



2021 GREENPOWER GRANT

2021 EWEB GreenPower Grant Program Guidelines and Application

Program goal:

To fund projects or programs that help promote a commitment to the environment and the community by increasing awareness and use of renewable energy sources, adoption of emerging technologies, and/or reducing or offsetting our community's carbon footprint.

Eligibility requirements:

EWEB will fund proposals that meet the grant program goal and benefit our customers and community.

Applicants must be one of the following:

- Tax-exempt organization under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3) or (4)
- Academic institution chartered by the State of Oregon
- Public institution referenced in ORS 174.109 through ORS 174/117

Funding is not provided for the following:

- Individuals
- Organizations that are in violation of state or federal laws
- Endowments
- For-profit businesses
- Programs with eligibility requirements contingent upon a stipulated religious or political affiliation.

Applications must be submitted electronically no later than Monday, May 31, 2021 to be eligible.

Evaluation Criteria:

To be considered for funding, the project or program must have a renewable energy or carbon reduction focus and benefit EWEB customers and/or the broader community.

Projects or programs could include, but are not limited to, any of the following:

- Installation of renewable energy systems including solar hot water heating, photovoltaic arrays or wind electric systems.
- Installation of battery storage systems to promote emergency preparedness and resiliency.
- Renewable energy research and feasibility studies that develop and strengthen an understanding of the origin, development and use of renewable energy sources.
- Projects or programs that support renewable energy education including curriculum development, workshops, career academies, etc.
- Efforts focused on reducing or offsetting carbon emissions including projects that support conversion from fossil fuel to clean energy sources.

When evaluating proposals we will also take the following into consideration:

- The grant application clearly describes how the grant funds will be used and what available matching funds or support will be made available. Preference will be given to projects that have secured additional funding sources in advance of the application deadline.
- Projects or programs that support underserved populations are highly encouraged. This includes but is not limited to senior, disabled and limited-income customers, as well as individuals or families without secure housing.
- Grant applications that involve the installation of renewable energy systems and battery storage must include the system requirements.

Application process:

Step 1: Be sure your project or program meets the eligibility requirements. If you have questions, please email Cheryl.Froehlich@eweb.org.

Step 2: Complete the grant application and provide all information requested using a maximum of ten pages not including attachments. The grant application and accompanying proposal are the primary documents the EWEB Greenpower Grant Evaluation Team will use to screen grant applications.

Step 3: Applicants will be informed of eligibility and selection results. If there are fewer than five eligible applications the Grant Team will select the winning proposals. If there are at least five eligible applications, current EWEB Greenpower customers will be invited to vote to determine the grant winners.

Please note: Applications may be made public during a voting process. Please specify if there is information you would like excluded prior to your application being made public.

Additional details:

Grant fund distribution will be divided into three parts and will be contingent on process in achieving stated outcomes/milestones:

1. Project kick-off
2. Mid-term report or milestone
3. Final evaluation or inspection

Projects should be completed within 18 months of first funding of the grant distribution. EWEB will consider multi-year funding requests but reserves the right to review a grantee's progress on an annual or more frequent basis to determine whether subsequent grant is appropriate.

Please note: Acceptance of EWEB Greenpower Grant funding may impact eligibility for other EWEB incentives or programs.

2021 EWEB GREENPOWER GRANT APPLICATION

Contact Information:

McKenzie School District
NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Lane Tompkins
CONTACT NAME

Superintendent
CONTACT TITLE

51187 Blue River Drive
STREET ADDRESS

Finn Rock, OR 97488
CITY/STATE/ZIP

541-822-3338
TELEPHONE

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www.mckenzie.org
WEBSITE

Resilient Power for Community Needs
PROPOSAL TITLE

\$50,000
GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED


SIGNATURE

6/3/2021
DATE

Email completed application and proposal to:
Cheryl Froehlich
Cheryl.Froehlich@eweb.org

Application deadline:
Must be submitted **no later than**
MONDAY, MAY 31, 2021

Questions?
Contact Cheryl Froehlich
cheryl.froehlich@eweb.org
541-685-7676

Proposal: Please write a proposal containing the following elements. Submit the proposal as a PDF with your application.

1. Background:

- Mission of the organization
- The needs your organization addresses
- The population your organization serves
- A brief description of your current programs and operating budget

2. Project Description

- Statement of the primary purpose of the project and its relationship to EWEB's mission
- The population you plan to serve and how they will benefit from the project
- Strategies you will employ to implement the project

3. Project Evaluation

- Your criteria for a successful project
- The results you hope to achieve by the end of the funding period
- The method by which you will measure effectiveness

4. Budget and Timeline

- A budget for the project for which funds are requested, **including any additional funding which has been secured at the time of application.**
- Timeline of the project

5. Attachments

- Proof of nonprofit status (copy of IRS letter)*
- List of board of directors*
- One-paragraph resumes of key staff working on the project
- Amount and source of any other funding support previously received from EWEB (if applicable)
- Proof of ownership or authority to install equipment at or otherwise modify building, if request for facility construction project

*Optional or not needed for public and academic institutions.

Background:

The mission of the McKenzie School District is “Guiding the next generation of our community in learning about themselves, their communities and the world.”

