



**ORANGE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

MINUTES

January 5, 2026

The Board of Directors of the Orange County Economic Development Corporation convened in a Regular Meeting at 10:00 AM Monday January 5, 2026 in the Orange County Commissioner's Courtroom 123 S 6th Street, Orange, TX 77630

Members Present

Commissioner Johnny Trahan, Pct. 1
Commissioner Robert Viator, Pct. 4
Cynthia Adams, City of Pinehurst
Randy Branch, City of West Orange
Mike Stelly, City of West Orange
Bart Bartkowiak, City of Bridge City
Shaun McAlpin – Orangefield ISD
Dr. Wendy Elmore, Lamar State College Orange
David Jones, Gopher Industrial
Keith Wallace, Port of Orange
Ida Schossow, GOACC
Chad Jennings, Golden Triangle Polymers

Members Absent:

Vicky Hernandez, Powering Coastal Texas
Travis Williams, Sabine River Authority
Shawn Sparrow, The Houseman Companies

Others Present:

Megan Layne, Executive Director
Jessica Irvin, Business Development Manager
Christopher Leavins, Legal Counsel

Official Notice of the meeting detailing the time, date, place and purpose (Agenda), was posted on the Orange County Economic Development Corporation website and Orange County Administration Building on December 30, 2025.

1. **Convene Meeting** President Stelly opened the meeting at 10:00 am
2. **Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Directors Present.** Mayor Branch led the invocation and Chief Stelly led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Recognize Guests.**

None

4. **Public Comment**

At this time, members of the public or of the Board of Directors of the Governing authority may comment about a subject not listed on the Agenda. Speakers shall be requested to limit their remarks to three (3) minutes or less. Specific factual information, or existing policy, may be stated in response to a comment. Any Deliberation or decision about the subject of the inquiry shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the Agenda for a subsequent Regular or Special Board Meeting.

None

5. **Discussion and possible action to approve Minutes for any previous Meeting(s).**

Member McAlpin motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Trahan. Motion Carried.

6. **Discussion and possible action on financial matters including:**

(A) Financial report – Motion to approve financial report made by Mayor Branch, seconded by Member McAlpin. Motion carried.

(B) Bills for payment – Motion by Commissioner Trahan, seconded by Keith Wallace. Motion carried.

7. **Discussion and possible action to accept City of Pinehurst's appointment of new City Manager Robbie Hood to the OCEDC board.**

Mayor Branch motioned to approve appointment of Robbie Hood. Seconded by Member Wallace. Motion carried.

8. **Discussion and possible action to approve Orange County Economic Development Corporation Investment Policy.**

Commissioner Trahan motioned to approve Investment Policy. Seconded by Member Elmore. Motion carried.

9. **Discussion and possible action to appoint Executive Director, Megan Layne, as the Investment Officer for the Orange County EDC.**

Mayor Branch motioned to appoint Megan Layne as Investment Officer. Seconded by Commissioner Trahan. Motion carried.

- 10. Discussion and possible action to engage an investment/pooling firm, TexPool, approve signatories, and authorize the execution of any and all documents necessary.**

Commissioner Trahan motioned to engage TexPool and approve all necessary signatories and action. Seconded by Mayor Branch. Motion carried.

- 11. Executive Director's Regular Report.**

Discussion and updates of the following.

- (A) USG Paper, LLC Update
- (B) LaBrie property update at Hwy 62 and I-10.
- (C) Economic Forecast Luncheon on January 22nd
- (D) Reminder: Abatement Policy Renewal in November.
- (E) Miscellaneous, Discussion regarding pending or future development projects in Orange County.

- 12. Closed Meeting to Deliberate commercial or financial information that the Governmental Body has received from a business prospect that the Governmental Body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the Governmental Body and with which the Governmental Body is conducting economic development negotiations, or to Deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to such a business prospect, under Section 551.087 of the Act, regarding any current, confidential OCEDC Projects.**

Entered closed session at 10:33.

- 13. Discussion and possible action resulting from Closed Meeting under Agenda Item No. 12.**

Return from closed session at 11:04. No action

- 14. Discussion and possible action regarding possible changes to the date, time and/or place of one or more particular Regular Session(s) if any of such factors are presently anticipated to be changed from standard Board Policy.**

March 11th at 10:00 am.

- 15. Adjourn Meeting.**

Meeting adjourned 11:06 am.

ORANGE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

_____ Date _____