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BOARD MEETING MINUTES – May 13, 2019

PRESENT: Billy Whisenant, Carolyn Lawrence, Jerod Peek, Gil Cherry, Joseph Crouch, Ken Becker, Miesha Adames, Russel Jones, Thomas Taylor, Tal Fillingim

CALL TO ORDER: 10:00 AM by Chairman Billy Whisenant

PRAYER: Gil Cherry

THOMAS TAYLOR: Thomas was present to discuss Big Country Manufacturing Alliance which is a manufacturing led group that covers 19 counties and is growing toward manufactures working with Economic Development. The objective of BCMA is to build a better workforce. This process starts with the manufactures telling the community, schools and EDCs what they need from employees as far as skill sets, training, and education. 12% of the working population in Nolan County works in manufacturing which is double the national average of 6 %. Sweetwater is represented by 3 people on the 8 person regional board. Thomas Taylor is the chairman.

TAL FILLINGIM: Tal was present to answer any questions that may have come up over the RFQ process, to discuss the 3 RFQs (5 were requested) that were received from splash pad suppliers, and to discuss the interview that was held with Vortex. There was concern about vandalism of the splash pad, but Tal reassured the board that splash pads are durable and it will create an opportunity for the neighborhood to care.

ACTION ITEMS:

MINUTES: Board to review and consider approving minutes from the April 8th, 2019 meeting. Joseph Crouch made the motion to approve the minutes. Gil Cherry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Board to review and consider approving accounts payables. Carolyn Lawrence made the motion to approve the accounts payables. Joseph Crouch seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIALS: Board to review and consider approving the March 2019 financial statements. Joseph Crouch made the motion to approve the financials. Carolyn Lawrence seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2019-002: Board to review and consider approving Resolution 2019-002 for splash pad installation at Newman Park. Carolyn Lawrence made the motion to approve Resolution 2019-002. Jerod Peek seconded. The motion carried 4-to-1 with a dissenting vote from Gil Cherry.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT: Board to review and consider approving the adoption of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sweetwater. Jerod Peek made the motion to adopt the Interlocal Agreement. Joseph Crouch seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Marketing Director's Report (Miesha Adames):

- Discussed and passed around Wind Brochure that Ken and Miesha designed to take to AWEA
- Update on Speaker's Bureau
- Update on how the 2019 Nolan County Leadership Forum went at TSTC
- Update on how well Young Professional events are going
- Passed around the Future Sweetwater responses to, "What does quality of life mean to you?"

Executive Director Update (Ken Becker):

- Discussed concerns about budget retreats and new individuals coming on to the board and how it causes the inability to bring in ideas from the new people.
- How important diversity is for a company (Cape & Son)
- Sweetwater Municipal Auditorium Lunch invitation on Wednesday, May 15th 11:30 at TSTC
- Ken was directed by Carolyn Lawrence to look into property tax incentives for remodeling of homes similar to what Richardson, Texas does.
- Ken was asked to have Dana Schoening present at the meeting to give an update on the substandard properties around town and what the plans are for those.

There being no further business, Gil Cherry made the motion to adjourn with a second from Joseph Crouch. The motion carried.