

WOOD COUNTY INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

January 8, 2015

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Ed's Place Restaurant in Hawkins, Texas

The Wood County Industrial Commission met January 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., at Ed's Place Restaurant in Hawkins, Texas.

Members Present:

Dan Kirk	William Smialek	Sam Scroggins	Martha Scroggins
Sue Hitzemann	Lowe Ann Elliott	Ken Donahue	Richard Pearce
JR Simpson	Bruce Sumner	Imogene Davis	Jeff Croley

Members Not Present:

Neal Duncan	Janna Castloo	Mitzi Pearce	Phil Sadler
Ray Fischer	Claudeane Sublett	Paul Kelbe	

Others Present: Executive Director Kiki Bettis; guests: Deby Croley, Sunya L. Young, Gary Edwards and Brandi Box.

1. Call To Order/Welcome: Chairman Ken Donahue called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Sam Scroggins gave the invocation followed by the welcoming of new board member Richard Pearce with the City of Yantis and the recognition of guests. Presentation of the Outgoing Chairman plaque was held for next month's meeting due to the absence of the recipient.
2. Consent Agenda: A motion was made by JR Simpson and seconded by Sam Scroggins to approve the monthly financial report and asked that the minutes be amended to reflect the absence of Martha Scroggins at the November 6, 2014 regular meeting. Motion carried.
3. Advertising- East Texas Reflections Website: Gary Edwards, owner of the website, asked the board for the continued support of the industrial commission with another year's contribution of \$1,000 for the East Texas Reflections website. Edwards noted that supporting the website does have a promotional value for the area, which is the main reason for the site as it attempts to portray the area of the state in a positive and attractive manner to encourage visitors to the county. Also, all county images taken by Edwards are available to the WCIC for use in marketing materials for the county. A motion was made by Sue Hitzemann to continue to advertise on the East Texas Reflections website and seconded by Bruce Sumner. Motion carried.
4. Advertising- Destination East Texas: Brandi Box, representative with the Wood County Democrat Newspaper and Bluebonnet Media, presented the board with a copy of the Tourism Guide and asked for their support with the purchase of an advertisement. The full color, glossy, booklet will feature eye catching photographs of Wood County and include informative key places of interests for visitors, tourists and vacationers to visit. More than 8,500 copies will be distributed at key visitor information stops such as Welcome Centers at the Louisiana-Texas-Oklahoma borders, East Texas Chambers of Commerce, area hotels, motels, restaurant and business. The board members agreed they would like to see each of the six cities in the county featured however Box was uncertain of how much editorial copy there would be on the county. The board asked to table the agenda item until the next meeting and requested Mrs. Box to return with additional information about the guide.
5. Advertising-KMOO Fishing Special: Holly Gilbreath, representative with KMOO Radio in Mineola, submitted an advertising package featuring the Fishing Tournaments for 2015 however it did not include any specials events or tournaments. The board decided to table the agenda item until Mrs. Gilbreath could provide more information on such.
6. Fishing Tournament- Triton Boats: Chairman Ken Donahue updated the board about Triton Boats wanting to setup a fishing tournament at Lake Fork in 2015. Adam Adkisson, owner of the tournament, is proposing dates for the inaugural tournament to be held September 25-26, 2015. Adkisson is also requesting some funding from the WCIC to bring the tournament here however the budget for this year has been set so the tournament would have come out of the 2016 fiscal budget. The chairman is still in communications with Mr. Adkisson and working on hammering out the details and will report back to the board when more information is available.
7. Community Reports:

Holly Lake Ranch- Jeff Croley reported two new businesses to the area. Moe's Pizza and The King of Recognition Labeling Company.

Jarvis- William Smialek reported that the students will be returning from the holiday break next week. The college has a full list of activities on tap including the start of basketball, baseball and softball season at the end of the month. Also, the college will be celebrating their Homecoming festivities at the end of March.

Quitman- Martha Scroggins reported that two groups are looking to open a packaging store on the Industrial Park. True Value Hardware has announced their arrival to the Quitman community and will be opening soon. Also, there are four new companies looking to come to Quitman and the new BBQ Smokehouse is open for business. The Rainbow Room opened and is in full use. A ribbon cutting is on tap for February.

Winnsboro- Sue Hitzemann reported that there are lots of buildings being sold in downtown. With the new city administration, things are running smoothly for Winnsboro. They are currently in search of an executive director for the city's EDC with hopes of hiring someone soon.

Yantis- JR Simpson updated the board of the new Veteran's Memorial by City Hall in downtown Yantis and welcomed everyone to come out and take a tour.

8. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held Thursday, February 5, 2015; however the location of the meeting will be announced at a later time.
9. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Kiki Bettis, Executive Director