



RUSK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Notice of Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

Monday, September 21, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

City Council Chamber, 116 E. 5th Street, Suite B, Rusk, Texas 75785

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Rusk Economic Development Corporation will hold a special meeting at the date, time, and place shown above. This notice and agenda are posted in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, the Texas Open Meetings Act. The Board may discuss and take action on any item listed below. Items may be considered in an order other than the order shown.

CALL TO ORDER AND PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Call to order, roll call, and announcement of a quorum.
2. Public comment. Members of the public may address the Board on any item on this agenda or on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Corporation, as provided by Section 551.007 of the Texas Government Code. Speakers are asked to sign in before the meeting begins and are limited to three minutes each. The Board may not deliberate or take action on a subject that is not listed on this agenda, but may refer the matter to staff or place it on a future agenda.

MINUTES

3. Discuss and consider action on approval of the minutes of the joint meeting of the Rusk City Council and the Rusk Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors held July 30, 2026.
4. Discuss and consider action on approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Rusk Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors held August 6, 2026.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Discuss and consider action on a request for a grant of up to \$15,000 for the Southern Pine Locomotive Project to fund a survey of the parcels the project seeks to acquire from the City of Rusk.
6. Discuss and consider action on establishing an official social media presence for the Corporation, including the staff research and recommendation report and adoption of a social media use policy.
7. Discuss and consider action on establishing a regular monthly meeting date and time for the Board of Directors.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

8. Recess into executive session. The Board of Directors will convene in a closed meeting under the following provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code:
 - a. **Section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney.** To seek the advice of the Corporation's attorney on legal matters, including pending or contemplated litigation and the legal obligations of the Corporation related to items on this agenda.
 - b. **Section 551.087, Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations.** To discuss or deliberate commercial or financial information received from a business prospect that the Corporation seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the City of Rusk, and to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to that business prospect.
9. Reconvene in open session and discuss and consider action on matters deliberated in executive session.

REGULAR AGENDA – CONT.

10. Discuss and consider action on a request for \$150,000 in Corporation funding for the US Highway 84 Project, submitted by Ken Ferrera, for Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments, abatement of lead and asbestos, and demolition of existing structures to grade.
11. Discuss and consider action on a request from Jan Pate for financial assistance for a new restaurant located at 149 S. Henderson Street, consisting of a \$35,000 economic development incentive and a \$10,000 facade grant, for a total request of \$45,000.
12. Discuss and consider action on a request from Rusk Area Merchants, submitted by Tara Tatarski, for \$45,000 in Corporation funding, as follows:
 - a. \$10,000 for tourism promotion and the creation of a marketing platform operated independently of the Rusk Chamber of Commerce, to support marketing and advertising that encourages local business growth and attracts new business to the City of Rusk.
 - b. \$35,000 for downtown lighting and a permanent sound system for year-round community events.
13. Discuss and consider action on a new home construction incentive providing a \$10,000 rebate, payable at completion, for qualifying new single-family homes with a minimum completed value of \$219,000.
14. Discuss and consider action on a residential rehabilitation incentive providing a \$5,000 rebate, payable at completion, for qualifying improvements that increase the appraised value of the property, including exterior paint, windows, doors, roof, and heating and air conditioning equipment.
15. Discuss and consider action on improvements to the caboose display located on US Highway 69, including repainting, replacement of rooftop signage, installation of electrical service for lighting, and construction of an asphalt parking area.
16. Discuss and consider action on the purchase of billboard advertising promoting the City of Rusk and its attractions, including the Rusk ISD and TJC Promise program, Rusk Railroad Park and RV sites, Cherokee Civic Theatre, and the Heritage Center of Cherokee County Museum.

17. Discuss and consider action on approval of an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget of the Rusk Economic Development Corporation.
18. Discuss and consider action on adoption of the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget of the Rusk Economic Development Corporation.
19. Adjourn.

Executive Session Notice

The Board of Directors reserves the right to recess into executive session at any time during this meeting to discuss any item listed on this agenda when authorized by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. No final action, decision, or vote will be taken in executive session. Any final action will be taken in open session.

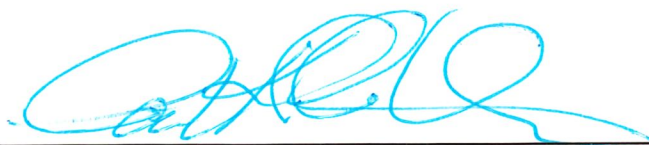
This meeting will be conducted pursuant to the Texas Government Code Section 551.001 et seq. At any time during the meeting, the Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session on any of the above-posted agenda items in accordance with the sections 551.

A quorum of the governmental body will be physically present at the location noticed above. Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code 551.127, one or more members of the governing body may appear via videoconference call. The City of Rusk is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request.

Please call the City Secretary at 903-683-2213 for information.

Certificate of Posting

I certify that the above notice and agenda of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rusk Economic Development Corporation were posted at Rusk City Hall in a place readily accessible to the general public at all times, and were posted concurrently on the Corporation's internet website, on the date and at the time shown below, not less than three (3) business days before the scheduled time of the meeting, as required by Sections 551.043 and 551.056 of the Texas Government Code.



Signature of posting REDC official

CARLTON CROTHERS – REDC DIRECTOR

Printed name and title

SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

Date posted

BEFORE 10:00PM

Time posted