

July 2013 Meeting Minutes
Greater Nocona Area Economic Development Corporation (Type A) &
Nocona Municipal Economic Development Corporation (Type B)
at the Tales and Trails Museum, July 2nd, 2013

Agenda items:

I. Roll call and call to order: Type A & Type B – Confirm Quorum for Type A & Type B

Kyle Reynolds called the Type A Board to order at 12:15 pm. Also present were Don MacLaughlin and Chance Dinger.

President Suzanne Storey called the Type B Board to order at 12:15 pm. Also present were Martha Underwood, Jim Carpenter and Sandra Reynolds.

1. Acceptance of June meeting minutes Type A & Type B

Both Boards approved the June minutes.

2. Acceptance of May Type A & Type B financials

Both Boards approved the May financials.

II. THE COWBOY BOOTS RETAIL STORE PUBLIC HEARING

The public hearing was opened at 12:19 pm.

The director stated that this was the public hearing for the Type B Board project. As proposed, there was an effort to bring back western wear retail to Nocona. The owners of the Boot Store of Nocona Texas asked for assistance in setting up internet presence and sales capabilities. Jon Perry from Fort Worth would be building the site itself as well as spending time training as to how to maintain and manage the site after it was completed. The amount for all of his service should not be greater than \$3,000 nor less than \$1,000. The store owners would appreciate assistance with a grant to cover the setup and training. The Type A Board had already approved half of the monies.

Additionally, the relationship on the retail store would be: Bill and Jim Williams are the owners of Montague Boot Company. The current understanding between Montague Boot Company and Cavender's would be that Montague Boot itself would not operate a retail operation. Therefore, James Fenoglio, and family, decided to create the retail store, separate and apart from Montague Boot, except that it would contract with Montague Boot for a separate line of boots, James/Jamie Montague, which would feature a personalized capability i.e. Rednecks with Paychecks logo or a ranch brand. This would increase Montague Boot production, create a separate profit-center for Montague Boot, and provide local sales tax collection from the retail store.

The internet site that would be created would belong to and support the retail store and serve as the internet ordering system for the James/Jamie Montague boot line. It would also serve as a test bed for future internet capabilities, for example, if Montague Boot Company ever expanded into its own brands, which could include a local brand for the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

The Type B Board brought up the question of if they approved a website for one business, what would prevent any other business from asking the Boards to provide a website for them, and was that the direction they wanted to head for future promotion. It was then suggested to take a look at how to support all businesses downtown equally, and all businesses share the cost. The main idea discussed was to look at signage options. Either one or more signs listing all the businesses, or individual signs placed along the highway.

The director mentioned possible issues such as TXDOT requirements, sign placement and boundaries. He also reminded the Boards that the Chamber could have plans for signage as well.

The Boards wanted to know how to most effectively promote moving forward. The director suggested revisiting the original plan and revising as necessary.

The director was requested to inquire both TXDOT and the Chamber on requirements and plans as well as cost of signage for discussion at the next month's meeting.

Public hearing was closed at 12:49 pm.

III. NOCONA SWIMMING POOL COST ADJUSTMENT

The director said that under the original quote from Absolute Pools, the full cost was \$41,785. Staff thought they could reduce the full amount through local vendors, but in the end, Absolute completed all the work. Although it would have been better to have just used the \$41K+ figure, they actually only approved \$40K. Staff was requesting authorization for the remaining \$1,785 (about \$893 per Board). Since the project was approved, this was only an adjustment that will need to also go before the City Council for permission to expend the funds. The Boards needed to decide if they would approve the \$893 each (\$1,785 total) for the project and, if so, they would need to request the director place it on the city council agenda for authority to expend the funds.

Both Type A and B Boards approved the \$893 each (\$1,785 total) for the project, and requested that it be placed on the city council agenda for authority to expend the funds.

IV. 2013 - 2014 BUDGET PROPOSAL

The director explained that it was time to prepare the 2013 - 2014 budget. They were expecting income to stay flat, so everything was pretty much the same on income, with a small rounding up from \$127, 575 per Board to \$128,000. They were estimating \$129,000 by the end of this budget year.

Expenditures were also similar with the City looking at a 5% pay increase, the Leadership Montague County and Technology Summer Camps items and training monies to send Joni to the 1st Year Community Development Institute next Spring.

Both Type A and B Boards approved the proposed budget as presented.

V. Staff Update

The director updated the Boards on the following items:

1. Texas Rural Intern Program

Lindsey and Michael completed their time in Nocona and they were greatly appreciated for what they accomplished.

2. Connected Texas Broadband Survey

The kick-off meeting was June 26 and they had begun collecting data. Staff was asking each Board member to help us. Joni explained what they were looking for.

3. Firearms/Ammunition Recruitment

No word as of yet, even from the gentleman in Louisiana that wanted to become a Texan. He was about 20 miles east of Shreveport, so staff was wondering if maybe planning a visit there might be worth it. The director could stay at the Air Force Base to cut down costs.

The Boards suggested doing a follow up contact with the gentlemen before planning a visit.

4. The Center for Innovation

Wes Jury, the Center's President and CEO, would be visiting July 11. Staff was hoping to firm up the relationship and programs that could benefit Nocona. A meeting for Board members and other interested parties is scheduled for Thursday, July 11 at 10 am in the Veranda Inn's meeting room.

5. Technology Summer Camps

Students had been selected and a meet took place with parents and students to develop travel needs and schedules.

6. Crossplains TXDOT Meeting, July 18, Wichita Falls

The director would be attending.

7. Workforce Summit, July 22 - 23, Tulsa

Although in Oklahoma, the summit would provide ideas on skills development they might be able to collaborate with Nocona ISD on. The director had friends in Tulsa he could stay with to reduce costs.

VI. Items of community interest

Joni reminded the Boards of the kid's History Camp taking place at the museum the week of July 8th.

VII. Adjourn

The Type A and B Boards adjourned at 1:15pm