



---

**January 08, 2026**

---

**Agenda - Bridging Bastrop Board at 5:30 PM**

---

*Bridging Bastrop Board meetings are available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance, please contact the City Secretary at (512) 332-8800 or write 1311 Chestnut Street, 78602, or by calling through a T.D.D. (Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) to Relay Texas at 1-800-735-2989 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.*

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

*At this time, three (3) minute comments will be taken from the audience on any topic. Anyone in attendance wishing to address the Board/Commission must complete a citizen comment form and give the completed form to the Board/Commission Secretary prior to the start of the Board/Commission meeting. In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, if a citizen discusses any item not on the agenda, the Board/Commission cannot discuss issues raised or make any decision at this time. Instead, the Board/Commission is limited to making a statement of specific factual information or a recitation of existing policy in response to the inquiry. Issues may be referred to the City Manager for research and possible future action. Profanity, physical or other threats are not allowed and may subject the speaker to loss of the time for comment, and if disruptive to the conduct of business could result in removal of the speaker.*

**3. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**3A. Update and Discussion on Past Events:**

- **Dec 12** - Museum & Visitor Center Holiday Rendezvous
- **Dec 13** - Museum & Visitor Center Holidays Homes Tour - Merry on Main in Downtown Bastrop - Lost Pines Christmas Lighted Parade - Library Open House
- **Dec 16** - Joint Council & Planning and Zoning Commission Workshop
- **Dec 29** - Agnes Street Ribbon Cutting

**3B. Update and Discussion on Upcoming Events:**

- **Jan 10** - Lost Pines Mardi Gras Kick Off Party

- **Jan 13 & 27** - Regular City Council Meeting
- **Jan 19** - Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission Walk in Elgin
- **Jan 26** - Boards and Commissions Annual Training
- **Jan 30 & 31** - Bastrop Mardi Gras Festival
- **Feb 10** - Regular City Council Meeting
- **April 29** - Work in Bastrop Job Fair Event

3C. Additional Announcements and/or Events from individual Bridging Bastrop Board Members.

#### **4. REPORTS**

4A. Receive a summary report of the recommendations from the Bastrop County Collaborative for Health and Housing.

#### **5. WORKSHOP**

5A. Workshop discussion on ideas/events to recognize Disability Awareness Month in October.

#### **6. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

6A. Consider and act on the Bridging Bastrop Board Chair and Secretary positions for a term ending September 2026.

6B. Review, discussion, and possible action on the November and December 2025 Employment Reports from the City of Bastrop Human Resources Department.

6C. Consider and act to approve the Bridging Bastrop Board Meeting minutes from the December 10, 2025, Regular Meeting.

6D. Consider and act to finalize changes and/or amendments to the Fiscal Year 2026 Bridging Bastrop Board Work Plan.

6E. Individual Requests from Bridging Bastrop Board members for particular items to be listed on future agendas (no group discussion).

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that this Notice of Meeting as posted in accordance with the regulations of the Texas Open Meetings Act on the bulletin board located at the entrance to the City of Bastrop City Hall, a place of convenient and readily accessible to the general public, as well as to the City's website, [www.cityofbastrop.org](http://www.cityofbastrop.org) and said Notice was posted on the following date and time: Friday, January 2, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. and remained posted for at least two hours after said meeting was convened.

/s/Victoria Psencik  
Victoria Psencik, Assistant City Secretary

**CITY OF BASTROP**  
**REGULAR BRIDGING BASTROP BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**DECEMBER 10, 2025**

The Bridging Bastrop Board met at a Regular Meeting on Thursday, December 10, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the Bastrop City Hall Council Chambers, 1311 Chestnut Street, Bastrop, Texas, with the following action taken to wit:

**Board Members Present**

Chair Sheila Lowe  
 Eboni Smith  
 Nancy Wood  
 Sandra Ervin  
 Terika Taylor-Williams

**Staff Present**

Assistant City Secretary Victoria Psencik  
 Human Resources Director Tanya Cantrell  
 Executive Assistant Taylor Andry

**City Council Members Present**

Kerry Fossler

**Board Members Absent**

Karen Knight (virtually)  
 Mary Moody (virtually)

**Other Board Members Present**

Keith Ahlborn, Planning & Zoning Commission

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Lowe called the Regular Bridging Bastrop Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

**2. CITIZEN COMMENT(S)**

No comments were submitted.

**3. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**3A. Update and Discussion on Past Events:**

- Special Council Meeting
- "Heroes & Hot Rods" Veterans Car Show & 21st Annual Red, White & Blue Veterans Appreciation Banquet
- Community Unity Meal
- Annual Board & Commission Banquet
- Regular Council Meeting & Joint Council and P&Z Commission Meeting
- Fairview Cemetery Columbarium Ribbon Cutting
- Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony
- Wassail Fest and Small Business Saturday
- Regular Council Meeting

No formal action was taken on Item 3A.

**3B. Update and Discussion on Upcoming Events:**

- Dec 12 - Museum & Visitor Center Holiday Rendezvous

- Dec 13 - Museum & Visitor Center Holidays Homes Tour - Merry on Main in Downtown Bastrop - Lost Pines Christmas Lighted Parade
- Dec 16 - Joint Council & Planning and Zoning Commission Workshop

No formal action was taken on Item 3B.

