



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE RICE COMMUNITY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
RICE, TEXAS**

**Monday, June 22nd, 2026
7:00 PM
Rice City Hall – Council Chambers
305 N. Dallas Street
Rice, TX 75155**

AGENDA

1. Roll Call

- a. Brandi Solomon
- b. Rolando Chapa
- c. Donna Gipson
- d. Archa Cassel
- e. Tristine Slayton

2. Prayer

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

4. Texas Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas State Flag

"Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."

5. **Public Forum**

6. **Agenda Items**

1. EDC Board Announcements

- Tonya Roberts will be the City Administrator as of 07/2026. She will also serve as the EDC Administrator (per our bylaws)
- City of Rice Freedom Fest kickoff parade starts at 6PM (riders line up at 5); Fireworks at 9 – sponsors and donatiopns are still needed
- Carolina Update
 - Discover Rice Facebook Posts
 - Grants updates

2. Discuss Current EDC Projects

- Review Discover Rice Networking Event; ideas for improvements or changes for future networking events
- Additional Project Discussion

3. Discuss and Deliberate Financial Statement

See attached 05/2026

4. Discuss and Deliberate Workshop Minutes

See attached: 06/22/2026

5. Discuss and Deliberate Meeting Minutes

See attached 04/26/2026

7. **Adjourn**

I hereby certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the bulletin board of City Hall, City of Rice, Texas, a place readily accessible to the general public at all times, on the _____ day of _____ 2026 by _____ p.m., and remained posted for at least 3 business days preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

Name

Title

City of Rice

Financial Statement

As of May 31, 2026

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Budget Variance	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	% of Budget	Budget Remaining
950 - Rice EDC							
Revenue Summary							
Sales & Property Taxes	4,394.41	4,400.00	(5.59)	33,462.42	52,800.00	63.38%	19,337.58
EDC Account Carry Forward Year End	0.00	12,430.00	(12,430.00)	0.00	149,160.00	0.00%	149,160.00
Revenue Totals	4,394.41	16,830.00	(12,435.59)	33,462.42	201,960.00	16.57%	168,497.58
Expense Summary							
Personnel/Payroll	760.00	1,041.66	(281.66)	7,363.61	12,500.00	58.91%	5,136.39
Office & Supplies	31.70	170.83	(139.13)	858.78	2,050.00	41.89%	1,191.22
Operating Expense	0.00	266.66	(266.66)	60.00	3,200.00	1.88%	3,140.00
Legal & Professional Fees	0.00	166.66	(166.66)	0.00	2,000.00	0.00%	2,000.00
Community Programs & Donations	579.93	2,083.33	(1,503.40)	11,975.82	25,000.00	47.90%	13,024.18
Capital	0.00	5,833.33	(5,833.33)	52,205.05	70,000.00	74.58%	17,794.95
Grant Expense	0.00	2,500.00	(2,500.00)	0.00	30,000.00	0.00%	30,000.00
EDC Reserves	0.00	4,767.50	(4,767.50)	9,019.51	57,210.00	15.77%	48,190.49
Expense Totals	1,371.63	16,829.97	(15,458.34)	81,482.77	201,960.00	40.35%	120,477.23

City of Rice
 Financial Statement
 As of May 31, 2026

6/8/2026 1:42 PM

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Budget Variance	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	% of Budget	Budget Remaining
950 - Rice EDC							
Sales & Property Taxes							
950-4132 4B Economic Development Sales	4,394.41	4,400.00	(5.59)	33,462.42	52,800.00	63.38%	19,337.58
Sales & Property Taxes Totals	4,394.41	4,400.00	(5.59)	33,462.42	52,800.00	63.38%	19,337.58
EDC Account Carry Forward Year End Estimated Balance							
950-8001 EDC Account Carry Forward Year	0.00	12,430.00	(12,430.00)	0.00	149,160.00	0.00%	149,160.00
EDC Account Carry Forward Year End Estimated Balance Totals	0.00	12,430.00	(12,430.00)	0.00	149,160.00	0.00%	149,160.00
Revenue Totals	4,394.41	16,830.00	(12,435.59)	33,462.42	201,960.00	16.57%	168,497.58

