



Keene Economic Development Corporation (Type B) Board Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2026 at 3:30 PM

Keene City Hall - Robert G. Cooper Council Chamber 1000 N.
Old Betsy Rd., Cleburne, Texas 76031

Recorded Live Stream Available at <https://www.youtube.com/@cityofkeenetexas>

Members Present: Vice President Daniel Gathings, and Board Members Donnie Beeson, Phillip Jackson, and Nellie Youngberg

Members Absent: President Ricky Stephens, and Board Members Alma Davila, Gary Heinrich

City staff present: Jonathan Seitz, Don Martin, Holly Russell, Mira Lam, and Cari Warwick

1. Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Vice President Gathings called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. President's Remarks

No remarks were given.

3. City Administration Remarks

Don Martin, Director of Neighborhood and Development Services, announced that administration received the proposals for the skate park and they may be presented next month.

4. Public Comments

Paul Gnadt, Chamber of Commerce Director, gave Board Members information on Chamber costs for consideration for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget.

5. Public Hearing

There was no public hearing scheduled for this meeting date.

6. General

- A. *Review, discuss, and consider the minutes of the regular Keene EDC (Type B) Board meeting held on May 19, 2026.*

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented, and seconded. The motion carried.

Motion made by Jackson, Seconded by Youngberg.

Voting Yea: Beeson, Vice President Gathings, Youngberg, Jackson

- B. *Receive a report from the City Manager on an update for the Downtown Revitalization Program (DRP) grant.*

Jonathan Seitz, City Manager, updated the Board that it looks positive that the city will receive the million dollar grant for downtown revitalization. However, use of some of the funds for the skate park does not look possible. Sidewalks from the SWAU gym to Elisa Carve Park is approved, and lights around the walking trail at the park has been approved. Since the small street to connect 805-B and FM 2280 is not possible, administration is looking to add electrical and other infrastructure to Elisa Carver Park for events. Another idea, if there are funds, would be another pavilion at a park, or laying asphalt in the Elisa Carver parking lot. There were questions about the lighting at the park, and the boundaries of the downtown district. A suggestion was made to consider paving the grassy area at the ball fields for parking. There was no action taken on this item.

- C. *Receive, discuss, and consider approving the Keene EDC (Type B) Board Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (FY27).*

Mira Lam, Director of Finance, was present to assist with answering questions about the proposed budget. There were questions about salary and wages. The Board asked for a more detailed budget report for them to review since it appeared some of the line items were not listed on the proposed budget they were given. Jonathan spoke about training for Board Members, which increased the training budget. In answer to a question of the cost for audit, the EDC Boards paid 10 percent of the cost. The Board stated they could not vote on the proposed budget due to the clerical errors presented, and would like a corrected version at the next meeting.

There was a motion to table the item until next month, and seconded. The motion carried.

Motion made by Beeson, Seconded by Youngberg.

Voting Yea: Beeson, Vice President Gathings, Jackson

- D. *Review, discuss, and consider possible action or direction to staff concerning quotes received for ballfield improvements.*

Mr. Martin reported that only one contractor responded out of multiple inquiries about ballfield improvements. One company declined to quote, and another company has been approached and has yet to provide a quote. The one company that responded said that they believed the cost to be about \$15-17,000. There was a question about how much revenue the field rentals bring in, and that information will be brought back next month. The rental is about \$25 for two hours, and increases if lights are needed. The income is part of the EDC-B Miscellaneous Revenue. The Board wants to know where the funds will come from to improve the fields. A motion was made to repair the fields, not to exceed \$19,999.

Motion made by Beeson, Seconded by Youngberg.

Voting Yea: Beeson, Vice President Gathings, Youngberg, Jackson

7. Executive Session

There was no recess for Executive Session at this meeting.

8. Reconvene into Open Session

There were no items needing action.

9. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Items as discussed this meeting.

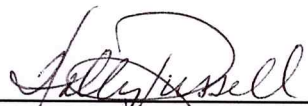
10. Adjourn

There being no further business, Vice President Gathings adjourned the meeting at 4:47 p.m.

Approved on this 21st day of July 2026.


Presiding Officer Daniel Gathings

Attest:


Holly Russell, City Secretary