

City of Stanwood
Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Board
March 20, 2026 | 7:30 AM

Minutes

1. Call to Order

David Pelletier called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Economic Development Board Members Present: Les Andersen, David Pelletier, Kristine Birkenkopf, Teresa LaFleur, Camrie Ingram, Lacey Winslow, Tobin Fekkes (online)

3. Public Comments

4. Approval of Minutes

Les Anderson made a motion to approve the January minutes. Kristine Birkenkopf seconded the motion. All were in favor of approving the minutes as written of the January 16, 2026, meeting.

a. Economic Development Board Minutes 01.16.2026

5. Unfinished Business

6. New Business

a. Stanwood Identity Discussion

The board went through an Economic Identity Spectrum exercise to get an idea of the community's identity, priorities, and direction.

b. Stanwood Regional Job Fair

Aaron gave an update on the job fair which has 30 businesses participating.

7. Miscellaneous

a. Depot Park Art Project

The Board requested to see the artists' renderings.

b. Creative Arts District & Mainstreet Program Update

Aaron gave an update on the status Creative Arts District and

Mainstreet Program.

The Board had no comments.

c. Port Susan Trail Route and Wayfinding

The Board approves of the signage for the Port Susan Trail Route.

d. Heritage Park Graffiti Art

The Board approves of the Heritage Park Graffiti Art Project.

e. January & February Business Licenses

The City recieved the following number of business licenses between January and February 2026:

City Businesses: 10

Home Occupations: 6

Non-Profits: 2

Non-City Businesses: 33

8. Board Member Comments

9. Adjourn

8:58 a.m.

City of Stanwood

Sid Roberts, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Sokolik, City Clerk

**City of Stanwood
Economic Development Board
January 16, 2026 | 7:30 AM**

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Les Anderson called the Economic Development Board meeting to order at 7:35 am.

2. Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Tobin Fekkes, Lacey Winslow, Les Anderson, Teresas LaFleur (online), Camrie Ingram, David Pelletier, Kristine Birkenkopf

Staff Present: Aaron Weinberg, Niki Strachila, Audrey Rotrock

3. Public Comments

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Economic Development Board Meeting Minutes 10/17/2025

The minutes of October 17, 2025, Economic Development Board were approved unanimously.

5. Election of Officers

a. Election of Officers

David Pelletier volunteered to be the Board Chair. Les Anderson made a motion to approve, Tobin Fekkes seconded. All were in favor.

Teresa Lefluer volunteered to be the Board Vice Chair. Lacey Winslow made a motion to approve, Tobin Fekkes seconded. All were in favor.

6. Unfinished Business

7. New Business

a. New Member Introduction

Tobin Fekkes and Lacey Winslow, the newest Board members, gave brief introductions of themselves.

b. Goals & Priorities Discussion

The Board was asked to list the strengths and challenges of the City of Stanwood below. Staff will use this information to guide future EDB meetings.

Strengths:

Small town / historic charm

A strong downtown (eclectic, small shops, good food)

Rural nature
People & community
The City is growing, but there is still a feeling of connection
Access to activities (water/Hamilton Landing, nature, etc.)
No urban sprawl
Train station
Events

Challenges:

Need more family wage jobs
Capture more Camano residents passing through town
Missing a hotel/lodging
People have to leave town to go to bigger box stores
Need more affordable housing
No Performing Arts center
Nowhere to buy locally grown food (a co-op type)
Floodplain challenges
Lack of cohesion between east and west downtown
Main Street is not attractive between the two ends of downtown
Transportation

When asked about top goals for economic development – tied to the Economic Development Element of the comp plan – board members ranked the following three goals at top priorities:

Downtown revitalization
Pedestrian mobility
Business resiliency/diversification

c. Twin City Mile Update

Consider making turns off 270th Street onto 102nd Ave right turn only.
The Board also suggested making the overhead lights on the west end brighter.

d. Art Project Updates

The Board supports all Community Development art projects.

e. Business Climate Survey Results

Overall, businesses were positive or neutral about the business climate in Stanwood. Top support needs included marketing, downtown revitalization, improved foot traffic, and grant opportunities.

f. Business Licenses: July - December, 2025

No comments

g. Year-In-Review

No comments

8. Board Member Comments

9. Adjourn: 9:00