

Weatherford Area Economic Development Foundation
Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2018
Weatherford City Hall – 522 W. Rainey Ave – Weatherford, OK 73096

- Call to order – Chairwoman Lisa Thiessen called the meeting to order at 7:04 a.m.
- Notice – Notice of the meeting was posted at the Weatherford City Hall and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk at 9:40 a.m., February 12, 2018
- Attendance – Please see attached sign-in sheet for attendance. Special guests were recognized or introduced.
- Approval of Minutes – Minutes from the meeting of January 10, 2018 were unanimously approved. Minutes from the meeting of January 26, 2018 were unanimously approved.
- Presentation of Treasurer’s Report – The WEDF financial information was provided to members by Mike Hixson, Treasurer. Funds in reserve total \$104,210.83 as of 01/31/18.
- WAEDF Economic development update – Chuck Dougherty reported on the following:
 1. Exit 82 Phase II – Project is largely completed with minor details being tied up.
 2. Exit 82 Phase III – Connects Main Street to the South Access Road. This is on the ODOT 8-year-plan.
 3. Wendy’s to be constructed between O’Reilly’s and Walgreens.
 4. Chicken Express to be constructed at the former location of the Mark Restaurant.
 5. West Main Project – Construction continues on the Bob Bartmann building at the corner of 8th Street and Main Street.
 6. The Weatherford Industrial Trust has purchased 70 acres just north of the current Weatherford Business and Technology Park. This will provide much needed room for growth. The next step is to apply for an EDA grant for infrastructure.
 7. Red Rock Behavioral Health Services – Land purchased in the Business and Technology Park on Airport Road between PSO and Devon to construct a new facility at a cost of \$3 million. They employ 70 people. Construction slated to start in 2019.
 8. Sales Tax – Up 21% for December 2017. This is a record high sales tax receipt for the City of Weatherford. Sales tax was up 14-½ % for 2017.
- Special Presentation – Max Ary, Director Stafford Air and Space Museum and Stafford Air and Space Museum Foundation – Legacy Campaign
 - In 2018, the Stafford Air and Space Museum will celebrate its 25th anniversary and has launched the Legacy Campaign to fund a much needed exterior and interior renovation of the current facility as well as an 18,000 square foot expansion which will include a restoration facility. This will bring the Museum to almost 60,000 square feet.
 - There were more than 23,000 visitors to the Museum last year and more than 80% came to Weatherford just to visit the Museum.
 - The current campaign goal is \$3 million of which \$1.8 million has been pledged.
 - The deadline for dedication of the building is May 2019 which will coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 10 mission.

- Special Presentation – Brent Wilcox, President, Oklahoma Political Strategies, LLC – Lyle Road Sales Tax Campaign
 - This campaign is funded through the Weatherford Area Economic Development Foundation for an amount not to exceed \$20,000.
 - The purpose of the campaign is to raise between funds for Lyle Road improvements through the passage of a one-half cent sales tax.
 - Projected cost for improvements is \$6.5-7 million.
 - The sales tax is a six-year tax that will bring in an estimated \$1-1.25 million per year.
 - There are 6,618 registered voters in Weatherford of which 2,120 are active voters in 1,400 households.
 - Campaign will utilize newspaper ads, radio spots, mailings, and phone contacts.
 - Campaign will educate voters on the reason for the tax and why funding is by sales tax.

- Meeting adjourned at 7:58 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Joy McKillip - Secretary