

**JEFFERSON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM (JCEDC)
& THRIVE ED BOARD AGENDA**

Monday, February 23, 2026

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**UW Extension/Workforce Development, 864 Collins Road, Rooms 8&9,
Jefferson, WI 53549**

and via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/92334688175?pwd=NU1AOITnFeLJBXEF2fn2N1uoHsVF2y.1>

Meeting ID: 923 3468 8175

Passcode: 496767

Board Members – Jefferson County Economic Development Consortium (JCEDC)

Brian Kreklau– Village of Cambridge, Rebecca Houseman - City of Fort Atkinson, Timothy Freitag – City of Jefferson, Kyle Ellefson - Village of Johnson Creek, Drake Daily – City of Lake Mills, Angela Petruska – Village of Palmyra, Jeanne Ritter – City of Waterloo, Deb Sybell – City of Watertown, Mason Becker – City of Whitewater, County Supervisor Bruce Degner, County Supervisor Amanda Truax, County Supervisor Karl Zarlring

Board Members – ThriveED

Robert Cassiday, Jason Culotta, Tom Dehnert, Rebecca Houseman, Kellie Karpinski, Kevin Kaufman, Scott Lausten, Ryan Lessner, Michael Luckey, Don Lunak, Casey Malesevich, Shawna Marquardt, Kyle Neitzel, Andy Nelson, James Nelson, Joshua Patterson, Kevin Paynter, Nate Salas, Ken Smith, Elizabeth Thelen, Stewart Wangard, Ben Wehmeier, David Werning

- I. Call To Order
- II. Roll (Establish a quorum)
- III. Certificate of Compliance with Open Meeting Laws
- IV. Approval of Agenda – February 23, 2026
- V. Approval of JCEDC/ThriveED Minutes – December 18, 2025
- VI. Public Comment – Members of the public who wish to address the board on specific agenda items must register their request at this time.
- VII. Introductions: New ThriveED Board Members
 - a. Robert Cassiday
 - b. Ken Smith
- VIII. JCEDC/ThriveED Reports
 - a. Administration
 - i. Finances
 1. Discussion and Approval of Finance Reports for JCEDC
 2. Discussion and Approval of Finance Reports for ThriveED
 - ii. Report: WEDC Regional Representation
 - iii. Report: WEDA 2026 Organizational Excellence Award Winner
 - iv. Report: ThriveED Investor Campaign
 1. New Investors
 - a. TDS Telecom
 - v. Report: JCEDC IGA
 - b. Thriving Business
 - i. Presentation: Opportunity Pipeline
 - ii. Report: Wisconsin-Japan Strategic Initiative Partnership
 - iii. Report: Wisconsin Policy Forum – How Development Affects Local Government Finances

- c. Placemaking
 - i. Report: Housing Committee
 - ii. Report: Live Local Development Fund (LLDF)
 - iii. Report: Groundbreakings & Ribbon Cuttings
 - 1. Kikkoman Push Button Ceremony
- d. Workforce Participation
 - i. Discussion: Local Career Opportunity Videos
- e. Strategic Support, Awareness & Advancement
 - i. Report: IB Madison: Serving Wisconsin's Capital Region
 - ii. Report: Recent Presentations / Community Involvement
 - 1. Fort Atkinson Woman's Club Presentation
 - 2. Loos Homes Listening Session – Lake Mills
 - 3. Lake Mills Plan Commission Meeting
 - 4. WEDA Legislative Day
 - 5. NAIOP Public Policy Committee Meeting
 - 6. Home Innovation Tour – LUSH Homes
 - 7. WEDA Governor's Conference Panel
 - 8. WEDC CEO Visit – John Miller
 - 9. Ixonia Plan Commission Meeting
 - 10. WHEDA Check Presentation – Elmer Moore
 - 11. Village of Palmyra Presentation
 - iii. Community Discussion
 - 1. JCEDC board members are encouraged to share a brief update about their community, initiatives and/or challenges
 - iv. Thrive Board Discussion
 - 1. Thrive board members are encouraged to share a brief update about their company, initiatives and/or challenges
- f. General Updates
 - i. Upcoming Events
 - 1. March 26, 2026 8:30 – 10am – Education Session: Immigration & Workforce: What Employers Need to Know in 2026
 - 2. April 21, 2026, 3 pm – Thrive Leaders and Legends Celebration
 - 3. April 23, 2026, 8:30 – 10am – ThriveED / JCEDC Board Meeting
 - 4. April 29 - 30, 2026 – Wisconsin Rural Partners Summit – Prairie du Chien
 - 5. May 28, 2026 – Executive Committee Meeting
 - 6. June 13, 2026 – Habitat for Humanity Gala

IX. Adjournment.

Our Vision Statement is: JCEDC / ThriveED will lead change necessary to support economic growth in Greater Jefferson County that results in healthy, thriving, and growing communities.

Our Mission Statement is: JCEDC / ThriveED will engage the public and private sectors in actions focused on attracting and supporting business growth that benefits the residents and communities in the Greater Jefferson County area.