

**Sabine County Economic Development Progress Report**  
**April 1- April 30, 2017**  
**Prepared by Charlie Dromgoole**

- Went to Orange, Texas with Don Iles to meet with Project Polymer prospect on April 3 to see their current operations, meet with company leadership, and discuss incentive possibilities for Hemphill and Sabine County. Have had numerous conversations with Don since the visit concerning the project and are continuing to gather information.
- Have sent the hotel feasibility study to several hotel developers/owner contacts that were made at ICSC as well as the Best Western regional manager for Texas. Best Western has asked us to put together information on driver that would generate hotel stays in Sabine County. An initial list will be sent to the SCEDAC members to ask for their input.
- Developed the PowerPoint for the Governor's Economic Development Essentials Workshop for Hemphill and Sabine County that was held in Hemphill on April 20. Made the Economic Development 101 presentation at the workshop and facilitated a SWOT analysis of Sabine County. Have compiled the SWOT information to be presented to SCEDAC at the May 18 meeting. This will be a part of our SCEDAC strategic plan.
- Attended the SCRDAC meeting on April 20 in Hemphill following the Essentials Workshop.
- Had conversations with Rebekka Dudensing, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service on the agricultural project for Sabine County.
- Working on putting together the initial format for the development of the Sabine County Economic Development Strategic Plan. Should have initial draft to present to the SCEDAC meeting on May 18.
- Had discussions with Jordan Frisby, Economic Development for the Port of Houston Authority, concerning putting together mega-sites in Sabine County, an attainment are for air emissions.
- Represented Sabine County at a meeting in Lufkin for Texas Secretary of State Rolando Pablos on April 24 prior to his visit to Sabine County. I got to visit personally with the Secretary on the issues of widening to 4-lanes the 55 mile stretch of US 96 that is currently 2 lanes, the need for the a Capital Fund grant for an economic development project in Hemphill, and the need for enhancing broadband in Sabine County. Also made contact with several staffers for Secretary Pablos as well as area county judges.
- Working on developing several variations of community profile pages to be used in marketing Sabine County utilizing the Texas Forest Country Partnership Zoom Prospector information.