



BOARD MEETING MINUTES – May 8, 2017

PRESENT: Billy Whisenant, Jerod Peek, Kirby Andrews, David Welch, Carolyn Lawrence, Ken Becker, Larissa Place, David Vela, Joe Grant

CALL TO ORDER: 10:37 AM by Billy Whisenant

PRAYER: Kirby Andrews

ACTION ITEMS:

MINUTES: Board to review and consider approving minutes from the April 2017 meeting. Carolyn Lawrence made the motion to approve the minutes. Jerod Peek seconded. The motion carried.

FINANCIALS: Board to review and consider approving the March 2017 financial statements. Add General Fixed Assets to page 3 and correct Nolan County unemployment rate. Jerod Peek made the motion to approve the financials with the necessary changes. David Welch seconded. The motion carried.

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

CITY MANAGER UPDATE (David Vela): The board was updated on the following topics.

- Sales tax numbers continue to go down.
 - May's numbers will not be available until Wednesday but David Vela will share that info when it is available.
 - The numbers coming in should reflect the Rattlesnake Roundup impact
 - March/April 2016 were skewed and when comparing to 2015 only down 2.1%
- The Appraisal District has preliminary numbers
 - 15.1 Million less in 2017 vs 2016 for the City
 - Tax levy is down \$72,728.00 for the City
 - If the City keeps the same % we will lose money in the long run.

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

- Senior Interviews are underway. Sweetwater and Blackwell are complete as of last week. Roscoe and Highland will be held at Roscoe on May 10th.
- May 18th is the joint City/SEED meeting at the TSTC Temple Dickson Building. We will have the following speakers present:
 - Guy Andrews – MDD
 - Russell Gallahan – Type A&B
 - Possibly someone from the Big Country Home Builders Association
 - We will be providing Housing Survey Info
 - This is an open meeting and guests may attend. David Vela has already invited some to attend.
- HB/SB in Austin – Supporting and Testifying
 - Chapter 313 – testified in support
 - HB343 – (Rep. Stan Lambert) testified for
 - SB2 – Threatens Public Safety & Healthcare
 - SB277/HB445 – Against
- TSTC now has CTE programs with SHS in five areas. There was interest from over 70 students.
- Ken was the commencement speaker for the recent TSTC Graduation in Abilene.
- Larissa and Ken took the Leadership Sweetwater group on tours of Buzzi and USG
- The new CEO of USG from Chicago will be visiting the Sweetwater plant in early June. This will be a low key event but SEED will be involved.
- Westin Trailers is a new trailer dealer in Sweetwater on I-20 just west of Sweetwater Steel
- Sweetwater hosted Congressman Jodey Arrinton at RPMH on Good Friday. There was a good turnout.
- Ken and Larissa will be visiting Blackwell on May 9th for an Economic Development update on Nolan Country at their community meeting.



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

- SEED had a booth at TXAEP in Wichita Falls. This is an oil/gas show but we may need to consider not attending as a vendor in the future. It may be something attended as just a visitor. The numbers attending this show are going down every year.
- Ken attended TDANA for the first time. This was attended with BNSF and Cape & Son. Ken was able to meet with BNSF regarding bringing wind products into the MAALT yard.
- Repowering is going on for the wind farms.
- Tax abatement was denied for the repowering
- Sand is still moving
 - 2 unit trains per month now
- USG and Buzzi are both still hiring
- Crest/Nine and Key Energy are hiring
- DPC has expanded their rail access
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EXECUTIVE SESSION: David Welch made the motion to go into Executive Session. Kirby Andrews seconded. The motion carried.

REGULAR SESSION: David Welch made the motion to re-enter Regular Session. Kirby Andrews seconded. The motion carried.

ADJOURN: Board to consider adjourning. There being no further business, Carolyn Lawrence made the motion to adjourn. Jerod Peek seconded. The motion carried.