

WOOD COUNTY INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

February 5, 2015

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Texas

The Wood County Industrial Commission met February 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., at Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Texas.

Members Present:

Sue Hitzemann	Andrew Rosen	Jeff Croley	Janna Castloo
Mitzi Pearce	Melanie Whitehurst	Lowe Ann Elliott	Imogene Davis
Sam Scroggins	Martha Scroggins	William Smialek	Paul Kelbe
Claudeane Sublett	Kenneth Donahue	Bruce Sumner	Richard Pearce
JR Simpson	Dan Kirk	Ray Fischer	Phil Sadler
Neal Duncan			

Others Present: Executive Director Kiki Bettis; Hotel & Lodging Representative Dana Donahue; guests: Sunya L. Young, Gerald Elliott, Tammy Kelbe and Brandi Box.

- 1. Call To Order/Welcome:** Prior to the start of the meeting, William Smialek welcomed the board members to Jarvis College and handed out the college's new Alumni Magazine. Also, Smialek introduced the chef for the college and gave an overview of the meal services provided for the campus' students as well the services provided to the community such as catering family reunions, business meetings, church functions and community-wide dinners for donations. Chairman Ken Donahue called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Neal Duncan gave the invocation followed by the welcoming of new board members Melanie Whitehurst- representing the City of Quitman, and Andrew Rosson- representing Holly Lake Ranch, along with the recognition of guests. Chairman Donahue presented the Outgoing Chairman plaque to Neal Duncan and thanked him for his service to the Industrial Commission.
- 2. Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Martha Scroggins and seconded by Bruce Sumner to approve the minutes from the January 8 meeting and requested the minutes be amended to list the 'Not Present' members from the meeting as well as reflect the correct date of the February meeting. Motion carried. A motion was made by Neal Duncan and seconded by Imogene Davis to approve the monthly financial report. Motion carried.
- 3. Advertising- Destination East Texas:** A motion was made by Paul Kelbe and seconded by Martha Scroggins to approve the purchase of a full page advertisement in the Destination East Texas Tourism Guide offered by the Wood County Democrat. Brandi Box, representative with the newspaper company, presented the board with a copy of the Tourism Guide and gave an overview of the design and layout of guide. Box said it would be a full color, glossy, booklet featuring 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. Box also stated that the cities of Winnsboro, Hawkins, Quitman, Mineola as well as Lake Fork would have feature articles in the booklet; however each city would be named in the booklet. The total cost of the advertisement is \$465. The motion carried.
- 4. Airport Funding:** Kiki Bettis presented a proposal in regards to repainting the two courtesy vehicles at the Wood County Airport. Bettis received a quote estimate from Laserline Automotive in Quitman in the amount of \$4,000 which includes the paint, minor repairs to body and colored logo on each side of the vehicles. A motion was made by Neal Duncan and seconded by Sam Scroggins to accept the estimate and have the vehicles painted. After lengthy discussion, Neal Duncan moved to withdrawal the original motion for approval of painting the vehicles however Sam Scroggins chose not to withdraw his second. Chairman Donahue called for a vote on the motion: 8 directors voted "in favor" and 12 voted "against". The motion failed however Chairman Donahue requested a mechanic's assessment on the vehicles pending additional review to be discussed at the March WCIC meeting.
- 5. Promotional Products:** Bettis presented some promotional product ideas to the board for their feedback and asked for additional suggestions of items. The group discussed hats, T-shirts, towels, bobbers, key

chains, handy coin holders/purses, insect repellent, sunscreen, lip balm as well as items geared toward Economic Development.

6. **Community Reports:**

Winnsboro- Sue Hitzemann reported that plans to restore the Legends of Cross Roads were not going to commence and noted that the city would not be claiming the \$5,000 awarded by the HOT Fund Committee. Lowe Ann Elliott reported there will be a dance held at the Art Center and welcomed everyone to attend.

Quitman- Martha Scroggins reported that True Value Hardware is set to open in April and a packaging store will be opening in the Industrial Park in May. The city have become members of the Texas Downtown Association and will be having those representatives visit the city to help assess and evaluate the downtown area as well as beautification. Also, the Quitman/Lake Fork Kiwanis Club's Splash Pad project has commenced and scheduled to open late May.

Golden- Phil Sadler reported that they have begun preparing for the Special Kids Day event in May. He welcomes and encourages everyone to attend and, if possible, volunteer.

Mineola- The Kiwanis Club will be hosting a Chili Cook off and Gun/Knife Show on Feb. 21st. There will be a Kid Fish at the Nature Preserve this weekend. The ponds have been stocked with 1,000 trout just for the event. Also, the movie "Selma" will be featured at the Select Theater this weekend, followed by the production of "Love Letters" scheduled for the weekends of 14th and 21st.

Holly Lake Ranch- Jeff Croley reported a slow start but that the Ranch is gearing up tourism and vacation season.

Alba- Chairman Donahue reported that Triton Boats has agreed to host a fishing tournament on Lake Fork and is scheduled for the end of September. Also the New Life Center will soon be opening a food pantry.

Yantis- JR Simpson announced that Jerry Miller has officially signed up for his seventh term as Mayor and has not drawn an opponent. He also announced the opening of a new business in the City- Shambliss Pizza, located on the downtown square.

Hawkins- Dan Kirk reported that the Hawkins Chamber of Commerce Banquet will be held at the high school cafeteria later this month and welcomes all board members to attend.

7. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held Thursday, March 5, 2015; however the location of the meeting will be announced at a later time.

8. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Kiki Bettis, Executive Director