

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION COVER PAGE

Title of Project: Link River Taxidermy/Ironhead Metalizing business expansion
Funds Requested: \$30,000
Organization Applying: Link River Taxidermy, Brock Thompson
Grant Manager: Brock Thompson
Phone Number: 541-281-6021
Email Address: ironheadmetalizing@gmail.com
Mailing Address:

Brief Description of Project:

Link River Taxidermy is a brand new taxidermy shop here in Klamath Falls. Former taxidermists employed by another local taxidermist has branched off into their own business. Brock specializes in award winning big game taxidermy, European skull mounts and metalizing skulls and Derrick Specializes in award winning big game taxidermy. Link River Taxidermy and Ironhead Metalizing is looking to expand their business by marketing their service and adding a tannery instead of outsourcing the hides for tanning as well as hire employees to help run the shop. Klamath Falls is the PERFECT location for taxidermy, centrally located for big game and bird hunting. Link Rivers Taxidermy's and Ironhead Metalizing is looking to expand their business, market and grow with an ever expanding hunting hobby in and around the Klamath Basin.

The undersigned, as proposer, declares that he/she has carefully examined the requirements of the Klamath County Economic Development Grant Application packet and agrees, if the application is funded that proposer will enter into an agreement with Klamath County to furnish the services as specified, in accordance with the grant application attached.

Signature of Applicant *Brock Thompson* Date 10-30-17

If the applicant is requesting funds on behalf of an organization, the application must be approved by that organization.

Authorized Signature of Organization Rep _____ Date _____

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1. Name of prospective grant applicant: Brock Thompson

2. Applicant type: Nonprofit corporation Tribe
 Public body Private business
 Other _____

3. Name of project: Link River Taxidermy business expansion and marketing

4. Contact person for this project:

Name: Brock Thompson

Position: Owner

Organization: Link River Taxidermy/Ironhead Metalizing

Telephone: 541-281-6021

Mailing address: 2571 Homedale Rd Klamath Falls, OR
97603 _____

E-mail: ironheadmetalizing@gmail.com

5. Project objectives

Job creation or retention Education and training Marketing and promotion
 Building Capacity Economic Development Other (explain) _____
Infrastructure

6. Describe the grant project briefly.

_____ We are looking to expand our business by hiring employees to help in the shop, we'd also like to heavily market our services more than just locally. We currently offer big game, African and bird mounts as well as European skull mounts and metalizing skulls. We are looking to expand our business by doing our own tanning instead of outsourcing the hides to California for tanning. Adding a tannery to our business we'd need to buy certain equipment, hire more employees and rent 1 more attached shop to our current 2 shops we are currently renting.

7. Explain the source of funds for this grant project and complete the budget form:

_____ Funding would allow us to reach a market outside of our current returning customers. It would broaden our reach of potential customers in, around and far from the Klamath Basin. Building a name and a reputation is key to staying and growing a taxidermy business and in order to show people what we can do, we have to be able to reach people. Marketing tactics needed to grow our business is a full website that would be a virtual show room of our work. Not everybody can stop by our local shop and view our show room which limits outside people from seeing our work. People now-a-days want to be able to view things from a click of a button. A website as well and magazine articles and advertisements in Hunting, fishing and outdoor magazines will attract people from all over allowing us to grow, stay located in the Klamath Basin as well as hiring local people for the expanding and growing business.

If fully funded, we'd also like to add a tannery to our current taxidermy business. The tannery would allow us to tan our own hides rather than outsource our hides to a tannery outside of Oregon. To expand into a tannery, we would need to hire employees and rent an additional shop as well as purchase needed equipment to properly tan hides.

8. Explain what exactly the project funds (and especially the county funds) will actually pay for and complete the budget form:

If granted, funds would brand our business through a web site allowing people to view our work, our price list and schedule with just a click of a button. Building a web site from the ground up would boost our ability to reach people and allow us to direct people to our web site. We'd also like to purchase print ads in Hunting, Fishing and outdoor magazines. This tactic would reach people from all over who have a direct need and interest in having animals mounted.

If funded, we'd also like to add a tannery to our current taxidermy shop. A tannery would allow us to keep more of our business local rather than outsourcing our tanning needs to an outside company. We have the ability to rent a shop that is connected to our current 2 shops we have, we'd also need to hire employees.

9. Identify the specific economic development benefits from the project:

Link River Taxidermy is a locally owned business that has already boosted the economy, not only does it employ local taxidermist's which would otherwise be unemployed or only use their talents as a hobby, they are renting local shop space for the business eliminating empty business locations within the city of Klamath Falls, it brings people through our town that hunt in our region to drop off their harvested animals and with the continuing growth of the business, it will allow Link River Taxidermy to hire more employees as well as train future employees in a trade. If we were able to add a tannery, we'd be able to rent 1 more location that would otherwise be empty as well as hire more employees to help run the tannery.

10. Identify how this project is consistent with regional or local economic development plans:

Klamath Basin is widely known for its water fowl, upland bird and big game hunting it only makes sense to offer a service that allows people to mount the animals they harvest here. With the Klamath Basin's abundance of local hunting areas and the availability of public hunting land; we want to expand and gain as much local and out-of-the area taxidermy business.

