



Mitchell County Economic Development Commission

PO BOX 306 | 212 South Fifth Street | Osage, Iowa | 50461
Meeting Minutes: February 24, 2026

The Board of Directors for the MCEDC met in regular session on February 24, 2026, in person. Board members are present: Brock Waters, Roger Hemann, Judy Voaklander and Todd Frein. Staff present: Jenny Backer. Todd Frein called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Motion made by Hemann to approve the agenda; second by Waters, all ayes, motion passed. Motion made by Hemann to approve November 25, 2025, meeting minutes, second by Waters, all ayes, passed.

Motion by Hemann, second by Waters to approve November and December financial reports. Backer reported she needed to purchase a new laptop due to failure of the previous device.

Expenses approved:

Mitchell County: Health Insur	3,718.25
VEIT: IT856.00
OMU	194.00
Webflow	194.74
Intuit	187.26
Staples	86.54
Osage Rotary.....	130.00
IMT Insurance	927.00
Osage Chamber.....	400.00
Marco	353.30

Backer reported she will begin serving on the Northeast Iowa Workforce Development Board which supports workforce efforts across 20 Northeast Iowa counties. Updated the board on the new childcare pledge investments and will continue to work on new pledges and reported the auditor is here conducting the annual audit.

Chris Beaty from Edward Jones provided some information to the board regarding transferring funds to receive a better return on interest. Motion by Waters, second by Hemann to move Money in the current money market accounts to a short duration bond fund if the attorney approves. \$300,000 will be moved to the short duration bond fund and \$100,000 from the Childcare Fund will be moved to the short duration bond fund. Money will be transferred back to the Commission when the funds are needed to support our mission and programs. All ayes. Beaty will monitor the short duration funds and notify us if any risks arise.

Election of Officer was discussed. Todd Frein will remain Chair, Hemann Vice Chair. Judy will join the personnel committee. Hubka will join the personnel committee if she agrees. Judy will become a check signer. Motion by Waters, second by Hemann, all ayes. Hemann and Frein will remain check signers. Hemann will remain on the personnel committee.

Motion by Hemann, second by Judy to switch to approving financials on a quarterly basis in efforts to be more efficient and reduce costs. All ayes.

Backer reviewed the budget Motion by Hemann, second by Judy to approve 2026-2027 Budget. All ayes.

Discussion was held on the Childcare Wage Enhancement Program. The budget supports providing 2.00 per hour for employees. Motion by Waters, second by Hemann to approve the 2026-2027 Childcare Budget. All ayes.

Motion by Hemann, second by Judy to approve Osage Chamber dues. All ayes.

Discussion was held regarding opening a new bank account in Osage. St. Ansgar State Bank has not contributed to the Commission in years and all other banks in the county contribute to our mission. Motion by Waters, second by Judy to open a new bank account at Home Trust Bank in Osage. All ayes. This will include a checking, money market, debit, and childcare accounts.

Motion by Waters, second by Hemann to explore Directors and Officers Insurance. All ayes.

Discussion was held on board attendance; it will continue to be monitored.

Discussion was held on city participation and service provision. A policy will be worked on and presented at a future meeting. Consensus was that cities that do not participate do not get the benefits of using economic development services and that services will not be offered for free.

Frein adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Signed: Todd Frein Title: Chair Date: 3/30/2026
Printed Name: Todd Frein Printed Title: Chair

Signed: Jenny Buckler Title: Exec Director Date: 4-6-26
Printed Name: Jenny Buckler Printed Title: Exec Director