnership between Urban Oil and Gas and a company handling natural gas, compressing, liquifying, and hauling it to 2 data centers up north. The county is partnering with Messer to provide some culverts. The Altigen project (also known as Jurassic Spark) involving 1,200 acres east of Wellington, as well as the Valar project, which is currently navigating the process to lease or purchase 640 acres of land in Carbon County are being careful because of what's happening in Box Elder. The board discussed community concerns regarding AI and data centers, noting that while some skepticism exists regarding water use and environmental impact, these concerns are often based on misinformation; the group determined that public education is going to be essential to address these concerns. The discussion also included the potential for a solar field on property near Sunnyside and the associated challenges with the power grid's interconnection. The board identified that grid stability is a concern because existing solar production has caused frequency issues, indicating a need for local power generation, such as gas or potentially nuclear, to help balance the system.

7. Other business?

None

8. Adjourn

Motion: Jon

Approved

Approved



Layne Miller, Board Chair