

WOOD COUNTY INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

July 7, 2016

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Richie's Restaurant

Winnsboro, Texas

The Wood County Industrial Commission met July 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., at Richie's Restaurant in Winnsboro, Texas.

Members Present:

Brad Floyd	Janna Castloo	Dan Kirk	Gerald Elliott
Lowe Ann Elliott	Neal Duncan	Paul Kelbe	Jason LaRue
JR Simpson	Richard Pearce		

Members Not Present:

Allene Doggett	Gary Edwards	Ken Donahue	Martha Scroggins
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Others Present: Executive Director Kiki Bettis; Media- Larry Tucker with the Wood County Democrat; Bryan Giguere with the Winnsboro News; and guests Tom Castloo, Gwyn Kirk, Brian Cluff, and Tammy Kelbe.

1. **Call To Order/Welcome:** Chairman Sam Scroggins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the invocation led by Neal Duncan and pledge to the American flag. Chairman Scroggins recognized and welcomed guests, incoming Wood County Sheriff Tom Castloo, along with Tammy Kelbe, Gwyn Kirk and Larry Tucker with the Wood County Democrat newspaper and Bryan Giguere with the Winnsboro News.
2. **Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Janna Castloo and seconded by Richard Pearce to approve the minutes from the May 5 meeting. Motion carried- unanimously. A motion was made by Neal Duncan and seconded Brad Floyd to approve the financial reports for the month ending June 30, 2016. Motion carried-unanimously.
3. **Accept Resignation from Sammy Barney:** Golden representative Sammy Barney has decided to resign from the WCIC board as she has moved to the Athens area. A motion was made by Dan Kirk and seconded by Gerald Elliott to accept Barney's resignation. Motion carried- unanimously.
4. **Proposed HOT Fund Projects FY 2016-2017:** Members of the HOT Fund committee presented a list of projects and requested amounts to be considered for funding for the upcoming 2016-2017 fiscal year. Proposed projects included Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce \$4300, Legends of Lake Fork \$5000, Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce \$4500, Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce \$1500, API \$5000, Yantis Catfish Club \$5000, Alba Country Fair \$1500, Sealy Outdoors \$8500, Mineola Merry Merchants \$2500, Bass Champs \$10,000, SPCA \$1000, Lake Fork Sportsman's Association \$7250, Skeeter \$6000, Mineola Chamber of Commerce \$2000. A motion was made by Dan Kirk and seconded Janna Castloo accept the list as presented. Motion carried-unanimously.
5. **Implementation of policies into UCC & HOT Applications & Guidelines:** Bettis presented the board with the proposed adjustments to the guidelines and applications used to apply for UCC & HOT funding. A motion was made by Neal Duncan, seconded by Sue Hitzemann to approve the Hotel Occupancy Tax Guidelines as presented, and in accordance to the recipient's award letter change the date from 90 to 45 days that invoices must be submitted for payment. Motion carried-unanimously. A motion was made by Paul Kelbe, seconded by Gerald Elliott, to approve the additions to the Unclaimed Capital Credit Funding Guidelines which included: Applicants must indicate their contribution to the WCIC-sponsored project. Wood County must give grant monies to the applicant/grant recipient, and these funds must be used to support the budgeted project costs during the grant period of the current fiscal year. Projects are required to commence within the current budget cycle in order to qualify for grant funding. Funding will be payable upon notice from the applicant via mail. Original invoices must be signed and billed to the Wood County Industrial Commission no later than September 30 in order to be paid from the current budget cycle. Two additional documents must accompany the invoice including: a copy of the "approved" bid proposal-indicating costs, supplies/equipment and service; as well as a letter confirming the completion of the project. Emailed documents and invoices will not be accepted. Motion carried-unanimously. In addition to the guideline requirements, the board discussed and decided to change the dates in which applicants may request funding in order to allow for additional time for the project completion. A motion was made by Sue Hitzemann, seconded by Janna Castloo, to accept the date changes which included: the call for funding

requests will commence August 1 and conclude August 31, with recommendations set to be approved by the board in September and projects will be awarded at the beginning of the fiscal year (October). Motion carried-unanimously.

