



Board of Directors Regular Meeting

August 22, 2025

MEETING BRIEFING

The SODA Board of Directors met for its regular bi-monthly meeting August 22, 2025 in the Conference Center at Southern Tech, Ardmore.

CENA Awards to Independent Senior Centers

The SODA Board of Directors approved the FY 2026 CENA awards in the amount of \$285,557 for 32 Senior Centers in the SODA service area. Award amounts ranged from \$2,000 to \$23,400 based on the Center attendance and number of meals served. An Emergency/Supplemental Fund in the amount of \$68,759 will be used to assist Centers in purchasing scanners and other technology needed to comply with new digital reporting requirements.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

The SODA Board of Directors approved the CEDS 2025-2029 regional economic development plan. The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is a region-wide plan for economic development. It is a planning document required by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) for designated Economic Development Districts (EDDs). The CEDS serves as a roadmap for regional economic development, outlining strategies, goals, and projects that foster economic growth and resilience in a region. The document is typically updated every five years to ensure it remains relevant to changing economic conditions.

The SODA CEDS development process was designed around four in-person sessions held at Murray State College and facilitated by Jim Eldridge, an Economic Development Manager with OG&E (and a former SODA Board member). The CEDS 2025-2029 development team was comprised of economic development and workforce development professionals from Ardmore, Ada, Durant, Davis, Atoka, Wynnewood, Murray State College, Southern Tech, Kiamichi Tech, Pontotoc Tech, the Southern Workforce Board and the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations.

The CEDS 2025-2029 is available on the SODA website at <http://www.soda-ok.org/rpd> -> CEDS 2025-2029 or by linking to <https://reports.mysidewalk.com/025ad21c02>.

City of Lone Grove Firehouse and Multi-Agency Coordination Center

The SODA Board of Directors approved a grant from the Oklahoma Department of Commerce Disaster and Recovery Matching Fund in the amount of \$1.5 million to be used as partial funding for the City of Lone Grove Firehouse, Training Facility, and Multi-Agency Coordination Center. This facility will be a state-of-the-art 12-bay Firehouse and Training Facility that will not only serve as a modern home for Lone Grove's Fire and Emergency Services but will also function as a Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC) to enhance emergency preparedness and response throughout the region. The facility will be located on Highway 70 at the east side of Lone Grove.

The ODMRMF grant pays directly to SODA and then passes-through the funds to the City of Lone Grove for construction and engineering expenses related to the project.

Continued on other side →

SODA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DIRECTOR NAME

Sammie Adams
Kelly Campbell
Brandon Carr
Scott Chaney (Vice President)
Cacy Cribbs (President)
Johnnie Crutchfield
Danny Delay
Kit Dinwiddie
Rick Ellis
James Fullingim
Gus Handke
Joe Hill
Darrell Hudson
Sally Jantz
Joe Livingston
Kristi McElroy (Past President)
Joe David McReynolds
David Magee
Don "Salty" Melton
Kathy Moore
Diane Niblett (Secretary/Treasurer)
Ian O'Neal
Tom Pyle
John Redman
Bruce Reynolds
Ethan Settlemire
Gary Starns
Susan Suther
Jokori Taylor
Vacant
Vacant
Vacant
Vacant
Vacant

AFFILIATION

Bryan Co. Conservation District
Coal County
Bryan County
City of Marietta
Johnston County
Arbuckle Conservation District
City of Atoka
Love Co. Conservation District
Coal Co. Conservation District
City of Madill
City of Healdton
Chickasaw Nation
Murray County
City of Lindsay
City of Pauls Valley
City of Ardmore
Carter County
Love County
Marshall County
City of Durant
Johnston Co. Conservation District
City of Lone Grove
Garvin County
Choctaw Nation
Murray Co. Conservation District
Atoka County
Pontotoc County
City of Davis
City of Wynnewood
City of Ada
City of Calera
Garvin Co. Conservation District
City of Sulphur
City of Tishomingo

The next SODA Board of Directors regular meeting will be held on October 24, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at Murray State College in Tishomingo, OK.

Visit the [SODA website](http://www.soda-ok.org) for more information about SODA programs and services at www.soda-ok.org.

