



Keene Economic Development Corporation (Type A) Board Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2026 at 9:00 AM

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: Rolando Colindres-Bran, President, and Cody Thornton, Vice President; and Board Members Gwen Beeson, and Samantha Gillin

Members Absent: Efrain Castellanos

Staff Present: Jonathan Seitz, Don Martin, Holly Russell, Mira Lam, and Keith Barrow

1. Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

President Colindres called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and Board Member Beeson gave the invocation.

2. President's Remarks

President Colindres welcomed Metalplate to Keene on behalf of the Type A Board, and thanked everyone that made their selection of Keene a reality.

3. City Administration Remarks

Don Martin, Director of Neighborhood and Development Services, confirmed that the plat for the Metalplate facilities is being reviewed, and the plans for improving the county roads to the Industrial Park are being finalized so that improvements can begin soon.

4. Public Comments

No comments were given at this time.

5. Public Hearing

There was no public hearing held on this meeting date.

6. General

- A. *Receive, discuss, and consider the Keene EDC (Type A) Board Quarterly Financial Report for the months of January 1 through March 31, 2026.*

Mira Lam, Director of Finance, reported that revenue is 257 percent over the amount budget, and expenditures are 39 percent below budget to date. This is due to the sale of Industrial Park property and there being little to no expenditures for the year so far. Sales tax is also trending higher for the year than compared to this point last year. The Money Market account has over \$1.3 million, and has an average interest rate of 3.83 percent.

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

Motion made by Gillin, Seconded by Vice President Thornton.

Voting Yea: Beeson, President Colindres-Bran, Gillin, Vice President Thornton

- B. *Receive an update of marketing activities on behalf of the Keene EDC (Type A) Board, and give direction to staff, if any.*

Mr. Seitz spoke about the radio spots for the EDC Boards, and the audio files were played for the members. The advertising is played on 88.3 The Journey. It was asked if advertising would be done with other radio stations in the area, to which it was answered that there were no plans at this time due to the cost. There was no direction given or action taken on this item.

- C. *Receive an introduction from Rayna Teicheira, Senior Economic Development Analyst with HdL Companies, and an update on the process they are using to assist with the development of the city's Comprehensive Plan that is part of the Resilient Communities Program (RCP) grant.*

Ms. Teicheira introduced herself and her involvement in the RCP grant for developing the Comprehensive Plan. HdL will be handling the local Economic Development portion of the plan. They will be handling the research of the community and economic possibilities and strengths, and will also facilitate community discussions and Town Hall type meetings. There was no action taken on this item.

- D. *Discuss possible goals and initiatives for the Keene EDC (Type A) Board and give direction to staff, if needed.*

President Colindres asked Ms. Teicheira to facilitate this discussion. She asked what the Board believed the strengths of the city are. President Colindres spoke to the staff attracting residents with local health facilities and educational institutions. It was noted that the location of Keene is close to major industries and airports, etc. Keene has an excellent school system both public and private, from primary to post-baccalaureate. Ms. Gillin was adamant that the city needs a grocery store. Mr. Setiz confirmed that some of these "wishlist" businesses are already in discussion with the city, and urged the members to think further out. He introduced Dalton Aiken, Grant Administrator with PMI. Mr. Aiken gave an overview of the complete Comprehensive Plan and what it will include. President Bran would like to discuss further at the next meeting what the EDC Board would like to be.

- E. *Review, discuss, and consider the minutes of the regular Keene EDC (Type A) Board meeting held on April 15, 2026.*

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

Motion made by Beeson, Seconded by Gillin.

Voting Yea: Gillin, Beeson, President Colindres-Bran, Vice President Thornton

7. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session held during this meeting.

8. Reconvene into Open Session

There were no items needing action.

9. Requests for Future Agenda Items

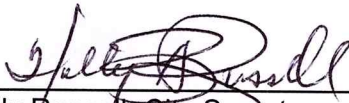
- Mr. Seitz mentioned that the Board will receive the preliminary budget to review and discuss.

- Mr. Colindres asked in a previous item to discuss the focus and end goal of what the Board wants to be.

10. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, President Colindres adjourned the meeting at 9:56 a.m.

Approved this the 17th day of June 2026.



Holly Russell, City Secretary



Presiding Member