950 - Rice EDC	Current	Current	Budget	YTD	Annual	% Budget	Budget
EDC General Administration	Month Actual	Month Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Used	Remaining
Capital	0.00	5,833.33	(5,833.33)	52,205.05	70,000.00	74.58%	17,794.95
Community Programs & Donations	579.93	2,083.33	(1,503.40)	11,975.82	25,000.00	47.90%	13,024.18
EDC Reserves	0.00	4,767.50	(4,767.50)	9,019.51	57,210.00	15.77%	48,190.49
Grant Expense	0.00	2,500.00	(2,500.00)	0.00	30,000.00	0.00%	30,000.00
Legal & Professional Fees	0.00	166.66	(166.66)	0.00	2,000.00	0.00%	2,000.00
Office & Supplies	31.70	170.83	(139.13)	858.78	2,050.00	41.89%	1,191.22
Operating Expense	0.00	266.66	(266.66)	60.00	3,200.00	1.88%	3,140.00
Personnel/Payroll	760.00	1,041.66	(281.66)	7,363.61	12,500.00	58.91%	5,136.39
EDC General Administration Totals	1,371.63	16,829.97	(15,458.34)	81,482.77	201,960.00	40.35%	120,477.23
Expense Total	1,371.63	16,829.97	(15,458.34)	81,482.77	201,960.00	40.35%	120,477.23

City of Rice

Financial Statement

As of May 31, 2026

950 - Rice EDC	Current	Current	Budget	YTD	Annual	% Budget	Budget
EDC General Administration	Month Actual	Month Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Used	Remaining
950-10-5109 Contract Labor	760.00	833.33	(73.33)	4,810.00	10,000.00	48.10%	5,190.00
950-10-5201 Office Supplies	0.00	125.00	(125.00)	758.20	1,500.00	50.55%	741.80
950-10-5202 Printing Supplies	31.70	25.00	6.70	100.58	300.00	33.53%	199.42
950-10-5203 Postage	0.00	20.83	(20.83)	0.00	250.00	0.00%	250.00
950-10-5206 Training Expense	0.00	208.33	(208.33)	2,553.61	2,500.00	102.14%	(53.61)
950-10-5211 Electric Service	0.00	100.00	(100.00)	0.00	1,200.00	0.00%	1,200.00
950-10-5223 Audit Expense	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	0.00	1,000.00	0.00%	1,000.00
950-10-5224 Legal and Professional Fees	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	0.00	1,000.00	0.00%	1,000.00
950-10-5227 Advertising	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	60.00	1,000.00	6.00%	940.00
950-10-5229 Public & Employee Relations	579.93	416.67	163.26	1,131.90	5,000.00	22.64%	3,868.10
950-10-5452 Hardware/Software	0.00	83.33	(83.33)	0.00	1,000.00	0.00%	1,000.00
950-10-5700 Property Acquisitions	0.00	5,833.33	(5,833.33)	52,205.05	70,000.00	74.58%	17,794.95
950-10-5702 Business Improvement	0.00	2,500.00	(2,500.00)	0.00	30,000.00	0.00%	30,000.00
950-10-8009 EDC Reserves	0.00	4,767.50	(4,767.50)	9,019.51	57,210.00	15.77%	48,190.49
950-10-9501 Recreational Improvements	0.00	833.33	(833.33)	1,520.00	10,000.00	15.20%	8,480.00
950-10-9502 EDC Property Improvements	0.00	833.33	(833.33)	9,323.92	10,000.00	93.24%	676.08
EDC General Administration Totals	1,371.63	16,829.97	(15,458.34)	81,482.77	201,960.00	40.35%	120,477.23
Expense Totals	1,371.63	16,829.97	(15,458.34)	81,482.77	201,960.00	40.35%	120,477.23



**WORKSHOP OF THE RICE COMMUNITY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
RICE, TEXAS**

**Monday, June 8, 2026
6:00 PM
Rice City Hall – Council Chambers
305 N. Dallas Street
Rice, TX 75155**

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

Archa Casel - Late 6:23pm

Donna Gibson – Present

Brandi Soloman- Present

Tristine Slaton - Late 6:02pm

Rolando Chapa Jr – Present

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Prayer

4. Public Forum

City Council Town Hall will be tomorrow June 9th with a City Council Public Hearing on June 11th.

6. Tax Abatement Policies and Process

- EDC reviewed tax abatement guidelines and reasons why tax abatements are attractive. There are three pieces, a city must have a general guideline or policy in order to offer them as an incentive. The City of Rice has an existing abatement policy in place. Second, you would have a developer looking to

invest into building in the area. Then we would have to set our investment zone and create the abatement directly for the developer. This agreement can be more strict than the policy, however the agreement must not be LESS strict than the policy. Once the developer has purchased the property, they will pay 100% of the property tax of the purchase price. The developer only pays 50% of the property tax of additional improvements on the property, decreasing over a period of 10 years. Third, when offering an abatement agreement, we can ask for more detailed breakdowns and information on the development. We can also create stipulations on hiring numbers, sales tax projections, economic impact etc.

