

W. G. B.

AGENDA COVER MEMO

DATE: November 14, 2005 (Date of Memo)
November 30, 2005 (Date of Meeting)

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: LCOG, Milo Mecham, Principal Planner

TITLE: Order No. 05-_____ IN THE MATTER OF ORDERING THE
ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
BENTON, LANE, LINCOLN, LINN REGIONAL INVESTMENT BOARD
REGARDING FUNDING PROJECTS FOR THE FY 2003-2005 BIENNIUM

I. MOTION

MOVE TO ADOPT ORDER NO. 05-_____ IN THE MATTER OF
ORDERING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE BENTON, LANE, LINCOLN, LINN REGIONAL INVESTMENT
BOARD REGARDING FUNDING PROJECTS FOR THE FY 2003-2005
BIENNIUM

II. ISSUE OR PROBLEM

The Benton, Lane, Lincoln, Linn Regional Investment Board received additional requests for funding after the last round of distributions approved by the Commissioners. When sufficient funds had accumulated in the RIB account, a final distribution was made. These small projects completed the use of RIB funds from the last two bienniums. A small amount of funds from the 2001-03 biennium was used on a Rail study, and nearly all of the remaining 2003-05 funds were used to support two job creation programs. The boards of Commissioners must approve the projects before contracts can be signed and the projects initiated.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Background

The Oregon legislature allocated funds for regional and rural investment funding by the Regional Investment Boards around the state. This biennium the BL3 Region was allocated \$865,883. The

BL3 board developed a strategy, approved by Lane County and the other members of the BL3 RIB, for disposition of these funds. The funds are to be used to support projects that have an immediate prospect of job creation and meet the other eligibility requirements. Most of the project funds have been designated to support private business activity. The basic eligibility requirements are that the project have an overall investment of five dollars (\$5) for each dollar of RIB money and will spend no more than \$3000 of RIB money for each job created. The Commissioners have previously approved thirteen RIB projects.

The RIB has reviewed and approved additional projects. The proposed amounts of funding and the scoring on the important criteria are set forth on Attachment 2.

There was also a small amount of funds accumulated in the account for the prior biennium, carried into the 2003-05 biennium. These funds came from interest, and from some projects that were withdrawn. Some of these funds were used to pay administrative costs in the 2003-05 biennium, which made more funds available for job creation. The remaining funds were proposed by the RIB to be used to fund a feasibility study for rail improvements in the Albany area, to deal with traffic – railroad problems there. The 2001-03 biennium did not have the same standards as the 2003-05 biennium. The RIB chose to use the 01-03 standards in spending the final funds when they carried the funds forward. This had no significant effect on the tremendous job creation success of the last biennium.

The projects are described on Attachment 2.

B. Analysis

The proposed 2003-05 projects fit the criteria set by the RIB and the Commissioners. The RIB was an exemplary model among other RIBS across the state for job creation per dollar spent.

The 2001-03 project meets the criteria set during that period for the use of RIB funds. These funds will help address an important problem in the Albany area, where traffic is often held up because of rail traffic. This is not on the main rail lines, but on the spur lines that come in from Corvallis and other areas.

C. Alternatives/Options

The options before the Board are as follows:

1. The Board may take no action. This would result in at least a delay in disbursal of funds to these or other projects.
2. The Board may choose to approve the BL3 RIB recommendations. When the other counties have done the same thing, the RIB staff will work out contracts reflecting the RIB requirements and the projects can get under way.
3. The Board may choose to reject the proposed projects.

D. Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board adopt the proposed Order.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION/FOLLOW-UP

If the Board adopts the proposed Order, staff will communicate that action to the fiscal agent, CWCOG, and the fiscal agent will initiate contract discussions with the applicants.

V. ATTACHMENTS

1. Board Order No. 05—_____ in the Matter of Ordering the Acceptance Of The Final Recommendations of the Benton, Lane, Lincoln, Linn Regional Investment Board Regarding Funding Projects For The Fy 2003-2005 Biennium
2. Brief Description of Regional Investment Board Projects Recommended for Funding

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY OREGON

ORDER No.

) **IN THE MATTER OF ORDERING**
) **THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINAL**
) **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE**
) **BENTON, LANE, LINCOLN, LINN**
) **REGIONAL INVESTMENT BOARD**
) **REGARDING FUNDING**
) **PROJECTS FOR THE FY 2003-2005**
) **BIENNIUM**

WHEREAS, the Lane County Board of Commissioners has formed a Regional Investment Board as a partnership between Lane County and Benton, Lincoln and Linn Counties, and

WHEREAS, the Regional Investment Board of Benton, Lane, Linn, Lincoln Counties (the BL3 RIB) has reviewed a number of project proposals focused on job creation and job retention; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing these project applications, the Regional Investment Board recommends three projects (see Attachment 2) for funding through the Regional and Rural Investment funds; and

WHEREAS, these recommended projects will advance the economic development objectives as defined in the Benton-Lane-Lincoln-Linn Regional Investment Strategy.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Lane County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the recommendations made by the Benton-Lane-Lincoln-Linn Regional Investment Board as shown in Attachment 2 and directs the fiscal agent for the Regional Investment Board, the Cascades West Economic Development District, to complete the necessary contracts to allow the projects to be carried out as planned.

DATED this 30th day of November, 2005

Chair, Lane County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 11/21/06 Lane County
Terence Miller
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

ATTACHMENT 2
REGIONAL INVESTMENT BOARD - PROJECTS FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Projects Recommended:	Project Total Cost	Funds Requested	Matching Funds	Matching Funds/ RIB Request	Jobs Created	RIB Funds per Jobs Created	Average Wage of Jobs Created	County Average Wage
Crystal Valley Decorating Project will support the relocation of a metal ornament and garage manufacturer from California to the Albany area.	\$97,500	\$13,000	\$84,500	\$6.50/\$1	40	\$325	\$25,805	\$30,674
Lincoln County Job Creation EDALC (Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County) will receive and pass through funding to 8-9 companies and the companies will create at least 15 jobs.	\$1,388,000	\$45,000	\$1,343,000	\$29.84/\$1	15	\$3,000	\$26,840	\$25,123
Rail Bypass Study Cascades West COG will organize a study of the primary rail issue from the "Rail Corridor Feasibility Study."	\$36,500	\$13,000	\$23,500	\$1.81/\$1	0	NA	NA	\$30,674
TOTAL	\$1,522,000.00	\$71,000.00	\$1,451,000.00	\$20.44/\$1	55	\$1,290	\$26,087	