

September 2016 Meeting Minutes
Greater Nocona Area Economic Development Corporation (Type A) &
Nocona Municipal Economic Development Corporation (Type B)
at the Tales and Trails Museum October 4th, 2016

Agenda items:

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

Type B Board Vice President Bob Herndon called the meeting to order at 12:06 pm. Also present were Don Davis, Dan Fenoglio, Billy Henley, Sandra Reynolds and Brandi Shipman.

Type A Board Vice President Chance Dingler called the meeting to order at 12:08 pm. Also present were Tracey O’Neal, Yesika Rodriguez and Tyler Thomas.

Also present were Sarah Renfro, leading the Nocona Playground Project; Tracy Oswald, Chisholm Trail Rodeo Committee; Don MacLaughlin, former Type A Board member; and NellAnn McBroom, Executive Director for Nocona Chamber of Commerce.

a. Approval of Type A and Type B September meeting minutes

Both Boards approved the September minutes as written.

b. Acceptance of August Type A & Type B financials

Both Boards accepted the August financials.

c. Reappointment of Board officers

The director explained it was time to elect officers, since this was the first meeting of the new fiscal year. The Boards approved the following slates of officers for their respective organization.

THE GREATER NOCONA AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (TYPE A)

President	Kyle Reynolds	Vice President	Tyler Thomas
Secretary	Yesika Rodriguez	Treasurer	Tracey O’Neal

NOCONA MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (TYPE B)

President	Phil Staley	Vice President	Bob Herndon
Secretary	Brandi Shipmen	Treasurer	Sandra Reynolds

II. NOCONA PLAYGROUND PUBLIC HEARING Opened at 12:10 pm

The director reminded Board members and attendees that the Type B Board agreed to place \$7,816.50 on the 60-day clock for the Nocona Playground grant project. The Type A Board requested staff place \$7,816.50 on the City Council agenda for authority to participate in a Type B project. The City Council approved Type A Board participation at its August meeting. The Boards had requested they receive more information at the public hearing in October on who will maintain the facility following its construction.

Sarah Renfro explained the Nocona Lions Club had agreed to maintain the facilities and the Nocona Lions Club President was sending formal acceptance of this responsibility.

No adverse comments were made during the public hearing.

Public Hearing Closed at 12:13 pm

III. PREMIER PLAYER SPORTS BASEBALL FIELDS PROPOSAL

The director explained that the owner of Premier Player Sports Association had asked for the proposal to be deferred until additional paperwork was completed.

The Boards agreed to defer the proposal until such time as Premier Player Sports Association was prepared to submit necessary information.

IV. NOCONA CHISHOLM TRAIL RODEO GROUNDS PROPOSAL

The director noted the Boards approved \$15,000 in the 2016-2017 budget for the rodeo grounds. Tracy Oswald, with the rodeo committee, said the committee has begun developing a long-term vision for the rodeo grounds, beginning with the arena fencing and drainage issues. Estimation is new fencing for entire arena and drainage mitigation would cost around \$30,000 using quality materials that would keep spectators and participants safe over a reasonable time. Given that only \$15,000 was budgeted they are looking at starting on the west side of the arena.

Board members discussed appreciation for the committee considering long term solutions for the rodeo grounds and looked forward to continued involvement in this valuable community venue.

Although the monies are budgeted, staff suggested holding a public hearing on the specific project in November, and also approving the expenditure at the same meeting. Staff also suggested requesting City Council approval for the Type A Board to participate and in November approval from City Council to expend the funds.

The Boards agreed to support the proposal. Type B Board requested staff schedule a public hearing for the November meeting and the Type A Board requested staff to place the proposal on the October City Council agenda to approve participation in a Type B project (sports facility).

