

# MINUTES

## Edmonds Public Facilities District Special Meeting of the EPFD & ECAN Board of Directors April 15, 2026

The special Edmonds Public Facilities District & ECA Non-Profit Board of Directors hybrid meeting convened at 5:34 pm in the Edmonds Center for the Arts Center Classroom, 410 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Edmonds, and via Zoom.

### **EPFD Board Members Present**

Wayne Grotheer, President  
Suzy Maloney, Vice President  
David Brewster  
Scott Ely  
Ray Liaw

### **ECAN Board Members Present**

Matt Cox, President  
Jeff Lewis, Secretary/Treasurer  
Lindsay Geyer, Past President  
Matt Baldock  
Kim Bayer-Augustavo  
Caroline Bennett  
Rick Canning  
Laura Ellis  
Karen Magarelli  
Ann McMahan  
Vicki O’Gorman  
Tam Osborne  
Steve Ruane  
Adel Sefrioui  
Jeanne Thorsen  
Courtney Wooten

### **ECA Staff Present**

Caitlin Pontrella, Interim Executive Director  
Amy Stango, Director of Development  
Liz Dawson, Dir. of Programming & Communication

### **Guests**

Chris Eck, Edmonds City Council  
Lindsey Echelbarger, Cascadia Art Museum

### **Emeritus Board Members Present**

Nancy Fleck, President  
Julie Long  
John McGibbon  
Sally Ralston  
Steve Shelton

### **CALL TO ORDER**

EPFD Board President Grotheer called the EPFD Board meeting to order.

ECAN Board President Cox called the ECAN Board meeting to order.

- **Attendance of those attending in-person for minutes**
- **Land Acknowledgement & Equity Statement**

EPFD Board Member Ely read the Land Acknowledgement and ECAN President Cox read the Equity Statement.

- **Agenda Review & Approval**

**EPFD BOARD MEMBER BREWSTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. EPFD BOARD VP MALONEY SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**ECAN BOARD MEMBER CANNING MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA. ECAN BOARD MEMBER GEYER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- **President's Welcome**

EPFD Board President Grotheer welcomed attendees, advising the intent is to hold joint EPFD/ECAN meetings approximately quarterly.

ECAN Board President Cox welcomed attendees and described the agenda, requesting attendees hold questions until after presentations. Any questions not answered during the meeting can be sent to him, EPFD Board President Grotheer and/or Ms. Pontrella.

### **FOCUS TOPIC 1 - CENTER STAGE & SEASON SNEAK PEAK**

- **Presentation of Event and Season**

Director of Development Stango described the May 13 Center Stage sponsorship event to announce the 2026-2027 season which recognizes 20 years at the heart of arts. She reviewed 2025 actual revenue, attendance and sponsorship opportunities; 2026 revenue, attendance and sponsorship goals; what to expect at the event; sponsorship group rules; sponsorship pricing; benefits of sponsorship; new benefits; important dates; tickets; and how to help.

- **Questions from PFD, ECA, Emeritus Boards**

Ms. Stango responded to question regarding the auctioneer, total guests, and number of seats still available.

### **FOCUS 1 - ORGANIZATIONAL ASSESSMENT**

- **High Level Presentation of Assessment Results**

Ms. Pontrella presented, reviewing the four domains of organizational health (purpose, people, programs, processes), assurance the organization is stable with a runway for change (1. ECA is struggling with shared direction, 2. programming is strong but portfolio is overextended, 3. staff care but leadership instability has eroded trust and clarity, and 4. ECA is financially stable with runway to act but the current model isn't sustainable). She described each of the domains in detail including definition, findings, what to build on and what to address, and recommendations.

She summarized: the ECA is stable and well-regarded, but long-term capital needs and operational gaps make this transition moment critical to get right. Board and management need to work in close alignment – each playing a distinct role. Next steps are already underway.

- **Presentation of 2026 Management Workplan**

Ms. Pontrella displayed 2026 management priorities.

- **Questions from PFD, ECA, Emeritus Boards**

Ms. Pontrella responded to questions regarding growing the development team, development staff, how Raise the Paddle funds are used, whether use of a professional venue operator similar to other PFDs in Snohomish County has been considered, staffing, and who new directors will report to.

## **FOCUS 2 - FACILITIES PARTNERSHIP**

- **Presentation**

EPFD Board Member Liaw described the Facilities Partnership Task Force, what is meant by a facilities partnership, third party discussions to-date (Boys & Girls Club of Snohomish County and Cascadia Art Museum), reasons for exploring a facilities partnership, baseline assumptions for a facilities partner, how a facility partner would impact ECA's physical campus, when we would need to decide on a facility partner.