The McKenzie School District provides K-12 education to approximately 200 students in the McKenzie River Valley. The district stretches from just east of Leaburg to the peaks of the Cascade Mountains serving the communities of Vida, Finn Rock, Blue River, Rainbow and McKenzie Bridge. As a charter school, we also serve students from the Eugene/Springfield area. Our students receive universal free breakfast and lunch under the USDA’s Community Eligibility Provision with nearly 85% of our student body designated as experiencing poverty. McKenzie consistently ranks within the top ten school districts in the state in percentage of students experiencing homelessness. Our current programming centers around project based learning, place based learning and service learning in all grades. The fire, although a very traumatic experience for our community is also serving as an opportunity to further hone our offerings to provide longer range learning and application of that learning in our community to serve our community. Our operating budget for the 2021-2020 year totals \$6.3 million dollars.

The Holiday Farm Fire showed that McKenzie School District is an important community asset beyond our educational mission for the youth of our area. The campus itself has been used as a shelter, relief center and temporary post office. We will soon be hosting a number of Lane County Recovery workers on our campus as they continue to support those navigating their recovery efforts. Although campus has been able to rise to the occasion during this event, there have been times when the facilities shortcomings have prevented it from fully serving our residents. The short coming this grant application serves to address is the need for a redundant power source for the main building used for emergency events by the community, our “New” Gymnasium.

Project Description

The Resilient Power for Community Needs project will allow the McKenzie School District to offer a resource to our community during times of power outage by installing a photovoltaic array on our “New” Gymnasium roof. The “New” Gym was built in 2000 and has served as a Red Cross Shelter on a number of occasions. During the Holiday Farm Fire, the New Gym provided space for Lane County Emergency Management to forward stage supplies for Holiday Farm Fire survivors while they were cut off from the Eugene/Springfield area the valley’s typical source of supplies. This site morphed into becoming the Blue River Relief Center managed by the McKenzie River Community Development Corporation. Essentially, the gym became a free store providing food, clothes, supplies, internet and knowledge for those in need following the fire. The district was unable to respond to a winter weather event a few winters ago due to the lack of a resilient power source, the district could not serve as a shelter or warming center while many of those in our community were without power for over a week. Although the proposed array would not be large enough to power the building’s HVAC system, it would provide enough energy to power the lighting system and a number of plugs to power devices or to charge batteries on phones or computers. It would be an incredible step forward on a site that does not have a site generator or any back up power sources. The photovoltaic array would also be able to be used for science instruction in all grades K-12. We feel that this project would support EWEB’s mission by tying into the core values of Responsibility and Community. The photovoltaic array would utilize a renewable source to produce carbon neutral energy that would be fed back into the power grid helping to responsibly reduce the campus’ contribution to climate change. Our district feels a great obligation like EWEB to serve our community; we have demonstrated that commitment throughout the Holiday Farm Fire recovery. By housing services and providing resources in collaboration with community partners. This redundant power source

would help us and our partners better serve our community during times of need. This project will serve all residents in the McKenzie River Valley that come to the school campus for support. We will work with area contractors to scope and install the photovoltaic array and battery system as well as school staff to demonstrate the benefits of the system as an academic tool. Beyond this, we will work with community partners that utilize the space such as our community food bank to train them on the proper use of the array and battery system so that they can put it to use during an outage as well.

Project Evaluation

We will evaluate project success based on the following criteria:

1. Successful installation of the photovoltaic array and battery system.
2. K-12 grade level science curriculum integration plans drafted and implemented.
3. Completion of a community awareness campaign to make this redundant power source known as a community resource.

By the end of the funding period, we hope to have the array installed, have students learning about solar energy and renewable energy with a real world, tangible example on campus as well as a multimodal community awareness campaign to make our community aware of this new resource.

Budget and Timeline

Project Budget

\$49,970 - 7.56 kw PV power system including 420W BOW solar modules, racking system, hardware, 11.4KW 3 Phase inverters, monitoring web page, conduit, fuses, disconnects for an NEC-compliant system, permit fees, utility paperwork and installation.

Currently, we do not have additional matching money secured but have requested into Lane Electric to cover costs of installing a net meter as we all as potentially matching this grant to allow for a larger system that could power our HVAC in that building. We are also working with FEMA and our State Hazard Mitigation Officer, state legislators and Lane County to secure hazard mitigation funds to help us respond to community emergencies.

Timeline

Assuming a July notice of grant award

July 2021– RFP for Photovoltaic array and battery storage system published.

August 2021 – Award and Finalize contract for installation.

September 2021 – Schedule system installation work.

January 2023 – All installation work completed.

*We will be coordinating with contractors soon for a number of campus projects including seismic retrofitting of our “Old” Gymnasium, football grandstand replacement as well as reroofing our “New” Gymnasium. Array installation would have to follow the reroofing of the “New” Gymnasium but we are committed to having all grant associated work done within the funding deadlines.

Attachments

Staff Resume

Lane Tompkins is the Superintendent/Principal of the McKenzie School District. He was raised on the McKenzie and studied history at the University of Oregon and Teacher Education at Eastern Oregon University. While at the U of O, he gained perspective and appreciation of educational facilities working for the Athletic Department maintenance department. He has

worked at McKenzie since 2007 first as a high school social studies teacher before moving into administration serving as assistant principal, principal and assuming the role of Superintendent three years ago. Following the 2019 “Snowmageddon” winter storm event, he began looking for ways to make McKenzie’s campus better prepared to support a community in need. This past summer’s Holiday Farm Fire made the districts obligation to support our community and roll as a community hub painfully evident. Beyond his work at McKenzie, he is the father of three and a mediocre fly fishermen.

Other EWEB Funding

We receive EWEB Education grant funds to support science educational programming. For the 2021-2022 school year this funding should be about \$22,000.