



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lane at 4:08 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Amy Raymondo, Dee Dee Jackson, Sam Ilian and Ron Lane
Commissioners Absent: None
Councilmembers: Councilmember McDermott
City Staff: City Manager Joe Goodman and City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke

IDENTIFY CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR 2026

City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke requested nominations for Chairperson for 2026. Commissioner Raymondo nominated Chairperson Ron Lane. With no further nominations, the nomination period was closed. The motion carried 4-0 by a voice vote. Chairperson Lane was declared Chairperson for 2026.

City Clerk Schmitke requested nominations for Vice Chairperson for 2026. Chairperson Lane nominated Commissioner Dee Dee Jackson. With no further nominations, the nomination period was closed. The motion carried 4-0 by a voice vote. Commissioner Jackson was declared Vice Chairperson for 2026.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Economic Development Commission Minutes from November 12, 2025

ACTION: Vice Chairperson Jackson moved, seconded by Chairperson Lane, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote, 4-0

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION OR ACTION

- A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding EDC Meeting Schedule and Attendance

Chairperson Lane emphasized the importance of remaining focused during meetings, being present, arriving on time, and maintaining consistent attendance. He also expressed a desire to return to a regular monthly meeting schedule.

City Manager Joe Goodman asked whether the current meeting date and time continued to work for the Commission, and members confirmed that the schedule was acceptable to all.

B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Highway Sign Ordinance

Chairperson Lane informed the Commission that the City currently has a sign ordinance in the Orland Municipal Code (Section 17.78) and discussed the possibility of updating it.

City Manager Joe Goodman presented examples of entryway signage from other cities to illustrate potential concepts for Orland's future entryway signs. He also discussed the potential annexation of the west side of Orland, noting the City's intent to demonstrate to developers that Orland is prepared and open to new business opportunities. Mr. Goodman suggested that the Commission review the existing sign ordinance to improve cohesion and consistency for businesses throughout the City and asked whether the Economic Development Commission (EDC) would like the Planning Commission to also review the ordinance.

Chairperson Lane stated his preference for a unified sign featuring multiple businesses to create a cohesive appearance. Commissioner Ilian agreed and asked about sign maintenance responsibilities and potential monthly advertising fees for participating businesses.

Commissioners discussed the possibility of installing two multi-business signs along the freeway at both off-ramps and whether such signage would be more appropriate for small businesses, larger businesses, or both. Additional discussion included the potential for supplemental signage highlighting downtown businesses, museums, restaurants, and Black Butte Lake.

Planning Commission Chairperson Stephen Nordbye suggested holding a joint meeting with the EDC, Planning Commission, and other commissions to develop a coordinated plan for City improvements. He also referenced the Rolling Hills Casino electronic sign and noted that businesses could potentially pay for advertising space on similar signage.

Commissioners further discussed welcome signage on the east side of Orland and reviewed potential locations. Commissioner Ilian expressed interest in meeting with Mr. Goodman to discuss the possible use of property owned by his family for a new sign location.

ACTION: Chairperson Lane moved, seconded by Vice Chairperson Jackson to proceed with working on design, style and size of design for the East side of Orland.

Mr. Goodman stated he would look into pricing and share that information with the Commissioners.

C. Discussion of Vacant Lot Inventory and Vacancy Tax

Commissioners and City Manager Joe Goodman discussed the 2024 vacant lot and building list and enforcement letters previously sent by Chairperson Lane. The Commission agreed the list needs to be updated, and Chairperson Lane and Mr. Goodman stated they would work together to update the list and related enforcement materials.

Commissioners discussed a potential vacancy tax previously raised by the City Council, as well as possible incentives for property owners with vacant buildings and lots. The Commission also expressed interest in reviewing the City of Corning's fee schedule related to vacant properties.

Mr. Goodman stated that any potential incentive program should demonstrate a clear benefit to the City of Orland, including encouraging downtown business activity.

Chairperson Lane referenced SB 789 and Article 29 and shared information regarding vacant business tax legislation. He expressed interest in further exploring the concept.

Commissioners discussed moving forward with updated enforcement letters and guidelines. Mr. Goodman stated he would consult with the City Attorney and prepare an updated vacant lot and vacant business list.

Chairperson Lane emphasized that property owners are responsible for maintaining building appearance and landscaping.

STAFF REPORTS - None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - None

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Jackson:

- Nothing to report.

Commissioner Raymondo

- Nothing to report.

Commissioner Ilian:

- Nothing to report.

Chairperson Lane:

- Attended the Cowboy Christmans December 5th;
- Shared that he collected 6533 pounds of food donations from local schools;
- Attended the Art Show January 2nd;
- Will be attending the Veterans Stand Down at the Fairgrounds.

ADJOURN – 5:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Schmitke, Commission Secretary

Ron Lane, Chairperson