ECAN Board Member Bayer-Augustavo reviewed additional questions that need to be evaluated (do we need a facility partner and do we want a facility partner), PFD and ECAN's roles in partnership decision, and the task force's recommendation (seek a facility partner to locate on ECA's campus, publicly solicit interest from all potential facility partners, inviting B&GC and CAM to respond and future considerations).

- **Questions from PFD, ECA, Emeritus Boards**

Questions and discussion followed regarding the possibility of a capital campaign, who would respond to a request for expressions of interest, costs, next steps and requested PFD action, public solicitation process, , the Association of Washington State PFDs' experience with this, cost and timing of a public solicitation, and the Boys & Girls Club's current capital campaign.

**EPFD BOARD MEMBER BREWSTER MOVED THAT THE EDMONDS PUBLIC FACILITIES DISTRICT BOARD APPROVE THE FACILITIES PARTNERSHIP TASK FORCE TO PROCEED WITH SOLICITING INTEREST FROM POTENTIAL FACILITIES PARTNERS, INCLUDING THE BOY & GIRLS CLUB OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY AND CASCADIA ART MUSEUM, VIA A REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST, IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL FACILITIES PARTNERS THAT MEET THE BASELINE ASSUMPTIONS OUTLINED IN THE FACILITIES PARTNERSHIP TASK FORCE PRESENTATION OF APRIL 15, 2026, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF FINAL LANGUAGE AND CLARIFICATIONS (INCLUDING BASELINE ASSUMPTIONS) IN THE RFEI, AND SUBJECT TO THE DETERMINATION AND APPROVAL OF EXPENSE FOR AN OUTSIDE COUNSEL, IF NEEDED. EPFD BOARD VP MALONEY SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **CLOSING**

- **Public Comment - None**
- **Committee Reports Q & A - None**
- **Open Q & A - None**
- **PFD Board Business**

- Approval of 3/31/26 Meeting Minutes

**EPFD BOARD MEMBER ELY MOVED TO APPROVE THE 3/31/26 MEETING MINUTES. EPFD BOARD MEMBER BREWSTER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- Prior Action Items Review

EPFD Board President Grotheer reviewed progress on action items from the previous meeting and identified outstanding items (see Action Items below).

- Change of Primary Bank Account Holder

**EPFD BOARD MEMBER BREWSTER MOVED TO DESIGNATE BOARD PRESIDENT GROTHEER AS PRIMARY BANK ACCOUNT HOLDER. EPFD BOARD MEMBER ELY SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- Reappointment of Board Member

Board President Grotheer advised his term ends June 30, 2026, and he is willing to submit his name for reappointment.

**EPFD BOARD MEMBER LIAW MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE EDMONDS CITY COUNCIL REAPPOINTMENT OF WAYNE GROTHEER TO THE EDMONDS PUBLIC FACILITIES DISTRICT BOARD. EPFD BOARD MEMBER ELY SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- **ECA Board Business**

- Change of Primary Bank Account Holder and Remove AED

**ECAN BOARD MEMBER CANNING MOVED TO REMOVE ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LORI MEAGHER FROM ANY AND ALL BANK ACCOUNTS FOR EDMONDS CENTER FOR THE ARTS NONPROFIT AT GLOBAL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, AND ADD JEFF LEWIS, AS BOARD TREASURER, AS PRIMARY HOLDER. ECAN BOARD MEMBER GEYER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- **Review of Next Steps**

EPFD Board President Grotheer relayed committees and task forces' work continues. The next EPFD Board meeting is May 28 at 7:30 am. The Edmonds Arts Festival is the third weekend in June; ECA is a sponsor and board members, staff and volunteers will be sought to man a table at the event.

ECAN President Cox echoed comments about the Edmonds Art Festival. He invited board members to send any questions or comments on the topics on today's agenda to him, EPFD Board President Grotheer and/or Ms. Pontrella. If there are enough questions, an FAQ may be prepared. With regard to committee/task force report-outs, he and EPFD Board President Grotheer will provide further information to the committee chairs. The ECAN's next meeting is the second Tuesday in May.

- **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

**Next EPFD Board Meeting: Thursday, May 28, 2026 - 7:30 AM**

**Next ECAN Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 12, 2026**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Send to the Edmonds City Council the EPFD Board's recommendation to reappoint Wayne Grotheer to the EPFD Board
2. Schedule 2024 Audit Exit Conference