



BOARD MEETING MINUTES – December 11, 2017

**PRESENT:** Billy Whisenant, Kirby Andrews, Gil Cherry, Carolyn Lawrence, Jerod Peek, David Vela, Ken Becker, Larissa Place, Stacy Fritz

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

**PRAYER:** Gil Cherry

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**MINUTES:** Board to review and consider approving minutes from the November 2017 meeting. Jerod Peek made the motion to approve the minutes. Gil Cherry seconded. The motion carried.

**FINANCIALS:** Board to review and consider approving the October 2017 financial statements. Kirby Andrews made the motion to approve the financials. Carolyn Lawrence seconded. The motion carried.

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

**DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS LIBABILITY INSURANCE:**

Larissa Place presented four quotes from local agencies including current company.

- Andreini: Premium \$1500, EPLI \$800
- Bennett (third party): Premium \$2065, no EPLI
- State Farm: Premium \$2440, EPLI included
- DMI 1 (third party): Premium \$1675, EPLI \$800
- DMI 2 (third party): Premium \$1228, EPLI \$399

Billy Whisenant asked Ken and Larissa for their opinions. Larissa stated that the quotes through Andreini and State Farm would be working local. Even though the other quotes are through local contacts they got out to a third party. But all companies were easy to work with. Ken stated if they are the same across the board as far as coverage he is comfortable going with the more affordable quote. Jerod Peek made the motion to go with DMI 2 including the EPLI coverage. Gil Cherry seconded. Kirby Andrews opposed. The motion carried.

**CITY MANAGER UPDATE (David Vela):**

- 6.5% increase in sale tax over same time for 2016
- City receives  $\frac{3}{4}$  of \$290,031 which is \$217,523. SEED received  $\frac{1}{4}$  of \$290,031 which is \$72,508
- Numbers may be inflated right now due to construction work being done. Roofing numbers have increased due to the hail storm.
- City will be hosting a workshop on 12/19 regarding City Charter. The last time the Charter was amended was in 1947. They hope to streamline the City Charter and create a general language. Carolyn Lawrence asked if this will go on the May ballot? David Vela advised they will be piggy backing on the MDD ballot in May. This process will begin next Tuesday with the workshop. The City Commission will have the final say if it goes on the ballot. This meeting will be taped and will go on youtube for those who cannot attend.
- The water tank is now delayed due to mostly the electrical work that needs to be done. The electrical contractor is behind 30-45 days but will return to work the first week of January and be dedicated to the Sweetwater project. The new tank will now be complete by February 1<sup>st</sup> but hopefully sooner. During the January Commission meeting they will ask for a formal extension request.
- The City plans to begin a PR project that they will introduce at tomorrow's meeting. They plan on getting the community involved in designing a municipal flag. David Vela saw a video and would like anyone interested in the competition to watch the video. They will be submitted anonymously. The City Commissioners will make the final choice on the flag. SISD is excited about getting the art students involved.



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**MARKETING/ADMIN UPDATE (Larissa Place):** The board was updated on the following topics

- Christmas cards have been sent out. If the Board has anyone they would like one sent to, please let Ken or Larissa know.
- Christmas party for Economic Development and City is tomorrow night. Everyone is joining us except David Vela's family.
- Economic Dev. And Chamber Open House is Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> from 10-2.
- The Housing study is on the website. You can read the Executive Summary and see the whole report. We did send this info out to those who attended the CDS meetings.
- Ken met with a freelance writer regarding the Wind Industry in our area. We will let the Board know as soon as that article is available.

**EXEC DIR. UPDATE (Ken Becker):** The board was updated on the following topics:

- Ken has read through the housing study a few times. There are some very realistic ideas. They say we don't need to build 50-100 houses but we should really look at end fill. This study provides more than just housing data. Scott Morgan will be hold an open house in January and Ken will present the housing study to them.
- Austin Allies meeting was just held last week. The High Ground sets up the meeting. They were able to meet with many staffers and agencies. They met with Dan Hunter with the TDA and Brian Daniels with the Economic Development group for the Governor's office.
- Jeff Grimland and Larry Ludlum are leaders with the manufacturing partnership group. Ken attended a meeting with the staff partnerships like the ISD's and ED's. They don't want to run this program; the manufacturers need to but the staff partnerships need to be prepared when they are asked for something. Ken has asked what boards they would like him to be involved in. USG will host a mixer for the manufacture's.
- MDD- retail will be an area where there will be many opinions. Ken would like to discuss the possibility of a leakage report. This would be like the housing study but for retail. Since the Housing study and the parks plan are done this would be just one more benefit when moving forward if we do become an MDD. CDS and Retail Coach are companies that Ken is familiar with that do such reports. This could be something Ken could take to retail tradeshow and have available on our website for those looking at coming to Sweetwater.
- TSTC training grant is being worked on. There is a meeting this week in Abilene regarding this.
- Oil continues to be about the same.
- TxDOT has been difficult to stay connected with. Staff keeps changing on projects we are trying to stay involved with. I-20 was supposed to be done by Thanksgiving but now the project has been "winterized" and will continue in the spring. The truck entrance issue for West Broadway is back to square 1. We were under the impression the request was made but it has been requested again after Ken reached out on the status. They are looking at summer for the W. Broadway bridge project now. The Walmart project is now to let in March and started by Summer.
- Ken and Larissa attended the Superintendent's coffee at Southeast Elementary. Disappointed that only 5 people showed up. One thing we need to make sure folks are aware of is that SISD's SAT's are higher than some of the surrounding schools but we don't make it known. We need to make sure the community is aware of the great job SISD is doing.

Carolyn Lawrence asked if the Sweetwater entrance clean-up project that was discussed at the retreat was still a priority. Billy Whisenant and Ken both agreed that it is but are concerned about the landfill issue. David Vela advised that the new landfill will begin in 2018. Billy stated we should team up with the City on the priority areas. Carolyn mentioned that code enforcement would need to be a priority and that is a start. There is broken glass everywhere on W. Broadway area and that should be addressed. David Vela mentioned there could be beautification workshop and that Health and Safety should be addressed.

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

Board to consider re-entering Regular Session. Carolyn Lawrence made the motion to move into Executive Session. Kirby Andrews seconded. The motion carried.

#### **ADJOURN**

Board to consider adjourning. Gil Cherry made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Jerod Peek Lawrence seconded. The motion carried.