



MINUTES

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 – 4:00pm

Grand Marais City Hall – Council Chambers

15 North Broadway Ave, Grand Marais, MN 55604

Members of the Board may participate in this meeting via electronic means

Commissioners Present: Peter Clissold, Mark Shackleton, Dave Mills, Alex Beebe-Giudice, Siri Anderson, Pat Eliassen, Tracy Benson

Commissioners Absent: none

Others Present: Lucas Wakefield, Linda Jurek, Jeff Brand, minute taker Maggie Barnard

1. Call to Order

President Clissold called the May 19, 2026 regular meeting of the EDA to order at 4:01 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Clissold asked if there are any additions or revisions to the agenda. None made.

Motion to approve the agenda as presented. (Anderson/Beebe-Giudice) Vote: Passed (7/0).

3. Public Comments

Clissold opened the comment period.

Linda Jurek, Executive Director of the Cook County Chamber of Commerce and Visit Cook County extended an invitation to Commissioners for a reception with Senator Hauschild on Friday, May 22, 2026 from 12-1:30 p.m. tentatively at Voyageur Brewing.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. April 21, 2026 EDA Regular Meeting ([Pages 1-3](#))

Motion to approve the April 21, 2026 EDA Regular Meeting minutes. (Mills/Shackleton) Vote: Passed (7/0).

5. Review of Financials

- a. Balance Sheet EDA, as of April 30, 2026 ([Pages 4-7](#))

Shackleton stated the budget is in line with expectations and \$70,000 was transferred to the golf course.

President and Commissioners accepted and forwarded EDA and Superior National financials to audit.

- b. Bill Approval Status EDA, April 2026 Payments ([Page 8](#))

Motion to approve the April 2026 payments (Mills/Benson) Vote: Passed (7/0).

- c. Balance Sheet Superior National Golf Course, as of April 30, 2026 ([Pages 9-13](#))

- d. 2025 Business Development Fund Grant Report, information only ([Page 14](#))

- e. 2026 Business Development Fund Grant Report, information only ([Page 15](#))

6. New Business

- a. **2026-14 RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AS SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT TREASURER** ([Pages 16-17](#))



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Clissold introduced the agenda topic.

Wakefield confirmed his acceptance of the officer roles.

Motion to approve RESOLUTION 2026-14 (Anderson/Shackleton) Vote: Passed (7/0).

- b. **2026-15** RESOLUTION APPROVING A COMMERCIAL LEASE AGREEMENT WITH DROSERA HOLDINGS, LLC FOR OFFICE SPACE AT 425 W HIGHWAY 61 ([Pages 18-25](#))

Wakefield said the terms are identical to previous lease with an increase of \$50 per month in rent.

Jeff Brand, Executive Director of Cook County HRA confirmed he will continue sharing office space.

Motion to approve RESOLUTION 2026-15 (Mills/Shackleton) Vote: Passed (7/0).

- c. **2026-16** RESOLUTION REMOVING AUTHORIZED FINANCIAL SIGNATORY AUTHORITY ([Pages 26-27](#))

Wakefield stated that when adding himself to EDA bank accounts he discovered former Commissioner Hedstrom and Executive Director Krampitz were listed as authorized signatories and this would remove them at both Grand Marais State Bank and North Shore Credit Union.

Motion to approve RESOLUTION 2026-16 (Shackleton/Anderson) Vote: Passed (7/0).

- d. **2026-17** RESOLUTION APPROVING A REVISED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH NORTH SHORE DEVELOPMENT CO. ([Pages 28-34](#))

Wakefield said the monthly fee will be reduced to \$2,500 and 20 hours of work. Stated the scope of work is primarily administrative duties with a contract effective date of June 1, 2026 and a 60-day termination notice.

Commissioner discussion.

Motion to approve RESOLUTION 2026-17. (Shackleton/Beebe-Giudice) Vote: Passed (7/0).

- e. **Preliminary 2027 Budget** – *discussion only, no action* ([Page 35](#))

Wakefield walked through the preliminary budget and indicated the current request is \$469,539 which represents a 3% decrease from the 2026 budget. Discussed where reductions were made and welcomed Commissioner discussion. Discussed reducing the Business Development Fund grant program by \$100,000 and proposed changes to the grant program overall such as required grantee match of 25% and a minimum request of \$5,000 with possibility to create community funding for projects less than \$5,000.

Commission discussion.

7. SBDC Report

- a. 2025 Cook County Northland SBDC Report ([Page 36](#))



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Clissold stated Rachelle Christianson is not present but a scorecard from Northland Foundation was included in the agenda packet and provides SBDC performance data for 2025.

8. Committee/Commissioner Reports

a. Golf Course Committee – Sale Update

Clissold confirmed they are officially at day 50 of the 90 day first right of refusal time period with the Nelson family and actively working on a irrigation system plan at the course.

b. Taconite Harbor Subcommittee – Strategic Plan Update

i. Public Open House, June 15th ([Page 37](#))

Clissold mentioned the Open House that will take place at Schroeder Town Hall on June 15th followed by a presentation from Stantec at the next EDA meeting in June.

c. Grant Review Committee Update

Beebe-Giudice confirmed five applications were received for the 2nd round of grants due early May. Confirmed the Committee is continuing to discuss compliance mechanisms for things like final reports.

d. HR Committee Update

No update.

e. Finance Committee

Clissold confirmed they will continue working on the final budget plan in detail in preparation for County Board.

9. Executive Directors Report

Wakefield said he averaged three meetings per day since joining the EDA and noted specific meetings of interest he has attended. Informed Commissioners he will be attending the EDAM conference on June 3rd through 5th in Brainerd and be available by phone. Shared that Cook County has been invited to be a co- grant applicant with four other counties with MN DEED. Confirmed the EDA received the finalized audit for 2025 from Redpath. Welcome to new commissioner Pat Eliassen.

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:18 p.m. (Shackleton/Beebe-Giudice) Vote: Passed (7/0).

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 16, 2026

Respectfully submitted by minute taker Maggie Barnard.