

Electric has ordered the needed parts to begin the electrical work for the facility. Hopefully it will begin soon.

The restoration of the Board of Director's conference room is progressing. Flooring and wall paint colors were chosen at the meeting.

The landscaping is continuing and has beautifully enhanced the outside of the facility. The area around the gazebo is all that is still lacking. The work is being done by Crosscuts Landscaping of Robert Lee, owned and operated by Logan Phillee.

Employee insurance was discussed and will be finalized at the October meeting.

Discussion on transportation was tabled.

Houston reported problems with our current telephone system at the facility and informed the board he has done some contacting to gather information for the October meeting.

Future agenda items were discussed and the next regular meeting will be October 26, 2021.

The board then went into a short executive session, beginning at 11:40 am and ending at 11:50 pm. No action was taken. The board meeting then adjourned.

Taking a tentative look at the fall calendar, regular activities will be in full swing at the facility. There is lots of fall decorating going on and there will be a Pumpkin Contest on

October 15 at 3 pm. Due to the fact there are no October birthdays, the FCCLA will host a very, merry un-birthday party at 2 pm on October 19. So...wishing a very happy un-birthday to all! Enjoy the party!! Jim Gross will be entertaining at the facility at 3 pm on October 25, and the resident council meeting will be at 3 pm on October 26. There will be a Halloween Festival at the facility at 3 pm on October 27 for the residents and staff. A Halloween costume contest will take place at 3 pm on October 29 and there will be spooks a-plenty running around the facility. This is not for the faint hearted! Have a happy and safe Halloween!

Bronte City Council meeting minutes told

[Editor's Note: We are continuing to play catchup with the Bronte City Council minutes.]

The Bronte City Council met in special session on Monday, June 7, 2021, at 5:30 pm.

The meeting was called to order at 5:26 pm by Mayor Paul Gohman, and a quorum was established. Those in attendance included Mayor Pro Tem Gwen Dyess; Council Members Kinley Pritchard, RA Morris, Zach Davidson, Clabe

F. Webb; City Staff Ricky Royall, Teresa Ballard, and Tina Smith; and Financial Consultant Everett Bedford.

Mayor Paul Gohman led with the Pledge of Allegiance and Kinley Pritchard led the prayer.

Gwen Dyess made the motion to authorize Mayor Gohman to sign the engineer contract for the USDA grant and was seconded by Clabe Webb. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0.

Kinley Pritchard made the motion to approve Mayor

Gohman to sign the documents for the Taylor Telecom Easement Agreement on the Oak Creek property. Gwen Dyess seconded the motion and the motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0.

Everett Bedford trained the council members on how to read the balance sheet and statement of revenue and expenditures. Mayor Gohman went over the account payable procedures from getting invoice in the mail to sending the check out. No action was taken.

With no further business, the council adjourned at 6:22 pm.

RL City Council meeting minutes told

The Robert Lee City Council met in special session on September 2, 2021.

Those present included Council Members Tracy Grantham, Josh Tennison, David Lewis, Jonathan Torres, and Daniel Jasso. Mayor Jason Moran was absent.

A call to order was held, quorum determined, and the meeting declared open at 6:30

pm.

The Tax Hearing FY 21-22 was declared open by Mayor Pro Tem Tracy Grantham. No citizens were present and no comments were made so the hearing was closed.

The Budget Hearing FY 21-22 was declared open by Tracy Grantham. No citizens were present and no comments were made so the hearing was closed.

The second readings of 1340 - Budget Ordinance FY 21-22 and 1341 - Tax Rate 2022 was held. A motion was made by Jonathan Torres to approve of the readings. He was seconded by Josh Tennison and the motion carried with a vote of 5 - 0.

A motion was made by Jonathan Torres to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 pm. He was seconded by Josh Tennison and the motion carried with a vote of 5 - 0.



Check On Your People

By James M. Decker
[Author's Note: This is an important mental health post that covers some topics that readers may find difficult.]

I had an essay queued up this week that expanded on Wendell Berry's ideas and how leaning in to localism might be the path toward rural prosperity in an ever-changing world. We're going to postpone that to next week, if you do not mind, because I want to expand on another topic.

I am writing this essay on Tuesday morning (September 28). Yesterday, I shared some sad news about a friend who took his life over the weekend.

That post speaks for itself and I encourage you to go read my sentiments therein. But during the day, I had several conversations with friends and with other folks who were friends with this person. We were each struggling to comprehend what happened. I still do not know. But I feel called to reiterate a few inner thoughts I had yesterday, because they are relevant to my past essays on mental health.

Mental health is a tricky thing because it is such an inward-facing

issue. Unless mental wellness is taking a physical toll on a person (it can and does) or unless a person is truly forthcoming with their internal struggles, we do not truly know how they are doing. Unless we are good at self-reflection (and many of us are not), we might not even know how *WE* are doing. Our society has done a terrible job of marginalizing mental health struggles. We are told to shake it off, push past it, be strong, get over it. Those forms of



Birthday! A birthday celebration was held recently at the Coke County Courthouse honoring Winton Milliff on his 93rd birthday. He and his wife, Virginia, are pictured just before cutting the cake in the Commissioners' Courtroom. Winton has served as General Manager of the Coke County Underground Water District for the past 22 years.

"encouragement" might mean well, but they are unhelpful. They only reinforce that a mental health struggle is not "real" or that we are not good/strong/smart/brave/worthy enough to conquer life's struggles.

Let's stop right here and say that is an absolute lie from the pit of Hell. You + me + all of us are absolutely good/strong/smart/brave/worthy enough and do not let anyone - whether it be someone else, your own brain, or Satan - tell you otherwise.

As I have studied mental health from a layman's

perspective, I see how folks repress struggles in different ways. Substance abuse is a coping method and is frightfully connected to mental health, but we also cope in other ways. People may withdraw from interaction or struggle to do the things they were once passionate about, but that is not all. As several of us discussed, our late friend was posting on Twitter just this weekend about a research project that he was undertaking as part of his doctoral program and he seemed exuberant about the topic.

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HOLIDAY CLOSING NOTICE

All facilities of this bank will be closed Monday, October 11.

In Observance Of

Columbus Day



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