

WOOD COUNTY INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

June 1, 2017

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
East Texas Burger in Mineola, Texas

Members Present:

Janna Castloo	Dan Kirk	Robby Fair	Theresa Margos
Allene Doggett	Ken Donahue	Dana Donahue	Martha Scroggins
Sam Scroggins	Gary Edwards	Ben Hudman	Neal Duncan
Joanne Wisdom			

Members Not Present:

Sue Hitzemann	Gerald Elliott	Lowe Ann Elliott	Shelly Ogle
Miste Davis	Richard Pearce	JR Simpson	

Others Present: Executive Director Kiki Bettis; guests, Mineola Mayor Kevin White, Mineola City Secretary Mercy Rushing, and Wood County Airport Board Vice Chairman Dr. John Wisdom; and Tommy Anderson, News Writer for the Wood County Monitor.

- 1. Call To Order/Welcome:** Vice Chairman Dan Kirk called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Kirk welcomed guests, Mineola Mayor Kevin White and City Secretary Mercy Rushing; as well as John Wisdom, Vice Chairman of the Wood County Airport Board and thanked them for attending the meeting. The invocation was led by Robby Fair. Mr. Kirk also welcomed new board members Theresa Margos of Alba and Shelly Ogle of Yantis.
- 2. Open Forum:** Dr. John Wisdom, Vice Chairman of the Wood County Airport Board gave an update on the Airport board's future plans as well as explained the importance to the economic growth of Wood County in relation to the airport. Dr. Wisdom told the group most of the airplanes based at Collins Field are business owned and as such those businesses like to be able to get to a destination, conduct their business and return home so their people can sleep in their own beds every night. The Airport currently has 34 hangers on site with no vacancies. Collins Field currently has a 4000 ft. runway which can handle smaller corporate jet aircraft and there are more potential airport customers who need at least a 5000 -ft runway to be able to utilize the facility however due to insurance regulations they cannot utilize less than 5000 feet long. Dr. Wisdom noted that this extension has been in the Airport Board's 10-year plan long enough that it is now in the five-year planning stage which should be accomplished in three years. Estimated costs for extending the runway and constructing new taxiways to facilitate more hangars will cost about \$2 million. Dr. Wisdom stated that the Texas Department of Transportation will most likely pay 90% of the cost while the local entities such as the cities of Quitman, Mineola and Wood County would have to come up with the remaining 10 percent. In closing, Dr. Wisdom expressed his gratitude for the continued support of the WCIC as well as the Executive Director.
- 3. Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Janna Castloo and seconded by Dana Donahue to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held May 4, 2017. Motion carried- unanimously. A motion was made by Robby Fair and seconded by Ben Hudman to accept the financials for the month ending May 31, 2017 as presented. Motion carried-unanimously.
- 4. BSA 'Welcome to Beautiful Wood County' Signs:** The agenda item was tabled until the next board meeting.
- 5. Elect New Chairperson and Vice Chairman:** On May 25, 2017 Winnsboro Mayor Randy Parrish contacted the Executive Director to notify the WCIC that Sue Hitzemann had resigned from her position as Chairperson and director of the board. Vice Chairman Dan Kirk agreed to move into the Chairman's position to fill unexpired term left by Hitzemann. The board also nominated Richard Pearce of Yantis to fill the Vice Chairman's position. A motion was made by Sam Scroggins and seconded by Janna Castloo to approve the nominations for chairman and vice chairman. Motion carried-unanimously.
- 6. Bylaw Revision: Repeal term of Chairperson:** On January 5, 2017 the WCIC board approved the revision to the Industrial Commission by-laws extending the chairperson's term to two years. The Executive Director requested the board repeal the bylaw amendment and revert back to the original term set of one year. A motion was made Ben Hudman and seconded by Ken Donahue to accept the Executive Director's request for repeal. Motion carried-unanimously.
- 7. Bylaw Revision: Chairperson Responsibilities:** The Executive Director requested a bylaw amendment with regards to the responsibilities of the chairperson. The bylaws currently state Under Article V, Section 5.02 Duties of Officers: the chairperson shall give an annual report, budget report and report the status of the Commission to the Wood County Commissioners Court in June. Bettis recommended relinquishing

those duties from the chairperson and asked that those responsibilities continue to be fulfilled by the Executive Director as well as be implemented as such in the job description for the Executive Director of the WCIC. A motion was made by Martha Scroggins and seconded by Janna Castloo to accept the Executive Director's request of the bylaw amendment. Motion carried-unanimously.

