

Laura Devenport

Vice President, Bandera Economic Development Corporation

October 21, 2025

Dear Members of the Board,

After careful consideration, I am submitting my resignation as Vice President of the Bandera Economic Development Corporation, effective immediately.

My decision is based on a growing concern that the current board no longer values public input before making decisions with long-term implications for our community. A recent example is the handling of the Buck Creek property — which, in my view, should have been placed on the market to attract a project capable of generating jobs, sales tax revenue, and overall economic growth. Gifting this property to the City keeps it off the tax rolls and limits opportunities for partnerships that could strengthen both the BEDC and the City of Bandera economically.

Additionally, key decisions are being made outside of board discussion or approval, which undermines transparency and proper governance. Citizens who request funding are often delayed in being placed on the agenda, and there has been little to no open dialogue on important matters brought before the board. These practices have led to what appears to be “back-door” decision-making that does not reflect the intent or integrity of the BEDC’s mission. Administrative and legal fees have more than doubled for this years budget I question why?

I am also concerned about potential violations of the Texas Open Meetings Act, the lack of competitive bidding when selecting new legal counsel, and the absence of communication regarding the audit firm’s withdrawal from both the EDC and the City.

It has become increasingly evident that the EDC is being directed

more by a select few, than by its appointed board. This dynamic has blurred the line between the EDC's independence and City control, leading me to question whether "EDC" now stands for Economic Development Corporation or Everything Directed by Council.

At this point, I believe I can better serve the citizens of Bandera by stepping away from the board and working on other projects for our community. I also feel that remaining in my position could also expose me to potential liability or lawsuits due to actions beyond my control.

It has been an honor to serve the people of Bandera and to advocate for genuine economic development that benefits our entire community. I remain hopeful that transparency, accountability, and public trust can once again become the foundation of the BEDC's work.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Laura Devenport". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Laura Devenport

Vice President, Bandera Economic Development Corporation