



GRAND RAPIDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 08, 2026
4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

President Blake called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

CALL OF ROLL

PRESENT

Commissioner Al Hodnik
President Sholom Blake
Commissioner Bill Martinetto
Commissioner Molly MacGregor

ABSENT

Commissioner Wayne Bruns
Commissioner Jean MacDonell
Commissioner Tom Sutherland

STAFF

Rob Mattei
Aurimy Groom

SETTING OF THE REGULAR AGENDA - *This is an opportunity to approve the regular agenda as presented, or to add/delete an agenda item by a majority vote of the Commissioners present .*

The agenda was approved with addition.

Authorize a proposal from Braun for soil screening.

APPROVE MINUTES

1. Consider approval of minutes from the September 24, 2026 regular meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Martinetto, second by Commissioner MacGregor to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2026 regular meeting. The following voted in favor thereof: Hodnik, MacGregor, Blake, Martinetto. Opposed: None, motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE CLAIMS

2. Consider approval of claims in the amount of \$202,932.98

Motion by Commissioner Martinetto, second by Commissioner Hodnik to approve claims in the amount of \$202,932.98. The following voted in favor thereof: Martinetto, Blake, MacGregor, Hodnik. Opposed: None, motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS

3. Consider authorizing request for quotes for the demolition of the former Ben's Bait building.

A RFQ will go out for the former Ben's Bait demolition with an award date of November 12th, 2026. The demolition should take roughly 2 weeks however a final completion date will be June of 2027 to allow for turf to be established in the spring.

Motion by Commissioner MacGregor, second by Commissioner Hodnik to authorize RFQ's for the demolition of the former Ben's Bait building. The following voted in favor thereof: Hodnik, MacGregor, Blake, Martinetto. Opposed: None, motion passed unanimously.

Consider accepting a proposal from Braun Intertec for soil screening.

Motion by Commissioner Hodnik, second by Commissioner Martinetto to accept a proposal from Braun Intertec for soil screening. The following voted in favor thereof: Martinetto, Blake, MacGregor, Hodnik. Opposed: None, motion passed unanimously.

UPDATES

Downtown Wayfinding- The project has kicked off and the consultants were in town for 3 days gathering input and are hoping to have preliminary designs in a couple of weeks.

Itasca County Strategic Planning- Mr. Mattei attended along with representatives from Aitkin and St. Louis Counties and the Leech Lake Tribe. A draft plan will be generated through the Homerun Leadership tool which uses online input to generate a framework.

Unique Opportunities Elevation Apartments- They have applied for their building permit and closed on the property and financing.

Mill & Miss- They will be open January 1, 2027.

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.