- The EDC can not offer tax abatements, we can only advise that the City Council offer them to specific industries or advise them on any future abatement agreements.
- We can offer Chapter 380 agreements, but we would need more information before further discussion.
- We will review the Abatement Policy and Investment Zone as passed by the City Council on May 14th.
- During the Council meeting Council Member Tonya Roberts made the recommendation that the Rice EDC President should be added to the communications with the Texas Department of Economic Development alongside the EDC Director of Navarro County.

7. 2026-2027 Budget

a. Review current budget and projects

- Projected EDC Revenue for 2027 is \$45,000 and predicted EDC Holdover is \$111,000 bringing EDC Total Revenue to \$156,000
- The EDC would like to combine Printing Supplies and Office Supplies into Office / Printing Supplies.
- Training will be increased by the \$300 that was allocated to Printing Supplies.
- Legal and Professional Fees must be increased to \$4,200 in order to cover our new lawyer's salary.
- Advertising will be increased to \$2,000 to account for an increase in Facebook paid ads.

b. Identify any line items to add or remove

- The EDC would like to combine Office Supplies and Printing Supplies at a combined total of \$1,500.
- The EDC would like to rename Public and Employee Relations to Public Events and Employee Relations.

8. Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 7:42pm



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE RICE COMMUNITY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
RICE, TEXAS**

**Monday, April 27rd, 2026
6:00 PM
Rice City Hall – Council Chambers
305 N. Dallas Street
Rice, TX 75155**

MINUTES

- 1. Roll Call**
 - a. Brandi Solomon
 - b. Rolando Chapa
 - c. Donna Gipson
 - d. Archa Cassel - Late 6:33
 - e. Tristine Slayton
- 2. Prayer**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. 4. Texas Pledge of Allegiance**
- 5. Public Forum**
- 6. Agenda Items**

- 1. EDC Board Announcements**
Bylaws Update & Adoption by City Council

Bylaws were voted on by the City Council. They have adopted our recommendation to allow 2 City Council members to also serve on the EDC.

Downtown Status: Electricity re: Oncor + project costs

We will be able to move the meter that is already located in the EDC park but there will be a \$1,500 charge to do this. There is currently a 2 week backlog to have Oncor come out.

Benches – call for donations Due to future parts of the project like the concrete path; we will wait for further progress on the before purchasing or collecting sponsors for benches.

Michael Halla legal council

Mr. Halla will be reviewing our agendas going forward and will be scheduling a workshop with him to go over our 2027 budget.

Carolina Update

Discover Rice Networking Event

Carolina has been contacting all of our local businesses informing them about our upcoming event. She has also been going in person to advertise this event.

Our proposed budget is \$86.29 for refreshments, \$33.50 for decorations, \$405 for catering, and the total for the event is \$524.79. Our approved budget was \$1,000.

Grants -Donna and Carolina will be meeting tomorrow to go over grants.

City of Rice Event – 4th of July, volunteers needed

2. Discuss and Deliberate Reappointing Sarah Farley as Board Member • Re: updated bylaws, request City Council approval

Rolando made a motion to reappoint Sarah Farley to the EDC Board. Archa seconded. Ayes - Brandi, Tristine, Donna. Motion passes.

3. Discuss and Deliberate Tree Removal for our Downtown Improvement project
We have received a quote for \$1,000 for the tree removal. It will need to be removed to build our pavilion.

Donna made a motion to accept the \$1,000 bid for tree removal. Tristine seconded. Ayes - Archa, Brandi, Rolando. Motion passes

4. Discuss Potential Projects and Budget for next Fiscal Year
We will schedule a workshop for June 8th to start working on a budget. We will need to increase Legal Fees to \$4,200 a year for Mr Halla's salary.

5. Discuss and Deliberate Financial Statement See attached 02/2026 & 03/2026

Donna made a motion to accept the financial statements. Tristine seconded. Ayes - Archa, Brandi, Rolando. Motion passes.

6. Discuss and Deliberate Meeting Minutes See attached 03/2026

Archa made a motion to accept our minutes. Donna seconded. Ayes - Rolando, Brandi, Tristine. Motion passes.

7. Adjourn

- **Meeting adjourned at 6:57pm**