**3C. Additional Announcements and/or Events from individual Bridging Bastrop Board members.**

The following events were added by varies board members:

- Month of October – Disability Awareness Month
- Dec 13 – Library Open House
- Jan 10 – Lost Pines Toyota Mardi Gras Kick Off Party
- Jan 30 and 31 – Mardi Gras Festival

No formal action was taken on Item 3C.

**4. REPORTS**

**4A. Receive a summary report of the responsibilities of the Bastrop County Collaborative for Health and Housing.**

Board Chair Lowe reported that she is a part of Bastrop County Collaborative for Health and Housing coalition which is studying affordable housing and what it looks like in Bastrop County. The coalition worked on a list of recommendations on how cities can support the affordable housing initiative and will present it to the City Councils in Bastrop County. The Board discussed looking at funding opportunities and a clear definition of “affordable housing.” Board Chair Lowe will bring the recommendations from the Collaborative to the next regular meeting.

No formal action was taken on Item 4A.

**5. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

**5A. Consider and act on the Bridging Bastrop Board Chair and Secretary positions for a term ending September 2026.**

*This item was tabled until the January Board Meeting.*

**5B. Review, discussion, and possible action on the October Employment Reports from the City of Bastrop Human Resources Department.**

Human Resources Director, Tanya Cantrell gave the report and update regarding the October Monthly Employment Reports. Director Cantrell stated the November and December Reports will be on the January Agenda.

No formal action was taken on Item 5B.

5C. Consider and act to approve the Bridging Bastrop Board Meeting minutes from the October 9, 2025, Regular Meeting.

**MOTION:** Board Member Wood moved to approve the Bridging Bastrop Board Meeting minutes from the October 9, 2025 Regular Meeting as presented. Board Member Taylor-Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5D. Consider and act to finalize decisions and amendments discussed at the June 5, 2025, Workshop regarding the Fiscal Year 2026 Bridging Bastrop Board Work Plan.

Board Chair Lowe stated at the January Meeting, the Board will vote on a finalized Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2026.

No formal action was taken on Item 5D.

5E. Discussion and possible action regarding the Work in Bastrop Job Fair Event to be held on April 29, 2026 and Bridging Bastrop Board involvement with the event.

Board Chair Lowe announced the date for the Work in Bastrop Job Fair Event and that the Board will take the lead on the event. The event is in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and Workforce Solutions. The event will be discussed at a later meeting.

No formal action was taken on Item 5E.

5F. Individual Requests from Bridging Bastrop Board members for particular items to be listed on future agendas (no group discussion).

Individual Requests made by the Board Members:

- Disability Awareness Month for October

No formal action was taken on Item 5F.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

Upon receiving a motion and a second to adjourn, the December 10<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. without objection.

## APPROVED:

Sheila Lowe, Bridging Bastrop Board Chair

ATTEST:

Victoria Psencik, Assistant City Secretary



# Building Belonging Through Connection, Communication & Collaboration

Item 6D.

We're creating an inclusive, connected Bastrop where every voice is heard, every story matters, and every resident can thrive.

---

## **GOAL 1:** Engagement in activities forums, community gatherings, and events that promote mutual understanding, as well as encourage residents to connect with one another.

**THEME:** Lift Every Voice / COMMUNITY STORYTELLING & ENGAGEMENT

**Key Actions:** Engagement & Storytelling to Build Trust and Belonging, “**VOICES of BASTROP**”

- Launch **Community Storytelling** initiative: Capture short video stories at events and post on social media.
- Community events and activities – veterans, cultural, family, youth and seniors (Partner with BEDC & BISD to create a student training program in engineering as well as to connect students to City career opportunities.)
- Host **Work in Bastrop** events: Job training, hiring fairs, and skill-building programs.

---

## **GOAL 2:** Create strategies to distribute information to people of different cultures in culturally appropriate ways.

**THEME:** Speak the Language of Community / CULTURAL COMMUNICATION & ACCESS

**Key Actions:** Culturally Responsive Communication & Resource Access, “**LANGUAGE of BELONGING**”

- Train **Community Ambassadors**: Liaisons from diverse cultural backgrounds to share resources and feedback.
- Identify underserved areas in our community and their preferred method of communication, word of mouth and paper, then Facebook, Community Impact/utility bill inserts
- Build a **Multilingual Resource Hub**: Ensure translated, accessible info on city and partner websites.

---

## **GOAL 3:** Work collaboratively with our partners.

**THEME:** Power in Partnership / PARTNER COLLABORATION & SHARED SOLUTIONS

**Key Actions:** Strengthening Connections with Community Asset & Support Partners, “**BRIDGES not SILOS**” or “**BETTER TOGETHER**”

- Launch **Partner Spotlight Series**: Monthly 1:1 interviews + articles with photo for FB and city site.
- Include the “partners list” on the new bridging Bastrop board web page on the city’s website (link to easy access)
- Publish successes and analytics on the bridging Bastrop board web page (.opengov)
- Collaborate to **co-host community events** (job fairs, housing/healthcare access events).