



**Soils Day!** On October 6 - 7, Coke County Soil and Water Conservation District Technician, Erin Oleksiuk, was able to visit with the kindergarten classes at Bronte ISD (above right photo) and Robert Lee ISD. The students were scientists and artists for the afternoon, learning about the importance of soil and painting with different soil types. The teachers, Mrs. Soliz and Mrs. Webb, were greatly appreciated for supporting the district's Kinder Soils Day.



## Bronte City Council meetings minutes told

[Editor's Note: We are continuing to play catchup with the Bronte City Council minutes as space allows.]  
**July 19, 2021**

The Bronte City Council met in special session on July 19, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm by Mayor Paul Gohman, and a quorum was established. Those in attendance included Mayor Paul Gohman; Mayor Pro Tem Gwen Dyess; Council Members RA Morris, Zach Davidson, Clabe F. Webb; and staff members Teresa Ballard, Tina Smith, and Ricky Royall. Council Member Kinley Pritchard was absent.

Mayor Gohman led with the pledge and offered prayer.

First Financial Bank can no longer be a third party housing for City of Bronte Utility Billing Drafts. The City must have an account with First Financial Bank. City Secretary Teresa Ballard and City Clerk Tina Smith will have "all powers" to conduct any banking business with First Financial Bank, including ACHs, wires, etc. through the online banking platform.

Gwen Dyess made the motion to authorize City Secretary Teresa Ballard to set up a new account for the purpose of ACH drafts at First Financial Bank. City Secretary Teresa Ballard and City Clerk Tina Smith will have "all powers" to conduct any banking business with First Financial Bank, including ACHs, wires, etc. through the online banking platform. Also, on this account, to have check signing privileges and treasury management authorization authority is Mayor Gohman, Mayor Pro Tem Gwen Dyess, City Secretary Teresa Ballard, and City Clerk Tina Smith. The motion was seconded by Clabe F. Webb and passed with a vote of 4 - 0.

The goal of the workshop is for the Mayor and Council Members to share and discuss elements of the FY2021-2022

Fiscal Year Operating Budget.

The Council discussed next year's fiscal budget. The City Secretary will make changes as discussed by the Council and will set the next budget workshop date.

Council Member Zach Davidson excused himself from the meeting at 6:50 pm.

With no further business, the council adjourned at 7:17 pm.

### August 2, 2021

The Bronte City Council met in special session on August 2, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm by Mayor Paul Gohman, and a quorum was established. Those in attendance included Mayor Paul

Gohman; Mayor Pro Tem Gwen Dyess; Council Members Kinley Pritchard and Clabe F. Webb; and staff members Teresa Ballard, Tina Smith, and Ricky Royall. Council Members Zach Davidson and RA Morris were absent.

Mayor Gohman led the pledge and Kinley Pritchard offered prayer.

Clabe F. Webb made the motion to approve EDC 4A Board road repair project to the one block of 100 E. Oliver Street heading to the community park, pool, ball field, and community center, and the triangle area between the two restaurants on State Street, with alternative repair sites at the school locations on Railroad and West Oliver, to the school and north of the school near the

playground for \$15,000. He was seconded by Gwen Dyess and the motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0.

Gwen Dyess made the motion to approve Resolution 21-07, awarding administration services for American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act program(s) to GrantWorks. She was seconded by Clabe F. Webb and the motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0.

Kinley Pritchard made the motion to approve Resolution 21-08, appointing Josie Dean, PPC - Tax Assessor/Collector for Coke County to do FY21-22 Tax Rate for the City of Bronte. He was seconded by Gwen Dyess and the motion passed with a vote of 3 - 0.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:43 pm.



## Independent Ecosystems

By James M. Decker

Lately, we have been talking about local communities as ecosystems. It is no coincidence that, as local economies have become less locally focused and locally sufficient, we've seen a decline in rural communities across America.

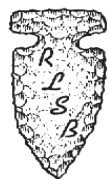
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I want to announce my intentions to file for re-election as  
**Coke County Justice of the Peace.**

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