



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Approved BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

5:00 PM

Virtual

The City of Madison is holding the Business and Economic Resources Committee meeting in virtual format.

Written Comments: You can send comments on agenda items to berc@cityofmadison.com

Register for Public Comment:

- Register to speak at the meeting
- Register to answer questions
- Register in support or opposition of an agenda item (without speaking)

If you want to speak at this meeting you must register. You can register at <https://www.cityofmadison.com/MeetingRegistration>. When you register to speak, you will be sent an email with the information you will need to join the virtual meeting.

Watch the Meeting: If you would like to join the meeting as an observer, please visit <https://www.cityofmadison.com/watchmeetings>.

Listen by Phone: (877) 853-5257 (Toll Free) **Webinar ID:** 858 2505 2562

Interpretation and Accessibility

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was Called to Order at 5:03pm. Staff present: Mikolajewski, Makinen, Rohlich, Swanson, Otto

Present: 7 - Ellen Zhang; Joann Pritchett; Melissa Gombar; Wayne R. Harris; Susan M. Bulgrin; Seth W. Lentz and Ashleigh M. Hacker

Absent: 1 - Dina Nina Martinez-Rutherford

Excused: 1 - Jeffrey J. Liggon

1. [93547](#) Introduction of Committee Members

Mikolajewski welcomed everyone and invited members to introduce themselves.

2. [93548](#) Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Harris moved to appoint Gombar as Chair and Lentz as Vice Chair. Hacker seconded and both accepted the appointment. This motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Public Comment

3. [93555](#) Public Comment - BERC 6/17/26

Attachments: [BERCRegistrantsReport-6-17-26.xlsx](#)

None

Disclosures and Recusals

None

New Business

4. [93549](#) Mayor's Office Welcome

Deputy Mayor Linda Vakunta welcomed members to the new committee.

5. [93550](#) Introduce Madison General Ordinance 33.17

Attachments: [BERC Ordinance.pdf](#)

Mikolajewski gave an overview of the ordinance.

6. [93551](#) Overview of Committee Training Materials

Mikolajewski gave a recap on open meetings rules and legislative process with a note that City attorney Lara Mainella will be at the meeting next month to give more info.

7. [93552](#) Presentation of the 2026 Economic Development Division Work Plan

Attachments: [2026 Economic Development Division Work Plan Overview for BERC](#)

Mikolajewski presented a summary of the Economic Development Division 2026 work plan followed by questions from members.

8. [93553](#) 2026/2027 Business and Economic Resources Committee Work Plan

Mikolajewski discussed the process of the committee coming up with a work plan that will cover the rest of the year and going into 2027 followed by suggestions from members.

The suggestions included:

Having a discussion of the promotion of small businesses and the guidelines of doing so by the Committee members.

Having a discussion of the intersections between different issues, for example affordable housing, and what ways the Committee can be involved in policy.

9. [81529](#)

Economic Development Division Financial Assistance Dashboard

Attachments: [06-2026 EDD Financial Assistance Dashboard.pdf](#)
[05-2026 EDD Financial Assistance Dashboard.pdf](#)
[01-2026 EDD Financial Assistance Dashboard.pdf](#)
[2025 Year End - EDD Financial Assistance Dashboard.pdf](#)

Rohlich presented the Dashboard followed by questions and some comments from members. Members requested that there be updates on business statuses, such as if they are still open or closed. There was also discussion of how the Committee can be more involved with more of the grants and regulations.

10. [93554](#)

Announcements and Future BERC Agenda Items

A possible appearance from the Madison Public Market Foundation.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Pritchett, seconded by Bulgrin, to Adjourn at 6:44pm. The motion passed by voice vote.