

Friends of the Big Empty
Minutes
May 20, 2025
6:08 pm
Munday Emporium
Meeting called to order by: Alex Vukasin

REVIEW MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

IN ATTENDANCE:

- Alex Vukasin, Marcella Barden, Exa Lee Smith, Cindie Kesler, Becky Offutt, Jessica McDermott

The minutes of the April 22, 2025 meeting were read. A motion was made to approve the minutes as read was made by Marcella and seconded by Cindie. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- Marcella downgraded Big Cartel account to free version to eliminate the \$15 monthly charge.
- Marcella will create a Threadless account for use in selling tshirts, calendars, etc.
- Requested PayPal account email from Cindie on 4/28/25 to continue with new account
 - Cindie provided email and Marcella will proceed with account setup/design.
- Board members who have confirmed fb admin access: Alex, Marcella, Cindie, Jessica
 - Becky will need a new invite and perhaps a phone call when invite is sent to be sure she can accept. Alex will send the invite.
 - Exa Lee does not have fb account
- Photo Contest discussion carried over from OLD BUSINESS with a reminder to all board members to submit ideas in writing by 5/2/25 to give everyone a chance to review and inspire more ideas before the 5/20/25 meeting. We will focus on the current 12 county area: Baylor, Cottle, Dickens, Foard, Haskell, Kent, King, Knox, Stonewall, Throckmorton and Wilbarger.
 - We will proceed with the suggested rules provided on 3/19/25 once they are reviewed by all board members. The next two items will need to be included.
 - Cindie suggests we have an all year photo contest to build a calendar / coffee table book for next year; submit date and location of the photo; encourage a story (750 max word count)

- Will need to include a clause stating we are authorized to change wording due to grammatical errors; include info about no copyright/ no watermarking allowed - we will publish the name of the individual of whom submitted the photo
- Winners will be required to sign release for use in calendar and/or coffee table book
- Marcella will send updated rules to board for review.

REPORTS

- Treasurer - see separate report
- Website - Trending downward, need more posted activity on Facebook, our highest traffic was in January- likely due to the newsletter being published
- Sponsors - N/A
- Facebook/Instagram - N/A

NEW BUSINESS

- Review current sponsors shown on website.
 - Have any expired who should be removed?
 - Have any renewed and should be maintained?
 - Should we include expiration dates on the website to help as a reminder? No
 - Cindie : Two years was given to each sponsor upon sign up
 - Becky: volunteered to call businesses that have upcoming renewal dates - please send her a list

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Alex's Presidential term is coming up in August and he doesn't plan on renewing- will need to re-elect his position
- Marcella talked to Preston Cox (Stamford Chamber of Commerce) and she confirmed FOTBE will continue to have updates posted
- Munday Rodeo (May 31st)
- Lunches of Love (July 7-August 1)

CLOSE MEETING

A motion was made by Marcella to adjourn the meeting at 6:51, which was seconded by Jessica. Motion passed.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be at Cindie's office on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 from 6-7pm