V. METAL HIGHWAY SIGNAGE PROPOSAL

Don MacLaughlin explained he has researched costs for placing metal signs along Hwy 82 using 2' x 4' signs attached to telephone poles. He noted there should be less impact by the wind with the metal and was working to keep the signs simple and with no more than four words. There are possibly 14 signs being proposed at about \$300 per sign (\$4,200 total/\$2,100 per Board). This would come from the marketing budget. The Chamber has agreed to be responsible for installation and upkeep.

The Boards agreed they will support the proposal, but requested a committee of Don MacLaughlin, Tyler Thomas and NellAnn McBroom present a final design and sample at the November meeting before monies are spent. The Boards requested staff place the proposal on the October City Council agenda to approve expenditure of the funds.

VI. Staff Updates and Travel

a. Fiber Optic Project Update

The director said he was meeting with Joe Gambill with NORTEX Council of Governments economic development office about assisting with our application to EDA on Oct. 5. Mr. Gambill has been recovering from quadruple bypass surgery, but is now back in the office.

The director also noted the City Council approved Nocona EDC monies being tied to the grant at its September meeting.

Staff was asked if it was working with the Nocona City Manager researching leasing options for fiber currently being laid around Nocona. The director said they were looking into the issue, but the key is finding the appropriate official to discuss options and costs.

b. Leadership Montague County 2016 Class Retreat Update

There were eight new class members. One of the potential class members could not attend the retreat do to a family emergency. Members of the Texas Rural Leadership Program from AgriLife, at Texas A&M attended and participated. This is the first class to use the TRLP curriculum. Reception to the material has been positive and hopefully will provide a basis for both relationship building and a larger positive impact on the county.

c. Texas Workforce and Education Summit Update

This was a very interesting program with participation by K-12, higher education and Workforce leadership. They have been asked by Gov. Abbott to propose a pathway for improving Texas

education and the workforce. During the comment session on the tri-agency report, the director noted a lack of entrepreneurship emphasis, which is extremely important for rural communities to maintain youth in the community. A copy of the draft report is available from the director.

d. Lemonade Day Conference Update

This was very informative, especially since the program is moving forward with several changes. Most importantly they desire to concentrate on the elementary level. Apparently Texas third grade curriculum introduces the concept of business, so instead of 5th, sixth and seventh grades, the local program will move the third, fourth and fifth grades. Not this school year, but hopefully by next year a “Shark Tank”-style program can be made available to the 6th and 7th grades. This will also be the first year the entire county is being approached to support Lemonade Day. Reaching out to home schoolers and the Child Welfare Board will also be a priority.

e. Nocona at the Texas State Fair, Oct. 10, Dallas

The Chamber is heading up this free marketing effort. If anyone would like to help out contact NellAnn McBroom at the Chamber.

f. LMC Communications and Local Government Class, Oct. 21, Montague

This will introduce basic written and oral communication skills, along with social media. Local government officials are also being invited, since the February government class will be the trip to Austin.

g. Texas Motion Picture Association Impact Awards, Oct. 23, Fort Worth

We’ve been active with TXMPA for a couple of years. This is in our backyard versus being Austin. The director plans to attend.

h. Association of Rural Communities in Texas Conference, Oct. 25 - 27, San Antonio

The director is attending.

i. LMC Austin Visit, February 15-16, 2017

The class will make its trip to Austin, Feb. 15 – 16. If anyone would like to come along, space should be available. Full cost for accompanying the class is still being worked out, but should be close to about \$125 per person. **Please let staff know if you would like to attend by its November meeting.**

j. National Wine Marketing and Tourism Conference, Nov. 7 – 10, Fredericksburg

The director is attending by invitation.

VII. Items of community interest

October 7 - 8	Nocona HS Alumni Reunion
October 15	Texas New Mexico Power Co. Golf Tournament to benefit Nocona Lucky Paws Animal Shelter and the United Way
October 15	Acoustic Jam and Potluck Meal at the Senior Citizen Center
October 21 - 22	Nocona Nights Music Festival
October 31	Halloween in Nocona and Halloween Dance at the V

VIII. The meeting adjourned at 1:07 pm