



GRAND RAPIDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 08, 2026
4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to due notice and call thereof, a Regular Meeting of the Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority (GREDA) was called to order on Thursday, January 8, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. in Conference Room 2A of City Hall, 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

CALL OF ROLL

PRESENT

President Sholom Blake
Commissioner Wayne Bruns
Commissioner Bill Martinetto
Council Representative Rick Blake
Commissioner Jean MacDonell

ABSENT

Commissioner Al Hodnik
Council Representative Dan Mertes

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 .*

Approved without addition.

APPROVE MINUTES

1. Consider approval of minutes from the December 11th, 2025 regular meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Bruns, second by Commissioner Martinetto to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2025 regular meeting. The following voted in favor thereof: R. Blake, MacDonell, Martinetto, S. Blake, Bruns. Opposed: None, motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE CLAIMS

2. Consider approval of claims in the amount of \$125,308.42

Motion by Commissioner R. Blake, second by Commissioner MacDonell to approve claims in the amount of \$125,308.42. The following voted in favor thereof: Bruns, S. Blake, Martinetto, MacDonell, R. Blake. Opposed: None, motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS

3. Consider the adoption of a resolution committing local match for Department of Employment and Economic development (DEED) Demolition Loan Program and authorizing contract signature

The City of Grand Rapids has applied for and been given verbal indication that a \$175,000 IRRR grant will be funded for the demo of the structure. To fund the remaining cost of demolition and site prep staff is recommending application to DEED for a \$420,000 Demolition Loan. If awarded the loan would have an interest rate of 2% however it will not accrue for the first two years and will have a term of 10 years.

Motion by Commissioner Bruns, second by Commissioner Martinetto to adopt resolution 26-01 committing local match for a Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Demolition Loan Program and authorizing contract signature. The following voted in favor thereof: Bruns, S. Blake, Martinetto, MacDonell, R. Blake. Opposed: None, motion passed unanimously.

4. Consider approval of GREDA 2026 Work Plan

Community Development Director Mattei reviewed the proposed 2026 GREDA Work Plan with the Commissioners.

Motion by Commissioner Bruns, second by Commissioner Martinetto to approve the 2026 GREDA Work Plan. The following voted in favor thereof: R. Blake, MacDonell, Martinetto, S. Blake, Bruns. Opposed: None, motion passed unanimously.

5. Consider approval of 2026 Central School Leases

All spaces except for Suite 103 are filled and staff is working with Ture North Salon on a proposal to lease the vacant space.

Motion by Commissioner Martinetto, second by Commissioner R. Blake to approve the 2026 Central School Leases. The following voted in favor thereof: Bruns, S. Blake, Martinetto, MacDonell, R. Blake. Opposed: None, motion passed unanimously.

UPDATES

Former ISD 318 Admin Bldg- Staff will be putting together and RFP for engineering services.

Former Farm Service Bldg- The GREDA should know if the DEED loan will be funded in 6-8 weeks.

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

MEMBERS & TERMS

Dan Mertes - 12/31/2025 Council Representative

Rick Blake - 12/31/2025 Council Representative

Wayne Bruns - 3/1/31

Sholom Blake - 3/1/31

Al Hodnik - 3/1/27

Bill Martinetto - 3/1/29

Jean MacDonell - 3/1/30