

# WOOD COUNTY INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

March 7, 2019

Regular Meeting Minutes  
First United Methodist Church  
Quitman, Texas

## Members Present:

Lowe Ann Elliott	Gerald Elliott	Martha Scroggins	Ken Donahue
Dana Donahue	Sam Scroggins	Shelly Ogle	Isaac Allen
Jim Berry	Dan Kirk	Robby Fair	JR Simpson
Chris Flournoy			

## Members Not Present:

Joanne Wisdom	Miste Davis	Theresa Margos	Ben Hudman
Neal Duncan	Allene Doggett	Pat Hamlett	

**Others Present:** Executive Director Kiki Bettis; Media, Zak Wellerman with Wood County Monitor; and guest Richard King, Director of Soules College of Business Entrepreneurship & Innovation Institute at the University of Texas at Tyler .

1. **Call To Order/Open Forum:** Chairman Gerald Elliott called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the invocation led by Sam Scroggins and welcoming of new board member Isaac Allen of Yantis, along with guests, Zak Wellerman, news reporter from the Wood County Monitor and Richard King, Director of Soules College of Business Entrepreneurship & Innovation Institute at the University of Texas at Tyler. During the open forum portion of the meeting, King gave an overview of the various groups and services available at the Tyler campus that can assist Wood County and other surrounding areas., King will be working closely with the East Texas Council of Government and local economic developers on a five-year economic development grant that will help find ways to connect the needs as a regional program.
2. **Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Dana Donahue and seconded by Shelly Ogle to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the January 10, 2019 meeting and financial report for the months of January and February, as presented. Motion carried-unanimously.
3. **Advertising Sponsorships/Proposals with KMOO Radio:** Chairman Elliott presented the board members with two sponsorship proposals for advertising with KMOO Radio. The first proposal was for a title sponsorship of the local hourly news update. The costs included \$500 per month with a six month commitment or \$400 per month with a year commitment. No action was taken on the 'News' proposal. The second proposal was to sponsor the weather segment featuring Chief Meteorologist Doc Deason which is aired two times an hour per day including weekends. The costs included \$500 per month with a six month commitment or \$400 per month with a year commitment. A motion was made by Sam Scroggins and seconded by Martha Scroggins to consider the weather sponsorship proposal at the 12 month commitment rate of \$400 per month. The motion failed with a vote of 12 against and 1 in favor.
4. **Sponsorship request for DPS Bass Fishing Tournament:** Chairman Elliott presented a proposal from DPS seeking sponsorship for their upcoming Fishing Tournament to be held at Lake Fork on May 11. Proceeds from the tournament will go toward the DPS Troopers Foundation which provides financial assistance in times of emergency needs, education and training programs and scholarships for qualifying family members as well as at-risk youth programs in the community, preservation and development programs for the Texas Department of Public Safety Historical Museum and Research Center. A motion was made by Sam Scroggins and seconded by Shelly Ogle to purchase the \$1,000 sponsorship option. Motion carried-unanimously.
5. **Chairman's Report:** Chairman Elliott called for the UCC Committee to meet on March 21 at 4 p.m. followed by the Website Committee meeting scheduled for March 28 at 4 pm. Both committee meetings will be held in the board room at the Wood County Airport.

