

**EDA  
Minutes  
May 20, 2026**

The Owatonna Economic Development Authority met in regular session at 4:00 pm in the Charles S. Crandall Center – Chambers at City Hall with President Voss presiding. Commissioners present: Dan Boeke, Dave Burbank, Andrew Cowell, Brian Savage, and Doug Voss. Commissioners absent: Corey Mensink. Also present were Troy Klecker, Brad Meier, Sean Williams, Lisa Cochran, and Kristen Kopp.

**Approval of Minutes.** Commissioner Burbank moved approval of the minutes of the April 16, 2026 meeting with second by Commissioner Cowell. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report.** Community Development Director Troy Klecker presented the revenue and expense reports for April. He said first half for OABDC and OPED will be paid in the next month. Otherwise we are on track as usual.

**Loan Report.** OABDC Director Sean Williams presented the Loan Report for April. He said the EDA improvement loans are current. Uncaged sold their building and are paying back their loans. One was overpaid. Klecker said that there was an automatic withdrawal drawn shortly after it was paid, so that will be taken care of. They paid off the Tier 1 loan. Upon recommendation by City Attorney Walbran, we took a lien on their house as collateral for the Tier 2 loan. They were able to make the sale, and we have a new business in town. Williams said he had to give props to City staff for figuring this out at the last minute.

**OACCT /OPED Report.** OACCT Director Brad Meier presented the OACCT Report for April. The OHS Signing Day was yesterday and 17 students signed and today there were 3 in Blooming Prairie. Bosch Community Fund met to discuss continued funding for Made in Owatonna Days. REJournal awards event was this month and Greg Kruschke was awarded Developer of the Year.

**MainStreet Report.** MainStreet Director Lisa Cochran presented the Quarterly MainStreet Report. She said she was in Tulsa at the National MainStreet Conference last month so she wasn't able to report. She said she's talked with some people who are very interested in the shops on Rose Street. The opening will be pushed back to next Spring because the high school students will not be able to finish them. Because of the importance of the collaboration with the school, they want the students to finish. The opening date for the shops would be May 1, 2027. She said they are getting ready for the first Downtown Thursday two weeks from tomorrow. Savage said that the flower baskets went up this week and look nice. He asked about lights at Central Park. Cochran said that they are hoping to have lights on every tree in the park. She said volunteers from Federated are going to be making a Santa Shack that will be at the Holiday Lighted Parade. Santa will be a little more prominent.

**OABDC Report.** OABDC Director Sean Williams presented the OABDC Report for April. He said Rose Street Center has a phased opening. The co-worker space is open and the retail space is open and they are looking to open the Craft Apothecary next, when the ADA access is finished.

He said they are attending pitch events for angel networks. The next Co.Starters starts next month. There are plans for a Maker Fair in June 2027.

**EDA Projects.** Community Development Director Troy Klecker presented the EDA Projects for April. There is one party still working on the Bubba's building. We are getting some bids for improvements on 117 Bridge Street West. There are drawings for the Barney Street extension and will meet with Heartland Car Wash on that. There was some discussion on 151 Bridge Street West and the possibility of trash enclosures for the trash bins.

**Old Business: North Street Lot.** Klecker said that there was approval to purchase Brad Spitzack's property on North Street for \$185,000 and we were going to cover the taxes and closing costs, which is typical. There was a bit of back and forth to try to get it lowered and the response times were not quick. There was not interest in lowering it. We have a draft purchase agreement to him and he came back because the assessed values have gone up on the property because we are into 2026. The assessed value went up almost \$15,000. Mr. Spitzack is asking if we can go up to a \$200,000 purchase price and the seller will cover the taxes up to the time of the sale. Klecker said he wanted to bring it back to the EDA because it is not the same deal. Monetarily it is about the same. Klecker said he talked to the owners of the transformer building, and that it could be moved. A motion was made by Boeke and seconded by Burbank to approve the amended terms with a \$200,000 purchase price. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion passed.

**New Business.** Klecker said that all of the limestone downtown will be replaced by granite. The project will begin next Tuesday, May 26.

President Voss asked about getting a commercial realtor involved with the City owned properties downtown. Klecker said they have had commercial realtors before and it has not panned out well. He said that commercial realtors want to get the building sold, and they don't care about other businesses ideas for the building that could work at another location. When people inquire, we are able to filter them through our economic development system and find other properties that might work better for them or refer them to the OABDC to det their ideas off the gourd. We are in the business of business development. Klecker said there are plans for renovations to the City owned buildings and other things planned for this summer to get them developed.

Commissioner Cowell suggested sticking to the agenda.

**Schedule Next Meeting.** The next EDA meeting is scheduled for **June 17, 2026** at 4:00 pm at the Rose Street Center Conference Room.

**Adjournment.** There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Boeke and seconded by Savage to adjourn the meeting at 5:14 pm. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion passed.