

FIRST CDBG PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT MINUTES
Town of Bluff FIRST CDBG PUBLIC HEARING
HEARING HELD (Bluff Community Center, Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 3:30pm)

The Town of Bluff's first CDBG public hearing was held on Tuesday, January 13, in the Bluff Community Center, meeting commenced at 3:31pm.

Present: Mayor Josh Ewing, Britt Hornsby, Jennifer Davila, Spencer Wade and Gary Haws,
Erin Nelson, Town Manager & Malia Collins, Administrative Director,
Public in attendance: Michael Haviken, Jackie Warren.

Town Recorder: Erin Nelson
Town Clerk: Erin Nelson
Town Attorney: not present

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor **Josh Ewing** opened the public hearing for the CDBG program and stated that the purpose of the public hearing is to provide citizens with pertinent information about the Community Development Block Grant program and to allow for discussion of possible applications for the 2026 funding cycle. It was explained that the grant money must be spent on projects benefiting primarily low and moderate-income persons. The **Southeastern Regional Development Agency (SERDA)**, in which **Town of Bluff** is a member, is expecting to receive **approximately \$778,284 with \$504,284 available for applicants** in this new program year. All eligible activities that can be accomplished under this program are identified in the CDBG Application Policies and Procedures Manual and interested persons can review it at any time. Mayor **Josh Ewing** read several of the eligible activities listed including examples, such as Construction of public works and facilities, e.g., water and sewer lines, fire stations, acquisition of real property, provision of public services such as food banks or homeless shelters. Mayor **Josh Ewing** indicated that in the past **Town of Bluff** has received **One (1) CDBG Grant in 2022 in the amount of \$128,383, which was returned. Non-CDBG Grants received: Ten (10). Five (5) of which applied to the Cooperative Cultural Center and five (5) for Bluff Town upgrades, including Cemetery, Community Center retrofits and playground.** The town has handed out its capital improvement plan as part of the regional "Consolidated Plan". This list shows which projects the town has identified as being needed in the community. It was asked that anyone with questions, comments or suggestions during the hearing please identify themselves by name, before they speak. The clerk will include your names in the minutes, and we would like to specifically respond to your questions and suggestions during the hearing.

Mr. Michael Haviken asked if Old Highway Improvement Project, Navajo Twin Drive, 7th Street East, Black Locust to 7th St East, Jones and DeMille has quoted \$1.1 Million to accommodate vehicles, pedestrians and bicycles would be considered for the funds. Mayor Josh Ewing responded to suggestion by stating 'thank you for the suggestion'.

Mayor/Commissioner **Josh Ewing** then asked if there were any other suggestions.

The hearing was adjourned at **3:37pm**.