

MINUTES

**Iowa Economic Development Authority
Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Program Review Committee Meeting
November 21, 2025**

9:00 a.m.

1963 Bell Avenue, Suite 200 – Helmick Conference Room

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melissa Spurgin
Rachel Eubank
Mark Kittrell
Brenda Mainwaring
Jennifer Steffensmeier

COMMITTEE MEMBER(S) ABSENT:

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sonya Bacon
Debi Durham
Ryan Klaers
Molly Lopez
Katie Rockey
Eli Wilson

Lisa Connell
Emily Hockins
Amy Kuhlers (Joined at 9:02 am)
Dillon Malone
Alaina Santizo

Jessica Drake
Kanan Kappelman
Anna Lensing
Terry Roberson
Deanna Triplett

OTHERS PRESENT:

Bethany Coop – Iowa Finance Authority
 Brooke Parziale – Iowa Finance Authority *(Joined at 9:03 am)*
 Brian Sullivan – Iowa Finance Authority
 Doug Boone – IEDA Board Member
 John Riches – IEDA Board Member
 Emily Schmitt – IEDA Board Member

Senator Izaah Knox – IEDA Ex Officio Board
Member *(Joined at 9:02 am)*
Representative Ray Sorensen – IEDA Ex Officio
Board Member
David Connolly – City of Cedar Rapids

Mark Ernst – Black Hills Energy
John Wells – Hometown Pride Fonda
Bethany Wilcoxon – McClure Vision
Travis Goedken – City of Decorah
Steph Fromm – Winneshiek County Development
& Tourism
Curtis Brown – City of Urbandale
Bill Micheel – City of Cedar Rapids
Naomi Hamlett – City of Des Moines
Bill Freeland – Legislative Services Agency
Lora Knaack – Camp High Hopes *(Left at 9:04 am)*
Angela Duitsman – City of Fonda
Jacob Fleming – FEH Design
Sarah Morgan – Camp High Hopes *(Left at 9:06 am)*

Victoria Newton – Iowa Finance Authority
Laura Skogman – Iowa Finance Authority

Chris West – Iowa Finance Authority
Pankaj Monga – IEDA Board Member
Andy Roberts – IEDA Board Member
Dan Kinney – IEDA Ex Officio Board Member
(Joined at 9:05 am)
Representative David Jacoby – IEDA Ex Officio
Board Member
Troy Heitman – Central Bank

Jason White – Greater Dubuque Development Corp
Sandy Wells – Hometown Pride Fonda
Kevin Bourke – Discover Ames
Brad Bark – City of Muscatine
Marc Holtey – City of Decorah
Aaron DeJong – City of Urbandale

Deena Klesel – Department of Management
Carrie Kruse – City of Des Moines
Liz Holland – Abbell Associates
Colton Webner – H & R Construction Company
Alison Ver Schuer – House of Representatives
Gigi Wood – Business Record
Jace Mikels – Iowa Senate
Evan Johnson – Legislative Services Agency

COMMITTEE CHAIR

- Welcome
Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Program Review Committee Chair Melissa Spurgin called to order the meeting of the CAT Program Review Committee at 9:00 am.
- Roll Call and Introductions
A quorum of the Committee was established with the following members present: Melissa Spurgin, Rachel Eubank, Mark Kittrell, Brenda Mainwaring and Jennifer Steffensmeier.

Approval of Minutes – October 17, 2025 CAT Meeting

MOTION: Mark Kittrell moved that the Committee approve the minutes of the October 17, 2025 meeting, seconded by Brenda Mainwaring. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: No comments were made.

COMMUNITY ATTRACTION AND TOURISM (CAT) PROGRAM APPLICATIONS – RECOMMENDATIONS TO IEDA BOARD

Camp High Hopes, Multi-Purpose Adaptive Rec Center – Sioux City

MOTION: Mark Kittrell moved, seconded by Rachel Eubank, that the Committee recommend that the Iowa Economic Development Authority Board approve a \$818,000 CAT grant to the Camp High Hopes for the Multi-Purpose Adaptive Rec Center Project. Motion carried unanimously.

City of Decorah, Decorah Athletic Complex – Decorah

MOTION: Brenda Mainwaring, seconded by Mark Kittrell, that the Committee recommend that the Iowa Economic Development Authority Board approve a \$1,000,000 CAT grant to the City of Decorah for the Decorah Athletic Complex Project. Motion carried unanimously.

City of Fonda, Fonda Pickleball Court Project – Fonda

MOTION: Rachel Eubank, seconded by Brenda Mainwaring, that the Committee recommend that the Iowa Economic Development Authority Board approve a \$39,000 CAT grant to the City of Fonda for the Fonda Pickleball Court Project. Motion carried unanimously.

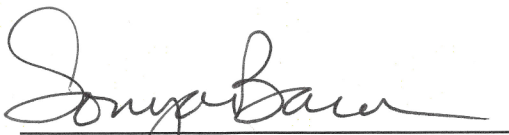
OTHER BUSINESS

The next CAT Program Review Committee meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the CAT Program Review Committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:08 am.

Respectfully submitted:



Sonya Bacon
Board Administrator