



TO BE HELD In the Memorial Building Women's Club Room and via Zoom Meeting

(Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://cityofironwood.zoom.us/j/86330383541>)

Economic Development Corporation Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Recording of the Roll.
3. Approval of the Minutes of June 3rd, 2026.
4. Approval of the Agenda.
5. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit).
6. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit).
7. Items for Discussion and Consideration.
 - A. 2026 Goals (Status Updates).

#	Description	Status	Lead	Next Update
1	Communication – Promote what the EDC is and Does		Group & Ackerman-Behr	Aug '26
2	Promote workforce development and contractor availability		Raush & Benson	June '26
3	Hospitality program collaboration with Chamber and GCC Workforce Development			Oct '26
4	Collaborate with Ironwood Tourism Council in promotion of the area.		Corcoran, Tom & Tim	Aug '26
5	Vacation rental promotional materials and QR code initiative.		Virshek	Sep '26
6	Continue work toward regional Economic Development Organization.		Tom	Sep '26
7	Housing competitiveness and Housing TIF analysis.		Ackerman-Behr & Libby	May '26
8	Work with Chamber of Commerce on long-term planning.		Lehto & Batu	June '26

8. Update on other Committees and Boards
9. Other Business.

Wednesday, August 5th, 2026

10:00 a.m.

10. Next Meeting: September 2nd, 2026.

11. Adjournment.



Proceedings of the Economic Development Corporation Meeting **Wednesday, June 3, 2026**

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) was held on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at 10:00 A.M. in the Women's Club Room.

1. Ackerman-Behr called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Recording of the Roll.

MEMBER	Present		EXCUSED	NOT EXCUSED	TERM EXPIRATION
	YES	NO			
Benson, Monica	X				10/31/2026
Batu, Simon		X	X		10/31/2026
Vacant					10/31/2027
Corcoran, Kim		X	X		10/31/2027
Virshek, Danielle	X				10/31/2027
Ackerman-Behr, Glen	X				10/31/2027
Libby, Carolyn	X				10/31/2027
Lehto, Steve		X	X		10/31/2028
Raush, Ken	X				10/31/2029
Quorum	5	3	Quorum		

Also Present: Community Development Director Tom Bergman and Community Development Assistant Tim Erickson.

3. Approval of the April 1, 2026 and May 6, 2026, Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Benson to approve the April 1 minutes. Second by Raush. Motion Carried 5 to 0.

Motion by Raush to approve the May 6 minutes. Second by Libby. Motion Carried 5 to 0.

4. Approval of the Agenda.

Motion by Raush to approve the agenda. Second by Virshek. Motion Carried 5 to 0.

5. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit):
None.

6. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding items not on the agenda (Three-minute limit): Joseph Miller from UW Extension office in Iron County introduced himself.
7. Items for Discussion and Consideration
 - A. Guest Speaker – Anne Grioux, InvestUP, Housing TIF: Anne Giroux with Invest UP presented before the board. Libby sought clarification on who can utilize the TIF program. Ackerman-Behr asked how the finances are distributed to the developer. Other questions on how to utilize the program was asked.
 - B. 2026 Goals: Ackerman-Behr presented the goals table and discussed the lead and next update dates. He encouraged each lead person to work throughout the month and to provide updates according to the date on the table.
 1. Communication – promote what the EDC is and does. (Gogebic County Business Forum).
 2. Promote Workforce Development – Address contractor availability by promoting programming of UP Michigan Works, connecting with school programming, etc.
 3. Work with Chamber and GCC workforce Development – hospitality program (training in assets of the region).
 4. Collaborate with the Ironwood Tourism Council in promotion of the area.
 5. Work with vacation rentals to push assets through promotional materials (one page brochure and QR codes) promotional kit for Chamber members.
 6. Continue work toward regional Economic Development Organization.
 7. Housing – Quantification of the difference between taxing in the City and other areas. (How housing TIF might be able to make the City more competitive).
 8. Work with Chamber of Commerce on planning for the future.
8. Other Business: Bergman gave an update on the Planning Commission Zoning Ordinance update. The surplus property sites will be reviewed. The DIDA is working on the mural festival for this upcoming year. The City Commission has increased the façade grant allocation amounts from \$3,000 to \$5,000 per project. A start north pop-up shop program will be starting soon. Virshek has some businesses that could be a part of this program.
9. Next Meeting: August 5, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.
10. Adjournment.

Motion by Virshek to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. Second by Raush. Motion Carried 5 to 0.

Ackerman-Behr, President

Tim Erickson, Community Development Assistant