Combined Meeting
ColPac EDD & NOEA
June 11, 2026
10:00a – 12:00p

Clatsop Community College, Columbia Rm 219
1650 Lexington Ave, Astoria OR 97103
Zoom Link
Meeting ID: 823 2268 7995
Passcode: 664765

10:00a	1. Welcome and Introductions		
10:05a	2. NOEA Business Meeting a. April 2026 Minutes b. Brownfield Updates	✓	Casey Garrett Sarah Lu Heath
10:15a	3. ColPac Regular Business a. April 2026 Minutes b. Financials c. Operations Update	✓	Casey Garrett Sarah Lu Heath
10:30a	4. Port of Astoria Update		Matt McGrath
11:00a	5. Clatsop County Projects		Mark Kujala
11:30a	6. Transportation Options		Sarah Lu Heath
11:45a	7. Roundtable Updates		All

Next Combined Meeting: August 13, Port of Tillamook Bay

Minutes of Combined Meeting

Columbia Pacific Economic Development District (ColPac)

& NW Oregon Economic Alliance (NOEA)

Thursday, April 9, 2026

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Columbia River PUD

64001 Columbia River Hwy, Deer Island, OR 97054

10:00a	1. Welcome and Introductions		
10:05a	2. NOEA Business Meeting a. February 2026 Minutes b. Operational Update c. Brownfield Updates	✓	Casey Garrett Sarah Lu Heath
10:15a	3. ColPac Regular Business a. February 2026 Minutes b. Operations Update	✓	Casey Garrett Sarah Lu Heath
10:30a	4. Columbia County Energy Updates		Michael Sykes
11:00a	5. Clatsop County Industrial Symbiosis		Sarah Lu Heath Angee Hunt
11:30a	6. HB3395 Updates		Sarah Lu Heath
11:45a	7. Roundtable Updates		All

Board of Directors (*in attendance): **Mary Faith Bell*** Don Bohn **Michele Bradley*** Peter Brandom Aaron Burris **Sean Clark*** **Andy Davis*** **Heather DeSart*** **Brian Fawcett*** **Thaddeus Fickel*** **Casey Garrett*** **Angeles Godinez-Valencia*** Jarrod Hogue Will Isom Paul Jarrell Betsy Johnson **Scott Jorgensen*** Mark Kujala	 **Marsha Kirk*** **Kevin Leahy*** Sean Lewis **Chelsey Lynne*** David McCall **Paul Mitchell*** **Matt Mumford*** **John Nygaard*** Bruce St. Denis **Leon Telesmanich*** John Walsh **Liane Welch*** **Jerry Willey*** **Jeff Wong*** **Steve Wright*** Claudia Yakos
Guests in attendance: Sarah Lu Heath, Executive Director, ColPac Dulce Perkins, Program Manager, ColPac Paul Vogel, Vogel Communications Gail Henrickson, Clatsop County Kim Karber, Columbia City Nate Stice, Regional Solutions	 Logan Garner, NW Oregon Works Michael Sykes, Columbia County PUD Darcy Edwards, State Representative Kellie Jo Smith, Columbia County Commissioner

AGENDA

1. NOEA Business Meeting

A. Review and approval of previous meeting minutes. Motion to approve previous meeting actions carried unanimously.

B. Recommendation to update contacts for the Local Government Investment Pool. Motion approved unanimously.

C. Brownfields Program Update

Request for Proposals (RFP) has been published. Project requires participation of a qualified environmental specialist. No known contamination has been identified on the property at this time.

Project locations discussed:
- Tongue Point
- Scappoose
- NE 1st Street & E Columbia Boulevard

3. COLPAC Operations Update

- Proposal to close two underutilized bank accounts.
- Recommendation to update authorized signers on BMO accounts.
- Discussion regarding partitioning the EDA Revolving Loan Fund (RLF).

Motion:
- Approve Sarah Lu as an authorized signer on the BMO account.
- Motion carried.

Board Discussion:

- Commissioner Jerry Willey recommended providing Sarah additional financial support and resources, noting she inherited financial records that require clarification and organization.