11. Describe the prospective applicant's experience in administering and/or delivering similar types of projects:

Brock has been a full time professional taxidermist for the past 7 years winning many Oregon taxidermy awards for his big game, European mounts and metalizing skull. Derrick is an award winning big game taxidermist who has been in the trade for 6. They want more than just their returning customers to come to their business, they want to offer their services to people that aren't familiar with their work yet. They also wants to expand on their current cliental and expand their business to bring in new customers close and far.

12. Describe how the prospective applicant's intends to publically acknowledge the assistance received from the County:

Link River Taxidermy and Ironhead Metalizing would be greatly appreciative of any funds received for their marketing and expansion. They would happily publish the county logo egnoliging Klamath County's support for his local business with any publication they make with the fund.

13. Let us know of any questions, comments or concerns that you would like to give us about the Economic Development Grant Program or any feedback you would like us to know

As an applicant, I am pleased that the application process is written in a way small local businesses have the opportunity to apply and understand.

This grant application and associated cover page, budget form and letters of support are due By no later than July 31 October 31, 2017 at 2pm. please e-mail this grant application to jlink@klamathcounty.org or, if you

prefer, mail it to: Klamath County Finance Attn: Economic Development Grant Program, 305 Main Street,
Klamath Falls, OR 97601.

Economic Development Advisory Committee may request additional information.

**Klamath County Economic Development Grant Application
Project Budget**

Link River Taxidermy/Ironhead Metalizing		Committed	Pending	Total	Actual	Comments/Explanations
INCOME						
County Grant Request			\$30,000			Grant Request
Cash Revenues -		\$9,000				Link River is able to contribute up to \$9,000
Source:						
Source:						
Source:						
Total Cash Revenues		-	-	-	-	
In-Kind Revenues:						
Source:						
Source:						
Source:						
Total In-Kind Revenues		-	-	-	-	
Total Revenue		-	-	\$39,000	-	Total is granted \$30,000
EXPENSES						
Cash Expenses -						
Personnel costs						
Travel costs						
Materials and supplies			\$10,200			Tannery equipment/expenses
Professional services			\$14,000			Half time (25hr week) employee for 1 year at \$11 hr
Other:		-	\$5,000	-	-	Website creation including photography
Other:						
Other:			\$4,800			Additional shop for tannery 1 year at \$400 month
Other:			\$5,000			Fishing, Outdoor and Hunting Magazine advertisements
Total Cash Expenses		-	-	-	-	
In-Kind Expenses						
Labor						
Other:						
Other:						
Other:						
Other:						
Other:						
Total In-Kind Expenses		-	-	-	-	
Total Expenses		-	\$39,000	-	-	
Net Income<Expense>		-	-	\$39,000	-	If granted \$30,000 plus our \$9,000 investment

NOTES

**Be as specific as possible; provide explanation to help clarify budget items
Use the "Actual" column when preparing your final report; submit this form with the final report
Use additional space or lines if necessary to provide complete information
Value all volunteer labor at \$12.50 per hour for in-kind revenues and expenses.**



MY MECHANIC 3000 PERSHING WAY KLAMATH FALLS OR. 97603

October 27, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

I have had the pleasure to know Brock Thompon and see first-hand his skills in the taxidermy business. He does excellent work and it is obvious to see he takes pride in every single job he does.

I am a local business owner and avid hunter. For the past 6 years I have put on a Contest open to local hunters to bring in their antlers to be measured for a chance to win prizes, Brock has donated a European mount and it is one of our top prizes and one many of our hunters hope to win.

I believe Brock and his business are a great asset to our community, as other taxidermy businesses get older Brock has shown he is eager and willing to bring fresh ideas to the business. We live in a part of Oregon that is very big into hunting and feel we are lucky to have Brock in our area. He is highly recommended by myself and others that use his services.

Sincerely, *My Mechanic*

Owner *Dale Eblund*



October 27, 2017

RE: Grant Application

I am writing today in support of Brock Thompson and Link River Taxidermy. I have known Mr. Thompson for many years. We utilize his business exclusively as he provides the highest quality work in our region. I understand, in recent months, Link River Taxidermy was created. These grant funds, if awarded, would be critical toward his business expansion to buy equipment and advertise his new venture. I hope you give Link River Taxidermy consideration when awarding your grant funds. If you have any questions of me, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Thank you,

Rob Shaw

President, Skull Hooker



SkullHooker.com

STARR ARTISTRY

Attn: Economic Development Grant Committee
Letter of support for Link River Taxidermy/Ironhead Metalizing

10/25/2017

Dear Economic Development Grant Committee,

On behalf of Link River Taxidermy and Ironhead Metalizing, I'd like to extend a letter of support for their business. They are an up and coming local taxidermy shop that is going to make an impact on Klamath County's local economy. They are using their artistic ability in taxidermy in a prime location of Klamath to open a new business. If they were awarded grant fund to help with marketing their business and expand the taxidermy business, they have the potential to hire employees and grow their business. I have full confidence that Brock will use granted funds in a way to expand the business which would positively impact the local economy.

Klamath Falls is a smack dab in the middle of so many different types of open hunting land, upland bird, water fowl and big game. You couldn't ask for a better location to have a business like this and Brock is using not only his talents in taxidermy, but this prime location to open this business. Please consider Link River Taxidermy and Iron Head Metalizing when awarding grant funds to local businesses. You couldn't ask for a more worthy candidate and hard worker.

Sincerely,

D. Starr

