



BOARD MEETING MINUTES – April 9, 2018

PRESENT: Billy Whisenant, Carolyn Lawrence, Jerod Peek, Gil Cherry, Ken Becker, Larissa Place, Stacy Fritz

CALL TO ORDER: 10:26 AM by Billy Whisenant

PRAYER: Gil Cherry

ACTION ITEMS:

MINUTES: Board to review and consider approving minutes from the March 2018 meeting. Jerod Peek made the motion to approve the minutes. Gill Cherry seconded. The motion carried.

FINANCIALS: Board to review and consider approving the February 2018 financial statements. Jerod Peek made the motion to approve the financials. Carolyn Lawrence seconded. The motion carried.

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

City of Sweetwater Update – no representative from the City was present.

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

- Larissa attended the REDS (Rural Economic Development Strategies) course held by TMCN. There will be a series of 4 courses in the program, spanning over the next two years. A certificate is earned at the end of each course.
- A real estate agent from Snyder contacted us to include the Sweetwater commercial properties she has listed. She currently has 4 properties.
- The Senior Interview Prep days have been scheduled.
- Ken and Larissa hosted the Future Sweetwater Quality of Life day on March 28th.
- Ken will host the Leadership Sweetwater Economic Development program on April 17th.

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

- Icy Breeze cooler is now being built in Sweetwater. The owner used to own man camp business. Some components of the cooler are now being made at Ludlum Measurements. Ken may ask the owner to join us at next month's meeting. The owner already has concerns about outgrowing the building he is in. We need to try to figure out how to keep him in Sweetwater. They manufacture 3500 units annually and feel like they can double that number. He does not do business with Walmart. The units are priced from \$249-\$329.
- SNAP's Taste of Sweetwater is tonight at the Annex
- USG- Board meeting was held in Sweetwater. Ken had three minutes to present to the Board. The executive committee is very pleased with the plant in Sweetwater and feel that Jeff Grimland has hit a home run. The pens presented by Sweetwater Economic Development were a bit hit. USG will be hosting the Regional Manufacturing meeting in May which includes a 19 County region.
- Ken and Dr. McFarland will be heading to Waco on Thursday for a manufacturing tour. This is progress to get more manufacturing back into our ISD. Right now TSTC has five courses with SISD to help grab those non college bound students.
- EMA article in the paper focusing on their donation to TSTC for scholarships for veterans.
- GFS - they are currently working with TCEQ on permits.
- TX All Natural – they have purchased buildings near Nolan park. The presented at the commissioners meeting last month because they would like to harvest the mesquite along the road. Jerod Peek asked if they will buy mesquite from individuals who have cut it down. Ken is unsure but will ask the question.
- TxDOT – we have sent a list of concerns to TxDOT. Examples like HWY 70 on holiday weekends. Bridge, there is a contract with the RR and the access road in front of Walmart.
- Regional Job Fair is happening on Wednesday. They have 71 participating employers which is completely booked.



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EXEC DIR. UPDATE (Ken Becker): continued

- Ken has been working with Rod Wetzel on wind tours. Rod is bringing groups from Texas A&M and UT. He will now be teaching with Texas Tech. This program allows Sweetwater to remain involved in the wind energy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Jerod Peek made the motion to go into Executive Session. Carolyn Lawrence seconded. The motion carried.

REGULAR SESSION: Carolyn Lawrence made the motion to re-enter Regular Session. Jerod Peek seconded. The motion carried.

ADJOURN

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