

## **Government Foundation Meeting**

February 2, 2010

Chris Moss called the meeting of the Vision 2020 Government Foundation to order at the Angelina County Chamber of Commerce at 7:40 AM.

In attendance were Jody Anderson, Trent Ashby, Mark Dunn, Nathan Gann, Mayor Jack Gorden, Trey Henderson, Jerry Huffman, Bruce Milstead, Paul Parker, Carl Ray Polk, Joe Rich, Lynn Torres, Jim Watkins, Judge Paul White, Dorothy Wilson, Susie Cardwell, with Chris Moss presiding.

### **Lufkin/Angelina County Day & Reception:** (Jerry Huffman)

An agenda for the sessions on Thursday afternoon (February 11<sup>th</sup>) in Austin was provided by Jerry Huffman. It was suggested that our government and board representatives in Austin be urged to attend.

### **State Boards** (Chris Moss)

There are three additional people who have filed applications to serve on State boards from our area, and we hope to have them appointed. Another trip to Austin will be made soon to visit the Appointments Office. An invitation to make the trip to Austin was extended to the Government Committee. Chris reminded everyone to continue to search for people from our County that would be prospects for serving on our State boards.

### **Census:** (Dorothy Wilson)

Dorothy Wilson gave an update on the progress of the Census.

- March 10<sup>th</sup> is the date for the reminder postcards to be mailed.
- March 15 the questionnaires will be mailed to residences.
- 6,000 flyers will be delivered door-to-door
- There are about 10 additional events planned toward reaching the public with information about the census
- Every child will go home with a flyer in English and Spanish
- Poster contest for students
- La Lengua is providing a weekly column on the census plus an additional column periodically
- Lufkin Daily News is providing a column with the logo to run periodically

Important dates: April 1 – The Census hopes to have all forms returned  
April 6 – Census follow-ups are started and tallying begins

**March First Friday Luncheon:** (Chris Moss)

The speaker for the March First Friday Luncheon will be Speaker of the House, Joe Straus. Chris asked that the committee members be sure to remind their businesses and organizations of this event to be held at the Civic Center.

**City of Lufkin:** (Paul Parker)

Paul Parker remarked that a tremendous effort has been made to reach and educate as many people as possible. The City and all involved in the Census have taken this very seriously and done a great job.

In March or April another bond issue will be considered for several projects.

Paul Parker hopes to see the sales tax increase soon, as we are down a half a million dollars.

**Mayor Jack Gorden:**

Mayor Jack Gorden asked that we refocus on the goals of Vision 2020.

In attempt to help reach our Metropolitan Statistical Area(MSA) goal, he requested that the areas with lower population density be focused on in order to connect to larger areas.

**Water Rights:** (Jody Anderson)

Jody Anderson reported that the Lake Columbia Environmental Impact Statement has been approved by the Corp of Engineers and they are in the 60-day comment period. A meeting next week will be held to get funds for highways, and then the final phase is land acquisition.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Vision 2020 Government committee will be on **April 6th at 7:30 a.m.** at the Lufkin/Angelina Chamber of Commerce Board Room.