

THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Single Copy 50¢



Serving Coke County

(USPS 467-480)
(ISSN 8750-197X)

Vol. 127, No. 06

Friday, August 15, 2014

Where do our tax dollars go?

Every fall, property owners receive a statement in the mail notifying them of the amount due for their property taxes for that year. To avoid penalties, they must make a check out for the total amount due to Josie Dean, Coke County Tax Assessor/Collector by January 31 of the following year. What is often not considered is that, although the check is made out to Coke County, Coke County is not the recipient of the entire amount. In fact, less than one fifth of the taxes paid in Coke County actually go into the county's budget. In fact, of the \$9,438,319.70 collected from October 1, 2013, through July 31, 2014, only \$1,592,341.16 went to Coke County. The remaining \$7,845,978.54 was distributed to the other taxing entities in the county.

The county's school districts claim the largest percentage of each side's tax dollar - Robert Lee ISD at .55 or Bronte ISD at .44 of every property tax dollar paid in Coke County.

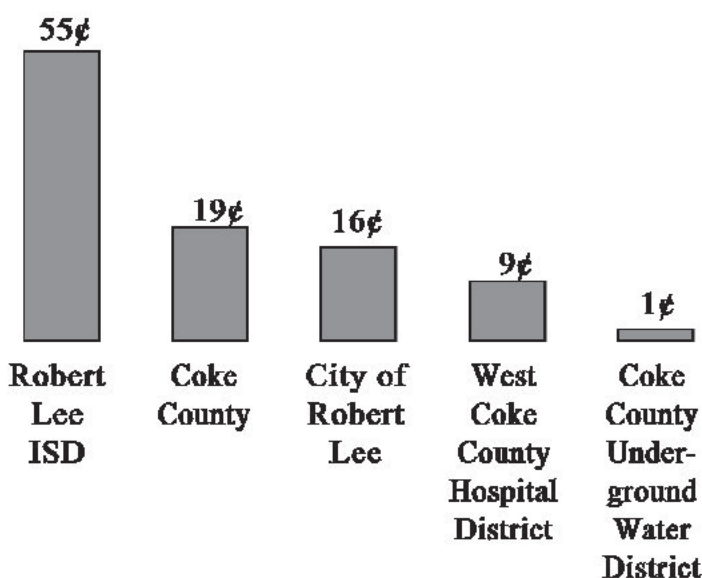
The cities of Bronte and Robert Lee each claim .16 cents of every property tax dollar paid by those owners of property within their city limits.

The Hospital Districts on each side vary in their tax rates. West Coke County Hospital District receives approximately 9 cents of every property tax dollar paid by a west side owner. East Coke County Hospital District receives

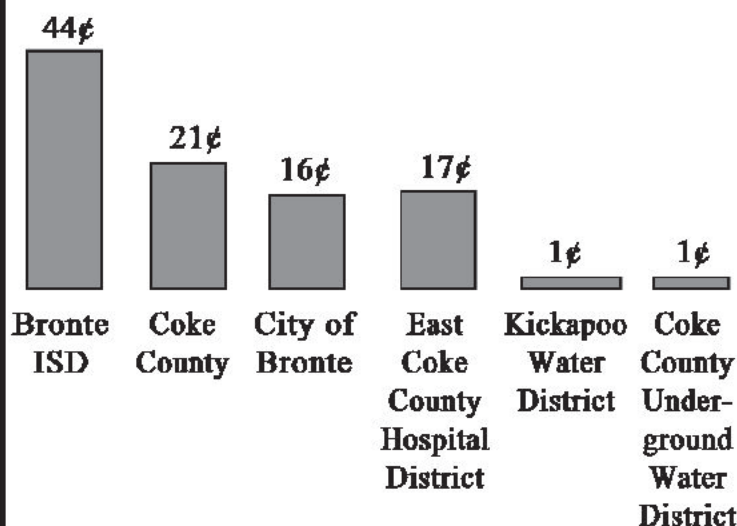
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Breakdown of Property Tax Dollar

West Side



East Side



The West Side table is based upon a combined tax rate of 2.644550.

The East Side table is based upon a combined rate of 2.366019.

All figures were rounded to nearest decimal and based upon last year's tax rates.

Not every Coke County resident lives within a city and pays city taxes. Some residents who live in Coke County pay school taxes to Water Valley ISD or Blackwell CISD instead of Bronte ISD or Robert Lee ISD. Also, a few Coke County taxpayers live within the Blackwell city limits and pay taxes to the City of Blackwell.

Only property owners pay the taxes which support our schools, cities, county, nursing homes, and water districts. People who live in a rental property and do not own real property within the county do not contribute to the support of these local entities. In addition to property taxes, the cities receive a rebate from the state on sales tax collected within their borders and the schools receive additional state and federal funding.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor and Residents of Coke County:

During the last five years, several deputies have resigned to take higher paying jobs and at the present time the Sheriff's Department is short one deputy. The current salary for a deputy is \$29,852 per year. In my opinion this low salary for deputies needs to be addressed by the residents of Coke County.

The Coke County Commissioners Court has a proposed budget for 2014-2015 fiscal year. This proposed budget does not include a raise of any kind for our deputies. There will be two public hearings before the proposed budget can be adopted. The two hearings must be held before October 1, 2014. It is my understanding that the first public hearing will be on Monday, August 25, 2014, and the second hearing will be on Tuesday, September 2, 2014. These public hearings are usually held in the afternoon or evening.

If Coke County residents would attend these public hearings like we do football and basketball games, the County Judge and County Commissioners would know that "We the People" have spoken. This is the only way to get their attention to do a better job for Coke County.

Please show your support for our Sheriff's Office by attending the public hearings and voicing your opinion and asking questions.

Sincerely
Lee Wommack
Bronte, Texas

Included Inside...

- A description of the benefits and services provided by each taxing entity and their tax bases.
- A look at the different types of taxation.
- Public Notices announcing tax rates and public hearings for several local entities including:

West Coke County
Hospital District

Bronte ISD

Robert Lee ISD

Coke County

Coke County Underground Water District