

**Tri County Economic Development District
TEDD/RTPO Board of Directors
Hybrid Meeting
Wednesday, August 27, 2025**

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Tri County Economic Development District (TEDD) Chair, Debra Hansen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Introductions were conducted.

TEDD/RTPO Board Members

Debra Hansen, WSU Stevens County Extension	Dan Fagerlie, Ferry County PUD
Robert Rosencrantz, Pend Oreille County	Dave Rick, Pend Oreille County PUD
Robert Dean, Ferry County	Barney Brockwell, Eastern WA Partnership
Debra Hansen, WSU Stevens County Extension	Christine Whitney, Colville Tribe
Rosemary Shaw, Colville Together	Bryan Raines, Rural Resources
Jack Smith, City of Colville	Matt Schanz, NE Tri County Health
Sonia Hoffman, Colville Tribe	Michelle McCollum, Avista
Mick Yarrol, Stevens PUD	Doug Kyle

GUESTS

Edward Lambert, SCJ Alliance	Josh Kaiel, Innovia Foundation
Dan Bisbee	Steven Bruchman, Congressman Baumgartner's Office

TEDD STAFF

Frank Metlow, Deputy Exec Director/Planning Director	Shelly Stevens, Regional Marketing & Tourism Developer
Doug Hook, Assistant Finance Manager	Ryan Burkey, Economic Developer
Scott Thompson, Loan Officer	Verna Johnson, Office Assistant
Bob Stevens, Regional Business Specialist	Jim Cupples, Business Support Contractor

2. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of August 27th, 2025 Minutes
- Approval of General Fund & Loan Fund Expenditures & Transfers –August 2025

August 2025

General Fund – Claims Payable: Voucher Numbers: - 118974-118985; 119185-119191; 119447-119450; 119575-119577; 119589 in the amount of \$949,632.09 AND Benefits in the amount of \$14,065.83, AND Payroll in the amount of \$40,654.42, AND Petty Cash: Voucher Number 118952, for a monthly total of \$1,005,237.06.

TEDD Loan Fund —Claims Payable: Voucher Numbers: 119198 in the amount of \$400.00, for a monthly total of \$400.00.

TC EDC Loan Fund – Electronic Funds Transfer – August 2025 RMAP Payment in the amount of \$2,290.80 for a monthly total of \$2,290.80.

Dan Fagerlie made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Jack Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. Presentation –None

4. Staff Reports

Deputy Executive Director/Planning Director—Frank Metlow

- Frank provided updates on the completed SS4A project, and the initiation of the CTP-HSTP update.
- Awarded an additional WSDOT funding of \$85K.
- TEDD was awarded Ferry County project area 230 in the amount of \$12.4 million.

- All the BEAD project areas were awarded and out for public comment.
- Waiting to hear about the Community Connect for our southern Stevens County Project.
- Jeff has been setting up meetings with all three counties to discuss the budget.
- TEDD was asked to see if we could take over the Revolving Loan Fund for Benton-Franklin County.

Assistant Finance Officer – Doug Hook

- Doug provided an update on the current loan statistics, mentioning 43 loans with an outstanding balance of over 4.8 million.
- Continuing to work on entering historical information into Springbrook.
- Doug will follow up with the county and Treasury Department regarding the transition to Springbrook and the timeline for full switch over.

Regional Marketing & Tourism Developer – Shelly Stevens

- Shelly presented the new visitor website, wonderfullywild.com, which is organized into categories like explore, experience, adventures, and stories. The site features information on public lands, itineraries for activities, and links to off-site resources. More content will be added over time.
- Recently the video production team from Treatment Creative spent three days filming in the region to get footage for Wonderfully Wild Videos.
- Shelly attended the ribbon cutting for the new 10-acre Portage Park in Metaline Falls.
- Jeff and Shelly present the recipient of the Veterans quilt to Mr. Kervin Waterman, who served in the U.S. Airforce.
- Sample pictures were shared of the photos that have been recently added to the image library for this month. These photos are always available for businesses or organizations.

Business Support Contractor—Jim Cupples

- Jim mentioned that in the southern part of Pend Oreille County, the PUD has three project areas there and up north as Inland cellular. The new administration is really committed to getting those funds out there. I'm waiting to see how the public comments go.
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Economic Developer – Ryan Burkey

- Ryan reported a rise in unemployment rates for July across all three counties, with Ferry County at 6.7%, Stevens County at 5.3%, and Ponderosa at 5.4%. The Statewide unemployment rate is unchanged, and the national rate is slightly higher.
- Bob and Ryan have plans for more business support workshops that will begin soon.
- Continuing to provide the survey for the Ferry County Economic Development Strategy.

Regional Business Specialist—Bob Stevens

- Bob shared a graph with the ADO Interactions from May to date.
- Recently traveled to several different Counties, and visited commercial banks, as well as assistant development organizations, to get the word out to expand our loan program presence.
- Looking for alternative ways to get the word out to clients about upcoming workshops, due to lack of attendance at the workshops. Continuing to hand out flyers, sending emails, and sharing on social media pages.

Loan Officer – Scott Thompson

- Recently Scott and Bob visited other counties to spread the word about the TEDD Rural Opportunities Loan Fund.
- Scott discussed the use of Finsync, a self-guided educational tool, to guide entrepreneurs on how to set up a business.
- Currently, we have a full loan committee and working on four possible loans.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Updates from Board Members and Guests

- Members and guests gave updates of individual interests.

5. Adjournment

- As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.
- The next TEDD Board meeting was verified for October 22nd, at 1:00 p.m.

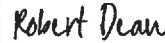
Respectfully Submitted: Verna Johnson, Office Assistant

ATTEST:

Signed by:

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Greg Young, TEDD Board Chairman

Signed by:

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Robert Dean, TEDD Board Secretary