

WOOD COUNTY INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

August 6, 2015

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Mack's Split Rail in Mineola, Texas

The Wood County Industrial Commission met August 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., at Mack's Split Rail in Mineola, Texas.

Members Present:

Sue Hitzemann	Janna Castloo	Ken Donahue	Lowe Ann Elliott
Imogene Davis	Mitzi Pearce	Martha Scroggins	Ray Fischer
Dan Kirk	JR Simpson	Sam Scroggins	Richard Pearce
Claudeane Sublett	Phil Sadler	Neal Duncan	

Members Not Present:

Andrew Rosson	Jeff Croley	Paul Kelbe	William Smialek
Mitzi Pearce	Melanie Whitehurst		

Others Present: Executive Director Kiki Bettis; Dana Donahue, Hotel Lodging Representative.

1. **Call To Order/Welcome:** Chairman Sam Scroggins called the meeting to order at 7 p.m., welcomed and introduced the guests followed by the invocation led by Ken Donahue.
2. **Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Martha Scroggins and seconded by Claudeane Sublett to approve the minutes from the July 9 meeting and asked that the minutes be amended omitting item #4 regarding appointment of Vice Chairman. Motion carried- unanimously. A motion was made by Neal Duncan and seconded Ray Fischer to approve the monthly financial report. Motion carried- unanimously.
3. **Contract Renewal with Texas Hotel Lodging Association:** The board decided to table the agenda item until the September meeting and requested that Robin Clinker, representative of the Hotel Lodging Association, also attend the meeting for a review of the contract and services.
4. **Contract Renewal for Billboards with Headrick Outdoors:** A motion was made by Martha Scroggins and seconded Claudeane Sublett to approve the renewal of the contracts with Headrick Outdoors for billboard advertisements. The board discussed several different potential avenues for future advertising markets. The Advertising & Promotions Committee will schedule a meeting to discuss advertising options then present their recommendations to the board for final approval. Motion to approve the contracts failed-unanimously.
5. **Chairman's Report:** Chairman Scroggins gave a brief report on the presentation that was held Tuesday night in Emory regarding the ongoing study conducted by Mississippi State University in conjunction with Texas Parks and Wildlife. The group identified several objectives that will help guide the Lake Fork Chamber and other organizations towards becoming a greater asset to its members/residents/businesses/visitors, etc. and how to utilize resources more effectively. The objectives were designed to serve as guidelines for the development of a more expansive tourist market that will assist in creating a wider collection of potential visitors and feasibly increase the revenues brought in by existing visitors. Also noted was keeping information updated as it is vital and always necessary when appealing to both customers and visitors whether it's through print material, websites, and social media.
6. **Community Reports:**
Alba- Ken Donahue reported that the City's quality of water received a "Superior" rating by the state and noted that Paul Kelbe is the driving force behind the award as he is in charge of the water department. Kelbe has been employed with the City for several years and has been working diligently getting the city's water quality up to state standards.
Hawkins- Dan Kirk reported the Rotary Club held a Back to School event where several back packs were given away to local students. Hawkins is preparing for the annual Oil Festival hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. The event will be held October 9 and invited everyone to attend. Also, the Class of 1965 will be celebrating their 50th High School Class Reunion and they will be honored by the City Council and Mayor.
Golden- Phil Sadler reported The Homestead was chosen as the luncheon location for the Musgraves Concert. He urged everyone to use caution when burning as things are beginning to dry. Also Jeff Daniels with MSNBC is scheduled to be in Wood County in August to discuss the area and any drought issues.

Mineola- The Republican Women of Wood County will be hosting their Taste of East Texas on August 22 at the Civic Center. Tickets are \$12. New playground equipment is set to be installed at the Nature Preserve and preparations are ongoing for the upcoming Musgraves Concert including the installation of WiFi at the Preserve just in time for the concert. “Antman” will be featured this weekend at the Select Theater followed by “Mission Impossible” next weekend. Also, curbing will be installed this week at the new CVS Pharmacy.

Quitman- The Kiwanis Club held a Grand Opening of the Splash Pad—looks great and the kids have been enjoying it especially during the recent high temperatures. Quitman’s ED Corporation will be hosting a Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, August 11 at the high school auditorium to discuss future plans, projects and development of the downtown area. Also, Double H Packaging and True Value Hardware are set to open this month.

Winnsboro- Sue Hitzemann reported that Autumn Trails is just around the corner and volunteers are gearing for the event. The Classic Car Cruise is scheduled for Labor Weekend and the Farmers Market is still open every Saturday and Monday evening.

Yantis- Things are slow for the city at this time however city officials are working on a grant to renovate the lagoon and sewer treatment plant.

7. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held Thursday, September 3, 2015 at the Forever Young Activity Center in Quitman.
8. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Kiki Bettis, Executive Director