



# City of Broken Arrow

## Minutes

### Broken Arrow Economic Development Authority

City Hall  
220 S 1st Street  
Broken Arrow OK  
74012

**Chairperson Debra Wimpee**  
**Vice Chairman Johnnie Parks**  
**Trustee Lisa Ford**  
**Trustee Justin Green**  
**Trustee David Pickel**

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**Tuesday, May 20, 2025**

**Council Chambers**

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#### 1. Call to Order

Chairperson Debra Wimpee called the meeting to order at approximately 7:43 p.m.

#### 2. Roll Call

**Present: 4 -** Justin Green, Lisa Ford, Johnnie Parks, Debra Wimpee  
**Absent: 1 -** David Pickel

#### 3. Consideration of Consent Agenda

- A. 25-560**      **Approval of the Broken Arrow Economic Development Authority Meeting Minutes of May 06, 2025**
- B. 25-696**      **Ratification of the Claims List Check Register Dated May 12, 2025**

MOTION: A motion was made by Justin Green, seconded by Lisa Ford

**Move to approve the Consent Agenda**

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye: 4 -** Justin Green, Lisa Ford, Johnnie Parks, Debra Wimpee

#### 4. Consideration of Items Removed from Consent Agenda - NONE

#### 5. Public Hearings, Appeals, Presentations, Recognitions, Awards

- A. 25-444**      **Presentation, discussion, and possible acceptance of the August 2024 – March 2025 Broken Arrow Economic Development Corporation Biannual Report.**

Mr. James Bell, president and CEO of the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporation, addressed the Broken Arrow Economic Development Authority and gave an overview of the Biannual Report. In his overview, he listed the responsibilities of the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporation in attracting business and economic growth to the community, as well as creating jobs, retaining businesses, and ultimately creating an environment that helps businesses grow and stay in the community. He then highlighted the team's staff, which includes Amber Miller, Vice President of Economic Development; De'Andre Fahie, Talent, and Workforce; Bradley Shoeffe, Business Retention and Expansion; and Elise Goggin, Marketing and Research. Mr. Bell then went on to describe the current workload of the Broken Arrow Economic Development Corporation. Since May 1<sup>st</sup>, BAEDC has been managing 15 new business attraction projects, resulting in a proposed \$150 million in capital investments and more than 1,200 jobs. The BAEDC also connects

Broken Arrow to job seekers and especially connects Broken Arrow students to Broken Arrow companies. Mr. Bell explained that during this period, the BAEDC engaged with over 140 companies, citing examples of expansion and economic growth. He also highlighted the efforts to attract business to Broken Arrow. Four of the five projects submitted by the BAEDC to a competitive statewide program called OKSites Ready program. He also mentioned new projects in development, including those in industries such as biotech, aerospace, and automotive supply. Mr. Bell went on to describe the kind of outreach happening to engage college-age students through Job fairs. The BAEDC also has commissioned a full ecosystem assessment with the International Economic Development Council. The assessment provided actionable insights and strategies for supporting entrepreneurs in Broken Arrow, including the right to host a chapter of Broken Arrow One Million Cups. This entrepreneurial membership group allows individuals to meet weekly, present their company, and discuss the challenges they face. This peer-to-peer mentorship allows entrepreneurs to coach and learn from each other as they build their own businesses. He also mentioned that these meetings will take place at the City Council Chambers until additional locations can be agreed upon. Mr. Bell also confirmed to the council that the efforts will include Spanish and English programming.

MOTION: A motion was made by Justin Green, seconded by Lisa Ford.

**Move to approve the August 2024 – March 2025 Broken Arrow Economic Development Corporation Biannual Report.**

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye: 4 -** Justin Green, Lisa Ford, Johnnie Parks, Debra Wimpee

## **6. General Authority Business**

- A. 25-721** **Consideration, discussion and possible approval of Resolution No. 1656, a Resolution of the Broken Arrow Economic Development Authority (the "Authority") accepting the responsibilities as designated to the Authority by the City of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma (the "City") pursuant to the Hackberry Market Economic Development Project Plan adopted by the City; authorizing the General Manager, or designee, to proceed with the development of the financing plan in connection with increment District No. 6, City of Broken Arrow, including preparation of a preliminary official statement; designating an underwriter and a trustee bank in connection with the proposed issuance of the Authority's Tax Apportionment Bonds, Taxable Series 2025 (Hackberry Market Increment District Project); approving, ratifying and affirming professional services agreements related to bond and financing professionals; and containing other provisions relating thereto**

Nate Ellis of Public Finance Law Group presented a summation of the recently adopted Tax Increment District Number Six and the resolution to implement it. Mr. Ellis explains that the resolution presented to the Economic Development Authority would authorize the retention of an underwriter and other professionals related to the proposed bond financing to fund the incentives associated with the Sooner Investments Project. Mr. Ellis said he and the Public Finance Law Group will return to the BAEDA meeting to ask for approval to authorize the issuance of bonds. He concluded that once the BAEDA approves that authorization, the underwriter could then price the bonds and close by the middle of June.

MOTION: A motion was made by Johnnie Parks, seconded by Lisa Ford.

**Move to approve Resolution No. 1656, a Resolution of the Broken Arrow Economic Development Authority (the "Authority") accepting the responsibilities as designated to the Authority by the City of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma (the "City") pursuant to the Hackberry Market Economic Development Project Plan adopted by the City; authorizing the General Manager, or designee, to proceed with the development of the financing plan in connection with increment District No. 6, City of Broken Arrow, including preparation of a preliminary official statement; designating an underwriter and a trustee bank in**

connection with the proposed issuance of the Authority's Tax Apportionment Bonds, Taxable Series 2025 (Hackberry Market Increment District Project); approving, ratifying and affirming professional services agreements related to bond and financing professionals; and containing other provisions relating thereto.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye: 4** Justin Green, Lisa Ford, Johnnie Parks, Debra Wimpee

**7. Remarks and Inquiries by Governing Body Members**

Trustee Lisa Ford reminded the BAEDA of a recent trip to Washington DC, in which the Chairperson and others advocated Broken Arrow, specifically in attracting manufacturing opportunities. She praised Jenny Cothran with ZEECO for her job presenting Broken Arrow to meeting attendees.

Vice Chairperson Johnnie Parks then described the logistics of the meetings in Washington, DC. He and others representing Broken Arrow joined with the Tulsa Chambers in visiting with the Oklahoma Congressional Representatives. He reported that the two days of meetings were productive and convenient for the members traveling.

**8. Remarks and Updates by City Manager and Staff**

City Manager Michael Spurgeon noted to the BAEDA that the Oklahoma State Senate would hold a hearing on SB701. This was mentioned in the City Council meeting as well. The topic would be Item number 12 on the agenda, with the meeting starting May 21, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. He concluded his update with information that the hearing would also be live-streamed. reminded the BAEDA of a recent trip to Washington DC, in which the Chairperson and others advocated Broken Arrow, specifically in attracting manufacturing opportunities. She praised Jenny Cothran with ZEECO for her job presenting Broken Arrow to meeting attendees. She then described the logistics of the meetings in Washington, DC. Chairperson Wimpee and others representing Broken Arrow joined with the Tulsa Chambers in visiting with the Oklahoma Congressional Representatives. She reported that the two days of meetings were productive and convenient for the members traveling.

**9. Executive Session – NONE**

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:02 p.m.

MOTION: A motion was made by Lisa Ford, seconded by Justin Green  
**Move to adjourn.**

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye: 4** Justin Green, Lisa Ford, Johnnie Parks, Debra Wimpee

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Chairperson

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Secretary