

**DRAFT - MINUTES  
OF THE NEW BRAUNFELS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
REGULAR MEETING OF THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**President Shane Hines called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Present: Kristen Carden (5:03PM), Tera Thompson, Larry Hammonds, Don Austin, Shane Hines, Atanacio Campos, Cory Elrod**

**Also in attendance: Mayor Neal Linnartz (5:03PM)**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A) Approval of the January 15, 2026 regular meeting minutes**

**President Hines introduced this item. Director Austin motioned to approve the January 15, 2026 regular meeting minutes, Director Elrod seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.**

**4. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS**

*This time is for citizens to address the Board on issues and items of concerns not on this agenda. There will be no Board action at this time.*

**President Hines introduced this item. Brian Blanchard, resident, spoke at this time.**

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

**A) Presentation and discussion on the February 2026 Treasurer's Report**

**President Hines introduced this item. Jared Werner, Assistant City Manager, presented an update on sales tax revenue. Mr. Werner reported that sales tax collections for December 2025 increased by 3.5% compared to December 2024, due in part to a one-time audit collection of \$567,000. When the audit collection and HD Supply sales tax (both one-time factors) were excluded, sales tax revenue increased by 10.4%. Without adjustments, current-period collections increased by 16% compared to December 2024. Total sales tax collections for fiscal year 2026 are 5.8% higher than fiscal year 2025. Mr. Werner also presented graphical information outlining projected revenues, current project funding commitments, and the projected ending fund balance for fiscal years 2026 through 2030.**

Mr. Werner noted that the table reflecting Infrastructure and Quality of Life Investments was removed, as the only project not fully considered or incorporated into the financials is the Downtown right-of-way (ROW) enhancements. He stated that this project is anticipated to be brought forward for formal approval within the next six to nine months. Mr. Werner indicated that a new table will be added to reflect project-by-project estimated expenditures for the current fiscal year, and that this information will be included in the Treasurer's Report in March.

Mr. Werner answered questions from the Board.

## **6. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

A) Presentation and update on a workforce study partnership with the Seguin EDC

President Hines introduced the item. Mike Crowley, Vice President of Workforce & Industry Relations with the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce, presented an update on a workforce study partnership with the Seguin Economic Development Corporation. The project will review existing education, training, and credential pathways across K-12, postsecondary institutions, and workforce programs. The study will examine labor market demand in key industries, including high-demand and middle-skill occupations, and identify barriers to access and participation, particularly for underserved populations. The findings will provide practical, regionally-tailored recommendations to strengthen alignment between education and workforce efforts. Mr. Crowley noted that the workforce study will be conducted by a RWEA Board Member and Professor at Texas State University at no cost.

Jonathan Packer, President & CEO with the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce, highlighted the importance of this study.

Mr. Crowley answered questions from the Board.

B) Presentation and update on the Northwest Park Master Plan Project  
President Hines introduced the item. Bernadette Faust, Capital Projects Manager with Transportation & Construction Services, provided an update on the Northwest Park Master Plan Project and the work completed to date. Two preliminary park concepts were presented at a public meeting. Feedback from the community is being incorporated into the master plan. The design team will continue

working and a draft master plan expected in March 2026. The draft will be presented to the Parks Board and City Council for final approval in June. Following approval, the plan will move into schematic design, with early public access to the site anticipated in late summer 2026 prior to the start of park design.

C) Presentation and possible action to approve the proposed NBEDC Strategic Planning priorities

President Hines introduced the item. Jordan Matney, Deputy City Manager, presented and provided a brief recap of the strategic planning process and prior projects funded by this Board. The strategic planning process yielded four strategic priorities for the EDC: 1) Workforce Support, 2) Planning & Infrastructure, 3) Enhancing Sense of Place, and 4) Business Recruitment & Retention. Ms. Matney requested Board approval of these priorities, noting that projects associated with priorities 1 and 2 would be presented that evening if approved.

**Ms. Matney answered questions from the Board.**

President Hines opened the item for public comment; no comments were made. Director Carden motioned for approval, Director Thompson seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

D) Presentation and discussion on possible projects - categorized by Workforce Support (Strategic Priority 1) and Planning & Infrastructure (Strategic Priority 2)

President Hines introduced the item. Jeff Jewell, Director of Economic and Community Development; Garry Ford, Director of Transportation & Construction Services; and Scott McClelland, Assistant Director of Transportation & Construction Services, presented on potential projects aligned with Strategic Priorities 1 and 2. Workforce Support (Strategic Priority #1). Projects included: TxFAME scholarship opportunities, initiatives to strengthen and expand entrepreneurship in New Braunfels, expansion of postsecondary workforce training capacity, childcare expansion, and a workforce study. Planning & Infrastructure (Strategic Priority #2). Projects included a downtown parking structure, Union Pacific downtown relocation efforts, AAMPO city-wide pedestrian improvements (2026 and 2028), streets and utility design master plans, downtown right-of-way enhancements, and airport infrastructure improvements.

**Staff answered questions from the Board.**

- E) Public hearing, discussion, and possible action approving an expenditure of \$26,800 for the option to extend the project feasibility period for an additional 90 days per the Purchase Contract between Mildred V. Bartels and Jerald D. Voges and the New Braunfels Economic Development Corporation, pursuant to Section 505.102 of the Texas Local Government Code.

**President Hines introduced this item. Mr. Jewell presented on this item and explained that approval of this item would authorize an expenditure to extend the feasibility period on the property currently under contract by the NBEDC for an additional 90 days. The NBEDC previously approved \$50,000 in May 2025 to secure the five additional parcels adjacent from Gruene 16. Due to the need to continue project development, planning, and negotiations with the developer, an extension of the feasibility period is necessary. Approval of this item would require an additional \$26,800 and would extend the feasibility period through July 24, 2026.**

**Mr. Jewell answered questions from the Board.**

**President Hines opened up a public hearing at 6:12PM, no comments were made and the public hearing was closed at 6:12PM.**

**Director Austin motioned to approve, Director Hammonds seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.**

**7. ADVISORY TEAM REPORT**

- A) Presentation and discussion on the Quarterly Advisory Report  
**President Hines introduced this item. Michelle Boggs, Senior Vice President of Economic Development with the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce, presented an update on the Confluence Strategic Plan efforts for economic development. The presentation highlighted key takeaways, recent project wins, active projects, capital investment activity, and ongoing recruitment missions.**

**8. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

In accordance with the Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, the Board reserves the right to retire into executive session concerning the items listed on this agenda to consult with its attorney. In addition, the Board may convene in executive session on any of the following items, with any final action being taken in open session:

- A) Deliberate issues regarding economic development negotiations in accordance with Section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code:
  - 1. Project Shoot
  - 2. Project Thread
  - 3. Gruene 16
  - 4. Stars and Stripes Drive-In Theatre
  - 5. Project Money
  - 6. Gener8tor

**President Hines introduced this item. The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 6:20PM. Executive Session was opened at 6:25PM. The items were discussed in the following order: Gener8tor, Project Shoot, Project Thread, Gruene 16, Stars & Stripes Drive-In Theatre, Project Money.**

**The Board discussed and no action was taken. The Board returned to open session at 7:19PM.**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

President Hines adjourned the meeting at 7:20PM.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
SHANE HINES, PRESIDENT