6. **Executive Directors Report:** Bettis reported on the outcomes of the Home & Garden Show and Economic Development presentation. In speaking about the home & garden show, Bettis said it was a good turnout and well received for the first year. The event has room for growth and improvement but all in all it was a success. The WCIC booth was front and center in the Civic Center and was the most liked and visited of all the inside booths. Several compliments were given on our promotional items, print material and enthusiasm about Wood County. On Friday, there were roughly 45 visitors to the booth traveling from Alba, Grand Saline, Lindale, Mineola, Quitman, Ben Wheeler and Sulphur Springs. On Saturday there were roughly 85 visitors coming from even further including Greenville, Crandall, Bullard, Tyler, Hallsville, Rowlett, Athens, Hide-a-way Lake, Yantis, Golden, Garland, Hooks, Winnsboro, Emory, Brazoria, Pueblo, Austin and Malakoff. Only negative on the event- the WCIC money was not utilized appropriately or as promised such as: not listed as a sponsor on the T-shirts or signs at the event; sponsorship title not promoted on the front cover of magazine; ad in the magazine was not in promised location; never announced as "sponsor" on radio advertisement—just disappointed in the lack of advertising on the WCIC's behalf for the cost expended. With regards to the Economic Development presentation featuring Dr. Ray Perryman, again, for the first event, it was a great turnout and huge success! There were many compliments on the event from the decorations/seating arrangements to the fabulous food to the wonderful program. Many thanks went out to Jason LaRue and J&J Meat Market for the enormous contribution—providing and preparing 130 rib eye steaks for the event as well as The House Harris for hosting Dr. Perryman and his guests. There were 115 attendees—each community being represented along with candidates on the local and state levels, and a number of investors. Only negative- communications with the Civic Center were sporadic and not consistent (too many hands in the cookie jar). They were very helpful the day of the event but leading up to it, communication was an issue. Bettis also updated the members of the various vacant seats on the board including Alba, Hawkins, Golden, Holly Lake and Jarvis College. Bettis asked the representatives to help fill these seats by contacting their Mayor/City Councils about getting a representative on the board.
7. **Community Reports:**
 - Alba-* Country Fair was held last weekend and very successful. Activities included a 5k fun run, BBQ and car show as well as a young lady took home the title of Miss Wood County and received a \$1500 scholarship. The Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce will host the annual High School Fishing Tournament this weekend at Oak Ridge Marina.
 - Hawkins-* The city has a new mayor following the recent election. The Ozarka plant is still not fully up and going but hope to be soon. The Baptist Church will host vacation Bible school this coming week.
 - Golden-* Huge Firework show was held for the July 4 holiday celebration. Reports of a great turnout and show.
 - Mineola-* Bush's Chicken will soon be opening in Mineola along with an ETMC Urgent Care Center to be in the former Medicine Chest building. The Mineola Firemen's Rodeo is scheduled for this weekend. The Select Theater will be showing Finding Dory this weekend and the new Splash Pad is near completion with the grand opening scheduled for later this month. New bike trails have opened at the Nature Preserve with future plans of opening disc golf. Several families attended the firework show during the July 4 celebration.
 - Quitman-* The Wood County Old Settler Reunion is scheduled to take place August 3-6 at the Governor Jim Hogg City Park. The City will welcome Greg Hollen as the new city administrator with a reception/open house July 14. The annual Tips for Tots benefit will take place August 1 from 4-8 p.m. at AJs Fish House.
 - Winnsboro-* Put-Put Golf course is underway and is expected to open at the end of July. Monday Nite Live will take place July 18 from 5-8 p.m. in downtown featuring wine, food and music. The Grape on Market Street has re-opened (wine bar) along with new business Feathers & Fawn Children's Clothing Store. More than 100 people attended the firework show at the City Park during the July 4 celebration.
 - Yantis-* The city welcomed new business, "Brothers" Pizza in downtown. Also, a new carwash is set to open next Wednesday at 7 am. The city is updating their septic systems and making plans for the Industrial Park.
8. **Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held Thursday, August 4, 2016 in Mineola, with the location set to be determined at the end of July.
9. **Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.**