

Start time: 1:30pm MT. All times MST

Attendees:

-Selection Committee: Josh Scott, Leslie Hylton-Hinga, Barbara Myrick
-OEDIT and Common Group: Mr. Jaeckel Jaeckel, Mr. Vinton Vinton, Cristal Maria, Ray Liu, Dipika Mouli

1:34pm - Mr. George Vinton, CEO of Common Group, kicked off the meeting. Mr. Tyler Jaeckel, Managing Director of Economic Recovery, Office of Economic Development and International Trade started with opening remarks, thanking Selection Committee members for their time in this process. Mr. Jaeckel also noted that Selection Committee member John Ikard would not be in attendance in this meeting, and that decisions made during this meeting would be confirmed with him after the fact.

Mr. Vinton introduced the agenda for the meeting, the objectives for the meeting. Mr. Vinton also gave an overview of conflict-of-interest procedures, and shared which aspects of those would be relevant for the Selection Committee members on this call.

Mr. Vinton shared which part of the selection process we are in right now, explaining that we are at the end of the selection process that started from multiple groups reviewing all the initial total RFA applicants. Mr. Vinton also reviewed the selection criteria that was used to evaluate individual applicants, and selection criteria in evaluating the whole portfolio of grantees. Mr. Vinton then gave an overview of the target allocation of seed funds in this funding cycle, noting that \$10M is the target we are working towards for the Seed track of Phase 1 of this funding cycle.

1:47pm - Mr. Vinton started the detailed proposal reviews of Selection Committee recommendations. Mr. Vinton introduced the format of the proposal review slides, and started by sharing the main points from the recommendation for the proposal from Colorado State University Pueblo.

The Selection Committee members shared their thoughts on this proposal, including strong points and requests regarding aspects that might need modification. The committee agreed with the preliminary recommendations of funding this proposal at a reduced budget and recommending a focus on particular pathways that require less advanced credentials for learners. Mr. Vinton asked the Committee if they approved moving this proposal forward. The Committee was in agreement and gave verbal affirmation to recommend this proposal and proceed with this feedback.

1:54pm The Committee reviewed and discussed the Arizona State University proposal. Ms. Leslie Hylton-Hinga, Special Projects Director, Colorado OEDIT, shared that strong points for her included being innovative and having good long-term potential to scale across the state. Mr.

Vinton asked the Committee if they approved moving this proposal forward. The Committee was in agreement and gave verbal affirmation to recommend this program.

1:57pm - The Committee reviewed and discussed the CareerWise Colorado proposal. Mr. Josh Scott, Vice Chair, Colorado Commission on Higher Education, emphasized the strength of this application, and how it was addressing a high-need industry as well in early childhood education. Ms. Barbara Myrick, President, B&M Construction Inc, emphasized the importance of funding the industry of early childhood education. Mr. Vinton asked the Committee if they approved moving this proposal forward. The Committee was in agreement and gave verbal affirmation to recommend this program.

2:01pm - The Committee reviewed and discussed the Colorado River BOCES proposal. Ms. Hylton-Hinga shared that strong points of this application included the level of readiness and good number of learners served. Mr. Jaekel added that the proposal served a key region. Mr. Vinton asked the Committee if they approved moving this proposal forward. The Committee was in agreement and gave verbal affirmation to recommend this program, acknowledging a recommendation of a budget reduction from the applicant's initial request.

2:05pm - The Committee reviewed and discussed the Family Health West Foundation proposal. Ms. Hylton-Hinga shared that strong points of this application included strong partnerships and the region of need that it serves, but recommended more specification on implementation process. Mr. Vinton asked the Committee if they approved moving this proposal forward. The Committee was in agreement and gave verbal affirmation to recommend this program.

2:07pm - The Committee reviewed and discussed the La Plata County Economic Development Alliance proposal. Ms. Hylton-Hinga shared that this was a strong application, but expressed concern for the number of pathways they aimed to serve though and recommended more focus to improve their chance for success. Mr. Vinton asked the Committee if they approved moving this proposal forward. The Committee was in agreement and gave verbal affirmation to recommend this program.

2:10pm - The Committee reviewed and discussed the Northeast Colorado Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) proposal. Ms. Hylton-Hinga shared that strong points of this application included good regional partnerships, but expressed concern for the number of pathways they aimed to serve though and recommended more focus to improve their chance for success. Mr. Vinton asked the Committee if they approved moving this proposal forward. The Committee was in agreement and gave verbal affirmation to recommend this program.

2:16pm - The Committee reviewed and discussed the Second Chance Center proposal. Ms. Myrick emphasized the value of second chance programs, but recommended the applicant consider partnerships with non-union industry partners too. Mr. Scott echoed these thoughts.

Mr. Vinton asked the Committee if they approved moving this proposal forward. The Committee was in agreement and gave verbal affirmation to recommend this program.

2:20pm - The Committee reviewed and discussed the Tepeyac Community Health Center proposal. Ms. Myrick shared she liked how the applicant was serving the healthcare industry, but recommended that they could partner with existing organizations and cut costs. Mr. Scott echoed these thoughts, and added a recommendation to discuss with the applicant the possibility of impacting more than the 40 learners stated on their application. Mr. Vinton asked the Committee if they approved moving this proposal forward. The Committee was in agreement and gave verbal affirmation to recommend this program.

2:25pm - Mr. Vinton started discussion of regional distribution of this pool of proposals, stating that the diversity of regions in this portfolio of applicants across the state is strong. Committee members discussed the 4 OEDIT regions that weren't covered from the pool of proposals, and all agreed on the importance of being intentional to get strong proposals from those areas in future phases.

Mr. Vinton then gave an overview of the industry distribution of this pool of proposals, sharing that the priority focus areas of education and healthcare came out at the top. Committee members discussed the importance of welcoming applicants serving all industries, especially those that are regional needs.

2:36pm - Mr. Vinton shared that the total funds requested for the reviewed Seed proposals was \$12.9M compared to the targeted \$10M, and that Opportunity Now would be able to get that number down to \$11M with the mentioned budget reductions for different proposals. The committee supported this budget plan and approved this pool of proposals collectively.

2:38pm - Mr. Vinton asked for Committee feedback to share for the overall pool. Mr. Scott shared that he would have loved to see more industry-led applicants, as well as applicants taking bigger risks. Ms. Myrick shared that she would have liked to see more applicants serving minority populations in more intentional ways, and those involving partnerships with non-union companies. Ms. Hylton-Hinga echoed the points previously mentioned, and expressed a desire to have applicants have more focus in the jobs and pathways created to increase their chances for success. Mr. Jaeckel and Mr. Vinton both thanked everyone for their feedback.

2:47pm - Mr. Vinton outlined next steps in the coming weeks and thanked everyone. Mr. Jaeckel and Committee members echoed this appreciation. Mr. Vinton then closed out the meeting.