

**Sleepy Eye EDA Board Annual Planning Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2026 – Noon – Council Chambers**

Mission Statement: The mission of the Sleepy Eye Economic Development Authority is to maintain and improve the community through the retention and growth of business, industry, and services. As well as talent development and improving the vitality & quality of life for residents.

Present: Kathy Haala (Chair), Casey Coulson (Sec.), Mike Carr (Vice-Chair), Wayne Pelzel, Toby Arneson, Alex Bruggeman, Scott Kryzmarzick, Joann Schmidt, Bob Elston, Kurk Kramer

Absent: Christina Andres

A. Call to Order & Approval of Agenda: The meeting was called to order by Chair, Kathy Haala, at 12:01PM. **M/S/C – Wayne, Mike**

B. Approval of December 2025, and Special December 30, EDA Board Meeting Minutes: **M/S/C – Wayne, Mike**

C. Financial Reports Approved as Printed: **M/S/C –Alex, Toby**

D. Approval of Bills: None

E. Reports: **EDA Coordinator:** As Printed in Meeting Packet
 Chamber Director Report: As Printed in Meeting Packet

F. Old Business:

1. **“Business of Childcare” - Community Early Childcare:** Katie Clark, the finance person for Business of Childcare met with the EDA Board via Zoom to begin discussion on funding the project, funding opportunities, and funding sources. There was general discussion and she will be getting back to the Board with more details, information, and a detailed timeline for funding efforts.
2. **108 West Main Street Property** – Kurk is continuing to work with Pete & Sarah Schwartz with their possible interest and purchase of the property.
3. **BlueStem Garden Works – Michael Sprenger:** Kurk has remained in contact with Michael as he continues to work on plans to move to Sleepy Eye. Michael has also been working with Glenn Schroepfer to have a part of the business located in the former Orchid Inn building. Working plans continue.

G. New Business –

1. Glenn Schroepfer request regarding EDA Loans – tabled
2. OJT – Kurk gave update on program, businesses, & student numbers for ‘26-‘27.
3. Hardees Property for Sale – Kurk distributed packet of information on property.

H. Adjourn: Chair, Kathy Haala, adjourned the meeting at 1:15PM.

Next EDA Board Meeting is Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at Noon, in the Council Chambers

EDA Chairman, Kathy Haala

EDA Secretary/Treasurer, Casey Coulson