4. Columbia County Energy Updates

Michael Sykes, Executive Director of Columbia Co PUD provided insights into the energy production and transmission landscape as well as county-wide energy study currently underway. Shared information regarding Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) impacts and potential negative effects on local communities. Discussion included emerging nuclear energy technologies, including developments by Rolls-Royce.

Brian Fawcett noted that the regional task force continues to be a positive collaborative effort.

5. Clatsop County Industrial Symbiosis Updates

ColPac and Oregon State University (OSU) have been working together to secure funding to provide technical assistance for participating projects. They have

achieved the match requirement to acquire the Business Oregon Industry Competitiveness Grant.

Wastewater Innovation
The first vermifiltration project has been completed successfully demonstrating ability to process pink shrimp water. Next phase will focus on brewery wastewater utilization as part of testing efforts.

Agency Partnerships

Ongoing efforts to improve state agencies impact on the development process from permitting to land use.

Educational Opportunities

- May 14: Industrial Symbiosis Network Meeting in Astoria.
- June: Industrial Symbiosis Conference in Vancouver, Washington.
- September: Center for Sustainable Infrastructure Denmark Delegation

6. HB3395 Updates

CPACE Updates: Columbia County has adopted the initiative and has a potential development project in the pipeline. Clatsop County has adopted the initiative.

Recommendation to coordinate with Adrianne in Washington County to obtain background information and lessons learned. Staff continues to encourage Tillamook County to adopt CPACE ordinances.

Highway 6 Economic Impact Study

A stakeholder group will be assembled to review and discuss study findings. ColPac is able to financially support this project and will be looking for partners.

Regional Dashboard & Website Updates

COLPAC is exploring the use of artificial intelligence tools to automate dashboard updates and reduce long-term maintenance costs. This would include the opportunity to incorporate Blue Economy development metrics and resources into the website.

Grant Writing & Strategic Planning

Grant writing efforts will focus on projects to implement the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Focus on strategic planning efforts to support future multi-year funding opportunities.

Maritime Simulator Project updates were provided by Jarrod Hogue:

The project scope includes major building upgrades and envelope repair and the installation of all-bridges simulator. The Higher Education Coordinating Board has agreed to provide up to $8 million with a 50% match requirement. ColPac will be providing grant writing support for this project.

7. Roundtable Updates

Kevin Leahy (CEDR / CCC / SBDC) promoted the upcoming Forestry Tour in Clatsop and Tillamook Counties. The SBDC is also working to expand technical assistance and support services in Columbia County.

Heather DeSart provided updates regarding Workforce Development workshops and training opportunities.

Nate Stice shared regional economic development updates.

Andy Davis provided update on the Transportation Growth Management Grant. Sarah Lu will continue participating in communications and coordination related to the grant, which she has been involved with for an extended period.

William Scott Jorgensen shared updates from Rainier including their progress in improving wastewater plant functions.

Thaddeus Fickel, Port of Astoria reported ongoing improvements and updates at the Astoria Airport.

The meeting was adjourned following board and partner updates.

Next Combined Meeting: June 11, Clatsop County

Columbia Pacific
Economic Development District

Transportation Options Scope of Work

1 Program Strategy and Coordination

Program strategy development, agency partner meetings, NW Connector coordination, and ongoing team alignment across all workstreams.

2 Get There Challenge Activation

The program's flagship activation. Fall 2026 launch with employer recruitment, commuter promotion, and a coordinated digital campaign. A spring 2027 round is possible.

3 Employer Outreach and TDM

Direct engagement with coastal employers: contact list development, employer toolkit, vanpool promotion, and meeting ODOT's 4-engagements-per-quarter metric.

4 Creative Development

Campaign identity, digital ads, social graphics, and bilingual employer materials consistent with the NW Connector brand.

5 Marketing Implementation

Paid digital advertising, social media management, and tourist-facing messaging encouraging visitors to take transit once they arrive.

6 Program Reporting and ODOT Coordination

Quarterly activity summaries, employer engagement logs, ODOT training attendance, and support for ColPac's reporting and reimbursement.

7 Regional Collaboration

Participate in the NW Area Commission on Transportation, Destination Management Organizations, and regional projects with transit and transportation nexus.