

Sabine County Economic Development Progress Report

November 1 – December 31, 2018

Prepared by Charlie Dromgoole

- I attended the SCEDAC Meeting in Hemphill on November 13 in Hemphill. The SCEDAC meeting scheduled for December was cancelled.
- On November 13, I spoke to the Sabine County Chamber of Commerce about what SCEDAC was doing in economic development. Afterwards, I visited with several chamber members concerning projects that they were working on.
- I also wrote an article on SCEDAC activities and economic development for the Sabine County Chamber of Commerce magazine.
- I attended the Texas Economic Development Council (TEDC) Annual Meeting in Fort Worth on October 17 & 18. I met with a potential hotel prospect and received a lead on another hotel investor. I have had phone conversations with these prospects but have not had a firm commitment to visit Sabine County. I provided them with the hotel study conducted by Source Strategies.
- After TEDC, I put one of the financial services firms in touch with Paul Grillo to explain the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) opportunity. Paul and I have provided the firm with the basic information needed to start the process of obtaining a NMTC for 2BGreen. Mr. Grillo has indicated that the financial information is about finalized. I have also visited with Randy Blanks and he put together a revised schedule needed for submission of the Capital Fund grant application since we have to go through the entire application process again. No further work will be done until we receive the financial commitment information.
- We have been suggesting on numerous occasions to 2BeGreen that they go ahead and pay for and start the environmental review since that will take some time to complete and it will also be needed for the NMTC. Randy Blanks provided Laure Morgan with the information needed to inform 2BGreen on the process to start the environmental and she has provided that information to 2BGreen.
- I have had numerous phone conversations and email exchanges with Paul Grillo concerning the submission of the Capital Fund Grant as well as the process for starting the environmental assessment. He assures me that he is coming to Sabine County but that it is taking longer than anticipated. I have asked him to stay in communication with Laure Morgan so that she can update the Hemphill City Council.
- Had a site visit from one fast food restaurant on October 9 & 10 in Sabine County. Showed him potential sites in various parts of the county enough for him to see that we have numerous site possibilities. We are now gathering several site plats so that they can place different layouts of buildings on the sites to see what would work for the company. They will also be showing the Sabine County information to potential investors. Have had several follow-up emails with the company.
- I will be attending the International Council of Shopping Centers Deal Making Show in Fort Worth on January 10 & 11 representing Sabine County.