## Sabine County Economic Development Progress Report May 1- May 31, 2018 Prepared by Charlie Dromgoole

- I attended the SCEDAC meeting on Thursday, May 17, 2018 in Hemphill and prepared the agenda prior to the meeting with input from SCEDAC members.
- I had several conversations with Don Iles and one of the principals, Paul Grillo, of 2BeGreen (Project Polymer) about information needed to complete the Texas Capital Fund application. The Texas Capital Fund application was completed and hand delivered to the Texas Department of Agriculture on December 19. We are still waiting on one document from 2BeGreen to finalize the application. We have had numerous conversations with TDA and they have been accommodating on the project.
- I had several phone visits and email connections with Geno Carrier concerning their project and available rail served sites on SH 103. We were able to put together information to submit a proposal on a manufacturing and distribution project lead that Daryl Melton had received from Lonnie Hunt at DETCOG. I will be meeting with Geno on future trips to Sabine County to learn of their plans and opportunities.
- On several occasions, I spoke with Billy Curb, the Business, Cooperative, and Energy Specialist for Rural Development with the United States Department of Agricuture concerning loan and grant programs that USDA administers. We were looking at possible opportunities for CLT as well as future projects. We will be meeting with him in the future to discuss possibilities for Sabine County.
- I am doing research on Chapter 381 Agreements as a possible alternative to tax abatement to be used by Sabine County as incentives for potential locations.
- I worked up a Site Information sheet to send out to Sabine County Realtors to start a site portfolio of available sites in Sabine County for both commercial and industrial projects. Cookie will be sending out the information to the Realtors asking them to complete the information and return it to us
- I am continuing to follow-up with several of the hotel groups that have expressed interest in Sabine County and am continuing to look for ways to incentivize the development of a hotel in the county. Have had email responses from Choice Hotels indicating a possible visit to Sabine County, but have not been able to get a firm date.
- I was hopeful to have a site visit from one fast food restaurant in May but they cancelled due to work load. They still want to come look at sites in Sabine County and will reschedule in the future. I continue to attempt to contact him regularly

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