

Government Strategy #3 and #5 Committee Meeting
January 11, 2007

The Government Foundation met on Strategy #3 (Commitment) and #5 (Building Relationships) at the Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, January 11, 2007. In attendance were Jerry Huffman, Jim Wehmeier, Jack Gorden, Paul Parker, Trent Ashby, Dorothy Wilson, Wes Suiter, Kevin Langston and Todd Kassaw and Curt Fenley.

The following items were established as priorities in regard to the agenda of the upcoming Lufkin/Nacogdoches Day in Austin.

1. We established the areas of priority for the Lufkin contingent to press at the Lufkin-Nacogdoches Day visit to Austin
2. We identified individuals to contact as "chairpersons" for each priority area.
3. We are going to follow up with David Pore, Rep. McReynolds and Sen. Nichols to identify specific individual legislators and staff, as well as Departments, that control or influence areas of the priorities.
4. Each group is to develop a strategy for setting bullet points, drafting proposed legislation, gathering any information, pulling together other members for a visit and scheduling meetings with the legislators.
5. Setting a meeting post-Lufkin/Nacogdoches visit to "de-brief" on the visits.
6. Setting up a strategy for follow up with the visits on the particular subjects.

These priorities are somewhat connected to the Lufkin-Nacogdoches agenda, but the intent is to have a Lufkin strategy separate and focused on these priorities. The 5 priorities that we want to push at the Lufkin/Nacogdoches Day visit are as follows:

1. Continued support and enhancement of the Lufkin State School. I will contact Randy George to confirm his willingness to chair this group.
2. Development of a Mental Health hospital or facility. Judge Suiter and I will coordinate this group.
3. Economic Development support for Angelina County. I will contact Trey Henderson, but obviously will want Jim Wehmeier to work with this area.
4. Establishing a plan to protect East Texas Water Rights, particularly Sam Rayburn access. We suggested contacting Rod Pittman. Trent, would you mind giving Mr. Pittman a call to discuss? You may have some other ideas of who should front this group.
5. Funding for Evacuation Hub and road improvements. Mayor Gorden and Paul Parker are to head this group.

By copy of this message, I am asking David Pore to start gathering information about the particular legislators and Committee Heads we should plan on contacting about these areas. I will also follow up with Rep. McReynolds and Sen. Nichols' offices to get additional information. The plan is to set a meeting in the next couple of weeks to get back together and establish the game plans. Let me know if you have any suggestions or comments. I think that it will be beneficial to funnel all information through Trent and me in order to keep the activities coordinated.

Curt Fenley