6. **Executive Director's Report:** Bettis announced that she will be attending the Texas Economic Development Council's annual Women in Economic Development Conference in Waco on April 4. Bettis will also be attending a week-long Grant Writing Course in Fort Worth May 13-17. Bettis reminded the board members of the Training Workshop that will be held on Thursday, April 11 at the First United Methodist Church in Quitman. The training session will begin at 4:30 p.m. and conclude at 7:30 p.m. Wood County Tax Assessor/Collect Carol Taylor has received the reports from the State Comptroller's Office of all lodging establishments in Wood County paying the State Hotel/Motel Tax. Bettis and Taylor are going through all of the reports and cross checking against the county's files. Once that task has been completed, Taylor will determine what the next steps are and Bettis will continue to update the board. The official contract with B.A.S.S. along with the Addendum Agreements with the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce and the cities of Emory and Quitman Committee has been submitted to the Commissioners Court for approval. A committee meeting is scheduled for March 18 at noon at the SRA office. We will need volunteers to help with Marketing, Events (during the tournament), Setup, Booth Workers, etc. Anyone interested in attending the meeting and/or helping with the event should contact Bettis via email. Also, Bassmaster officials will be coming back for a follow-up meeting within the coming weeks to discuss layout, timeline, needs assessments, etc. The call for HOT Fund project proposals! Applications will be available beginning Monday, March 11 and must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. on May 24. The HOT Fund Committee needs to schedule a time to meet, review, and discuss those applications—preferably the week of June 10. The Committee will forward their recommendations onto the board at the July meeting for approval. At the last Commissioners Court meeting held February 22, the Commissioners tabled the resolution regarding the formation of the Blue Ribbon Committee until a workshop could be conducted to get additional information about the Committee and hear public comments. A workshop was held last Friday, March 1 with several board members and citizens in attendance. Unfortunately the floor was not opened for public comment at that time however the Commissioners did get the opportunity to speak and ask questions. A letter from Troy Robinson, appointed as Chairman of this Committee, was read aloud asking the Commissioners to consider the following information: "the goal of the Task Force is to review the effectiveness and structure of WCIC for all the citizens of Wood County. This goal is made even more critical because 2 of the largest cities in Wood County have expressed concerns about the WCIC and are currently considering not participating in the interlocal agreement in the future as it currently stands. To achieve the goal, the Task Force is working to consider many more aspects of economic development than only the WCIC. Recognizing the valid and important need for economic development please be assured the Task Force is not attempting to eliminate the WCIC but to improve it for all Wood County citizens and taxpayers. We believe to properly assess our needs, areas such as education, transportation, public safety, parks, law enforcement and governmental relations need to be incorporated in a plan to effectively assess Wood County's needs for now and 20 years from today. Several of the cities now employ economic development officers and we believe their experience and expertise can and should be leveraged for the benefit of Wood County. We are appreciative for the opportunity to provide input on this critical need for our county and plan to provide a comprehensive assessment by May 15." No action was taken during that workshop. At this time it is still undecided as to what is or will happen next- the agenda for the regular Commissioners Court meeting scheduled for tomorrow does not list the 'Task Force'. Bettis expressed the board needs to continue doing business as usual with an emphasis on progressing the organization and the county. Bettis believes the board members are off to a great start with the upcoming board training session.
7. **Community Reports:**  
*Alba-* The annual Bass Champs Tournament was held last week at Lake Fork Marina with roughly 2,000 fishermen participating in the event. The Ford Mega Bass Tournament will be held Saturday, March 16 at Lake Fork Marina. The Bassmaster Texas Fest and Legends of Lake Fork Tournaments are on tap for May. Members of the Lake Fork Chamber attended several boat shows in the months of January and February.  
*Hawkins-* The city's business incubator located in the downtown area welcomed a new insurance company.



*Mineola*- The annual Chamber of Commerce banquet is taking place tonight at the Mineola Civic Center. The Lake Country Symphonic Orchestra will perform March 10-12 at the Lake Country Playhouse.

*Quitman*- Quitman is going through some changes as the City Administrator/Secretary has resigned. The position was offered and accepted by Rodney Kieke. He will officially take the helm March 30.

*Winnsboro*- The annual Hooves and Halos event will be held March 26 at the Winnsboro City Park. The Church of Christ hosted an active shooters seminar. A new O'Reily Auto Parts Store will soon be opening on Main Street and City National Bank has sold their building to Prosperity Bank.

*Yantis*- Patriot Sporting Challenge is expanding with PSC Legacy Day. The 1-day event will be held October 5, 2019 at the Links at Lands End on Lake Fork. This event teaches the legacies (Star Kids) of fallen or wounded Military Veterans and First Responders about the outdoors including fishing, golfing, archery and shooting air rifles. ~~Proceeds from the event will benefit the scholarship program through the Folds of Honor Foundation.~~ *Sam ask to amend*

8. **Meeting adjourned:** A motion was made by Chris Flournoy and seconded by JR Simpson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried-unanimously. Meeting at 8:45 p.m.

*Kiki Bettis*

Kiki Bettis, Executive Director

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