8. **Bylaw Revision: Add Advisor to Executive Committee:** The Executive Director requested a bylaw amendment with regards to the Executive Committee. The bylaws currently state Under Article VI, Section 6.01 Executive Committee shall consist of the chairman, two other officers and two members appointed by the chairperson. Bettis recommended including the (immediate) past chairperson to serve on the Executive Committee in an Advisory role for one year. A motion was made by Allene Doggett and seconded by Janna Castloo to accept the Executive Director's recommendation request of the bylaw amendment. Motion carried-unanimously.
9. **Executive Directors Report:** Deadline to submit applications for HOT Funds for the upcoming fiscal year has come to a close. There were 30 grant applications submitted for review. The HOT Fund Committee will review the applications in the board room at the Airport Terminal on June 12 at 3:30 with presentations beginning at 4 p.m. and June 13 at 9 a.m. with presentations starting at 9:30 a.m. Recommendations for project funding will be presented to board at the July meeting for approval. Bettis attended a meeting at Ozarka with other leaders in the Wood County area to discuss more efficient ways of getting community members, but most importantly students, more involved and engaged into their communities and schools as well as educate with hands on learning at our local businesses which will in turn building the area's workforce and potentially intrigue the students in returning home from college to join that workforce. Bettis reminded the board that she will be out of the office the week of June 7-9 attending the annual Texas Economic Development Conference in Plano.
10. **Community Reports:**
 - Alba-* The Donut Shop is officially open. The East Texas API Bass fishing tournament is scheduled to take place this weekend followed by the Skeeter Boat Owners tournament to be held the following weekend at Lake Fork Marina.
 - Holly Lake Ranch:* There will be Golf Tournament held at the Ranch on Tuesday, June 6 and there are currently more than 100 teams registered. Tee time is scheduled for 11 a.m.
 - Hawkins-* There will be firework show at Lake Hawkins on July 2.
 - Mineola-* The annual Kid Fish Tournament will be held Saturday, June 6 at the Sabine River Authority headquarters on Lake Fork. The tournament will be held from 8 a.m. until noon. The Wood County Symphony will be performing at 2 pm on Sunday and 6 p.m. on Tuesday at the Select Theater. The movie "Everything, Everything" will be showing this weekend at the Select Theater. Cowburners BBQ is officially open and doing well. Claw Daddy's will host a street dance on Saturday. Also, the Wisner Airport will host an event at the Airport on Saturday as they celebrate 100 years. In other community news, Mercy Rushing updated the board on the status of the Sanderson Farms project and grants. Sanderson Farms received a \$750,000 grant from the Texas Department of Agriculture for water and sewer access however the natural gas line has sparked an issue. The line must be brought to site which is located on Loop 564 from Highway 69 and has an estimated cost of \$850,000 in order to complete that project. Rushing stated that the Mineola EDC has already committed \$200,000 and NET-RA has contributed \$175,000 toward the gas line portion of the project although they are still looking for funds in order to complete the natural gas line. They are waiting to hear back from TCEQ on the status of their grant however if Sanderson Farms does not receive the grant, Rushing said she would seek funding assistance from the WCIC to help with the utility construction.
 - Quitman-* The Wood County Old Settlers Reunion will be held Wednesday, August 2 through Saturday, August 5 at the Governor Jim Hogg City Park. The reunion will be celebrating its 115th festival, which is the longest running festival in the state of Texas. A Classic Car Cruise-in will be held at the Dairy Queen every third Thursday of each month and everyone is encouraged to attend.
11. **Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held Thursday, July 6, 2017. Location of the meeting will be determined at a later time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



Kiki Bettis, Executive Director