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## BOARD MEETING MINUTES – November 14, 2018

**PRESENT:** Billy Whisenant, Carolyn Lawrence, Jerod Peek, Ken Becker, Patty Torres, & Stacy Fritz

**CALL TO ORDER:** 10:30 AM by Billy Whisenant

**PRAYER:** Ken Becker

### ACTION ITEMS:

**MINUTES:** Board to review and consider approving minutes from the October 11, 2018 meeting. Carolyn Lawrence made the motion to approve the minutes. Jerod Peek seconded. The motion carried.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:** Board to review and consider approving accounts payables. Jerod Peek made the motion to approve the accounts payables. Carolyn Lawrence seconded. The motion carried.

**FINANCIALS:** Board to review and consider approving the July 2018 financial statements. Patty Torres explained how the financial would look different for the next few months until all accounts were on the MDD financial statement. Carolyn Lawrence made the motion to approve the financials. Jerod Peek seconded. The motion carried.

### **The Chamber update (Karen Hunt, Executive Director)**

- Karen attended the trip to Sulphur Springs and gave any update
- The Chamber & City had a meeting w/ TXDOT (Neil Welch) concerning the grassy area on Lamar behind Dale Martin & Son. The Chamber & City have requested to take over the maintenance and do some landscaping. TXDOT have given permission for that to happen.
- Karen also requested the right to have a banner on Broadway to showcase events. TXDOT also gave permission for the banners
- Karen mentioned the Shop Small Business Campaign kicking off after Thanksgiving.
- Christmas parade (Dec 3) will start at Higginbotham Bartlett and end downtown w/ "Christmas on the Square" (6:30 to 9:00)
- Chamber/SEED Open House – Friday, Dec 7<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 to 2:00
- Chamber is sponsoring a Young Professionals group meeting on Dec 20<sup>th</sup> at the Country Club. Ludlum's will be the host

### **Executive Director Update (Ken Becker):**

- Staff replacement – slow process
- Icy Breeze incentive agreement was approved by the City Council
- Splash Pad update – have met w/ 2 vendors (Kraftsman & Vortex) and looking at locations
- BNSF Logistics has contracted w/ the Maalt yard in 2018 and plans to in 2019
- Westin Trailer has a lease on their truck storage yard
- Stacy Frits, Karen Hunt & Ken Becker mentioned the Sulphur Springs tour set up by Joseph Crouch. Very nice downtown, well planned, they host 300 events a year. Stacy wrote a great article on the trip/tour
- Ken attended the PBPA Annual Meeting – Economist from Boston stated "most economist are predicting a recession soon. He feels we had one in late 2016 & early 2017. Predicts a strong economy for the next 4-6 years.
- Started up the Speakers Bureau Program
- Big Country Manufacturing Alliance (BCMA) – 19 country region, will hold a business meeting & tour at Ludlum's. This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> tour for the BCMA and the 2<sup>nd</sup> one in Sweetwater (Ludlum's & USG)
- Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas (WSWCT) Board area is 19 counties w/ 30 representatives. Sweetwater has 2 reps (Larry Hillis & Ame Bennett). Ken Becker serves as the one Economic Dev rep for all 19 counties.

Board to consider entering Executive Session. Jerod Peek made the motion to move into Executive Session. Carolyn Lawrence seconded. The motion carried.

Board to consider re-entering Regular Session. Jerod Peek made the motion to re-enter into Regular Session. Carolyn Lawrence seconded. The motion carried.

There being no further business, Carolyn Lawrence made the motion to adjourn.