

HUGUST 2019

WOOD COUNTY INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

August 1, 2019

Regular Meeting Minutes
First United Methodist Church
Quitman, Texas

Members Present:

Dan Kirk	Robby Fair	Miste Davis	Martha Scroggins
Sam Scroggins	Lowe Ann Elliott	Gwendolyn Winters	Cynthia Stancil
Allene Doggett	Pat Hamlett	JR Simpson	Ken Donahue
Dana Donahue	Ben Hudman	Joanne Wisdom	

Members Not Present:

Theresa Margos	Jim Berry	Neal Duncan	Chris Flournoy
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Others Present: Executive Director Kiki Bettis; Quitman City Secretary Rodney Kieke; Media, Zak Wellerman with Wood County Monitor.

1. **Call To Order/Open Forum:** Chairman Gerald Elliott called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Chairman Elliott welcomed new board directors Gwendolyn Winter and Cynthia Stancil of Jarvis College and asked each to give a brief introduction. Winters serves as the Assistant Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Development and Stancil serves as Chief of Staff, Director of Administration Programs and Title III.
2. **Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Robbie Fair and seconded by Dana Donahue to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the July 11, 2019 meeting and financial report for the month of July, as presented. Motion carried- unanimously.
3. **Membership Amendment:** After reviewing the recommendations handed down by the Blue Ribbon Task Force and much discussion, a motion was made by Ken Donahue and seconded by Sam Scroggins to approve the membership amendment as follows: each contributing city will nominate two representatives, Jarvis will nominate two representatives and each commissioner will appoint one representative from their precinct for a total of up to 18 board members. Motion carried with Ben Hudman, Joanne Wisdom and Allene Doggett casting the opposing votes. The membership amendment will be presented to the Commissioners Court final approval at the next Court Session scheduled for August 23.
4. **Mission & Vision Statement Amendment:** A motion was made by Ben Hudman and seconded by Joanne Wisdom to approve the mission and vision statements as follows- The mission of the Wood County Economic Development Commission is to promote tourism and the development of new and existing businesses and industries in the County. The vision of the Wood County Economic Development Commission is to further stimulate commercial and tourism activity in the County. Motion carried with Sam Scroggins casting the lone opposing vote. The mission and vision amendments will be presented to the Commissioners Court final approval at the next Court Session scheduled for August 23.
5. **Name of Organization:** The board discussed a name change for the Industrial Commission as recommended by the Blue Ribbon Task Force. A motion was made by Dana Donahue and seconded by Gwendolyn Winter to rename the organization as the Wood County Economic Development Commission. Motion carried- unanimously. The amendment re-naming the organization will be presented to the Commissioners Court final approval at the next Court Session scheduled for August 23.
6. **Term Limits for Board Directors:** A motion was made by Joanne Wisdom and seconded by Pat Hamlett to set term limits of no more than three consecutive terms and after one full term off the board an individual may be re-appointed to board. Motion carried- unanimously. The amendment will be presented to the Commissioners Court final approval at the next Court Session scheduled for August 23.

7. **Chairman's Report:** Chairman Elliott reported that he met with the mayor of Winnsboro recently to give a report and update on the WCIC business. He said it was productive and encouraged all of the other board members to do the same.
8. **Executive Director's Report:** Bettis announced the proposal to conduct a hotel feasibility study was submitted for approval at the next Commissioners Court session. The UCC/ED Committee will meet on August 16 to review grant applications and conduct interviews. There were 11 applications submitted requesting grant funding. Bettis also noted that she will be helping the Alba Economic Development Corporation with their downtown revitalization project through assistance from the Texas Downtown Association.
9. **Community Reports:**

Alba- New walking trails and path at the City Park along with Fitness Workouts/Camps to begin September 7; Fall Festival will be held October 12 in the downtown area; and the city/EDC are working a revitalizing their downtown with assistance from the Texas Downtown Association.

Hawkins- The former Kidd Jones Convenient Store has opened and is under new ownership.

Jarvis- The College will be hosting Freshman Orientation with the anticipation of 1,000 students to take part in the event.

Mineola- Three new subdivision are nearly complete; the Tabernacle is set to open soon; the gazebo is undergoing renovations and construction of a new basketball court near the depot is underway; the musical performance of 'Shrek' will open this weekend at the Lake Country Playhouse; new playground equipment is scheduled to be installed at the park.

Quitman- Two investment groups are looking at establishing residential housing with the first project/phase to include 28 units with the second phase to be townhouses; several companies have shown interest in opening up an establishment in the downtown area; Tips 4 Tots will be held Monday, August 5 at AJ's Fish House with proceeds benefitting the Wood County Child Welfare organization.

Winnsboro- The annual Car Show is scheduled for August 31; Annie Mae's Coffee Shop has moved to a new location in the downtown area and is set to officially open on Saturday; and a new décor store will be opening on Elm Street.

Yantis- The city welcomed a new mobile home park.
10. **Meeting adjourned:** A motion was made by Ben Hudman and seconded by Martha Scroggins to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried-unanimously. Meeting at 9:35 p.m.



Kiki Bettis, Executive Director