



## **September 18, 2007 Meeting Minutes**

### ***Introduction & Opening:***

The September meeting was held at the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce who also hosted the meeting. Barry Brittain opened the meeting by welcoming members and guests.

Member companies present were: Alamo Worksource, Ameridrives, Ashley Furniture, Cemex, Coleman, Comal ISD, Edisto, EH Systems, Fed Ex, Great American Products, McKenna, NB Chamber, NBU, NB Smokehouse, Objective Maintenance, Priority Personnel and Star Manufacturing,

Guests present were: Bill Stipanovich from EH Systems, Klaus Weiswurm from ITM and Mayor Bruce Boyer.

Thank you to the Chamber for hosting the meeting. The newly remodeled offices look great!

### ***Officer Reports:***

Barry thanked Buddy Watson and Caroline Gorman for taking charge of our booth at the New Braunfels Trade Show. The booth was well organized and staffed. We had received membership applications and a lot of interest in our organization.

Barry updated the membership on the TAMA meeting from July with Patrick Rose. The main topic of the meeting was workforce availability and education. Focus and priority needs to be addressed at the high school level to bring the awareness of manufacturing career paths to non-college bound students. Robust programs need to be created for manufacturing career paths.

Paul did not bring the treasurers report to the meeting. We do have sufficient funds for scholarships.

### ***Committee Reports:***

- Membership:
  - o We are currently at a 50/50 split for manufacturing and associate members. We are achieving our goal for the year by increasing manufacturing membership.
  
- Fundraising:
  - o No Report

- Scholarship:
  - o The scholarship committee is waiting for new applications.

***Featured Program:***

Barry explained that there was a change in the program for this meeting. Originally, Michael Meeks, NB Chamber president, was scheduled to give a presentation on the Chamber. Mr. Meeks was unavailable so the program was switched with October's program with the New Braunfels Mayer. The Chamber presentation will be conducted at the October meeting. Barry introduced Mayor Bruce Boyer.

Mayor Boyer discussed the new budget strategy for the city. The current tax percentage is not changing, but property appraisals have increased in the city. Streets & drainage and public safety are top priorities in the operating budget.

In the past, sales tax revenues were not used on infrastructure and recurring costs. Since a certain level of sales tax revenues is constant, they are being included with the property tax revenues in the operating budget. By adding in the sales tax revenues, public safety and capital improvement projects that were neglected in the past years can be addressed.

All resources are being pooled together to address the whole budget. A 5-year capital improvement program is being added into the budget with specific allocations. Priorities are being put on all projects. Allocations are being assigned to departments for projects. A sinking fund has been added to cover replacement of equipment and expendables. The whole budget process has changed for the better by including and assigning all resources.

Plans are underway for new fire and police stations. Drainage improvements are being implemented. A new maintenance plan has been instituted to take care of easement and drainage areas that have been neglected. The city is trying to be proactive on improvements and public safety. There is a new pay plan for city employees. The city is working with the school districts on joint projects to save cost and be more efficient.

The Mayor closed by encouraging people to contact him with concerns if the needs of the city are not being met.

***Second Program:***

Judy Young from the United Way provided an update on efforts of the organization. Allocation teams consisting of volunteers are used to disperse funds. The United Way sponsors mentoring and tutoring programs. 75% of the donations received by the United Way come from employee donations. The United Way is actively performing research and gather information. The research will be used by the city, school districts, hospitals, public safety organizations, etc... to see where resources and efforts need to be applied to improve the quality of life, education and career paths for the underprivileged and those in need.

***CTTC Report:***

John Malik provided an overview of the new MTA program at CTTC. The program is focused on High School junior and seniors for a vocational program and career path in manufacturing after high school. The program can accommodate up to 50 students per. John encouraged NBMA to show our support for the program because the students in the MTD program will be our future employees.

***Next Meeting:***

The next meeting will be held on October 16<sup>th</sup>. The featured program will be a presentation from the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce. We need a host and location for the meeting. Contact Rusty Brockman for reservations.

Respectfully submitted: Paul W. Webber, Secretary/Treasurer