



**GLENN HEGAR** TEXAS COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

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P.O.Box 13528 • Austin, TX 78711-3528

July 15, 2016

Randy Burks  
Superintendent  
Snyder Independent School District  
2901 37th Street  
Snyder, Texas 79549

Dear Superintendent Burks:

On May 10, 2016, the Comptroller issued written notice that Dermott Wind, LLC (the applicant) submitted a completed application (Application #1128) for a limitation on appraised value under the provisions of Tax Code Chapter 313<sup>1</sup>. This application was originally submitted on March 10, 2016, to the Snyder Independent School District (the school district) by the applicant.

This presents the results of the Comptroller's review of the application and determinations required:

- 1) under Section 313.025(h) to determine if the property meets the requirements of Section 313.024 for eligibility for a limitation on appraised value under Chapter 313, Subchapter C; and
- 2) under Section 313.025(d), to issue a certificate for a limitation on appraised value of the property and provide the certificate to the governing body of the school district or provide the governing body a written explanation of the comptroller's decision not to issue a certificate, using the criteria set out in Section 313.026.

**Determination required by 313.025(h)**

Sec. 313.024 (a)	Applicant is subject to tax imposed by Chapter 171.
Sec. 313.024 (b)	Applicant is proposing to use the property for an eligible project.
Sec. 313.024 (d)	Applicant has requested a waiver to create the required number of new qualifying jobs and pay all jobs created that are not qualifying jobs a wage that exceeds the county average weekly wage for all jobs in the county where the jobs are located.
Sec. 313.024(d-2)	Not applicable to Application #1128.

Based on the information provided by the applicant, the Comptroller has determined that the property meets the requirements of Section 313.024 for eligibility for a limitation on appraised value under Chapter 313, Subchapter C.

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<sup>1</sup> All statutory references are to the Texas Tax Code, unless otherwise noted.

**Certificate decision required by 313.025(d)**

Determination required by 313.026(c) (1)

The Comptroller has determined that the project proposed by the applicant is reasonably likely to generate tax revenue in an amount sufficient to offset the school district maintenance and operations ad valorem tax revenue lost as a result of the agreement before the 25th anniversary of the beginning of the limitation period. See Attachment B.

Determination required by 313.026(c) (2)

The Comptroller has determined that the limitation on appraised value is a determining factor in the applicant's decision to invest capital and construct the project in this state. See Attachment C.

Based on these determinations, the Comptroller issues a certificate for a limitation on appraised value. This certificate is contingent on the school district's receipt and acceptance of the Texas Education Agency's determination per 313.025(b-1).

The Comptroller's review of the application assumes the accuracy and completeness of the statements in the application. If the application is approved by the school district, the applicant shall perform according to the provisions of the Texas Economic Development Act Agreement (Form 50-826) executed with the school district. The school district shall comply with and enforce the stipulations, provisions, terms, and conditions of the agreement, applicable Texas Administrative Code and Chapter 313, per TAC 9.1054(i)(3).

This certificate is no longer valid if the application is modified, the information presented in the application changes, or the limitation agreement does not conform to the application. Additionally, this certificate is contingent on the school district approving and executing the agreement by December 31, 2016.

Note that any building or improvement existing as of the application review start date of May 10, 2016, or any tangible personal property placed in service prior to that date may not become "Qualified Property" as defined by 313.021(2) and the Texas Administrative Code.

Should you have any questions, please contact Will Counihan, Director, Data Analysis & Transparency, by email at [Will.Counihan@cpa.texas.gov](mailto:Will.Counihan@cpa.texas.gov) or by phone at 1-800-531-5441, ext. 6-0758, or direct in Austin at 512 936-0758.

Sincerely,



Mike Reissig  
Deputy Comptroller

Enclosure  
cc: Will Counihan

## Attachment A – Economic Impact Analysis

The following tables summarize the Comptroller’s economic impact analysis of Dermott Wind, LLC (the project) applying to Snyder Independent School District (the district), as required by Tax Code, 313.026 and Texas Administrative Code 9.1055(d) (2).

**Table 1** is a summary of investment, employment and tax impact of Dermott Wind, LLC.

Applicant	Dermott Wind, LLC
Tax Code, 313.024 Eligibility Category	Renewable Energy Eletric Generation
School District	Snyder ISD
Estimated 2014-2015 Average Daily Attendance	2,603
County	Scurry
Proposed Total Investment in District	\$322,678,434
Proposed Qualified Investment	\$321,678,432
Limitation Amount	\$30,000,000
Qualifying Time Period (Full Years)	2017-2018
Number of new qualifying jobs committed to by applicant*	6
Number of new non-qualifying jobs estimated by applicant	0
Average weekly wage of qualifying jobs committed to by applicant	\$865
Minimum weekly wage required for each qualifying job by Tax Code, 313.021(5)B	\$854
Minimum annual wage committed to by applicant for qualified jobs	\$45,000
Minimum weekly wage required for non-qualifying jobs	\$1,045
Minimum annual wage required for non-qualifying jobs	\$54,314
Investment per Qualifying Job	\$53,779,739
Estimated M&O levy without any limit (15 years)	\$33,147,549
Estimated M&O levy with Limitation (15 years)	\$10,976,379
Estimated gross M&O tax benefit (15 years)	\$22,171,171
<i>* Applicant is requesting district to waive requirement to create minimum number of qualifying jobs pursuant to Tax Code, 313.025 (f-1).</i>	

**Table 2** is the estimated statewide economic impact of Dermott Wind, LLC (modeled).

Year	Employment			Personal Income		
	Direct	Indirect + Induced	Total	Direct	Indirect + Induced	Total
2015	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2016	10	9	19	\$400,000	\$600,000	\$1,000,000
2017	200	177	377	\$8,000,000	\$14,000,000	\$22,000,000
2018	6	17	23	\$270,000	\$3,730,000	\$4,000,000
2019	6	15	21	\$270,000	\$2,730,000	\$3,000,000
2020	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000
2021	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000
2022	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000
2023	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000
2024	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000
2025	6	17	23	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000
2026	6	12	18	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000
2027	6	15	21	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000
2028	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000
2029	6	6	12	\$270,000	\$730,000	\$1,000,000
2030	6	4	10	\$270,000	\$730,000	\$1,000,000

Source: CPA, REMI, Dermott Wind, LLC

**Table 3** examines the estimated direct impact on ad valorem taxes to the region if all taxes are assessed.

Year	Estimated Taxable Value for I&S	Estimated Taxable Value for M&O	Tax Rate <sup>1</sup>	Snyder ISD I&S Tax Levy	Snyder ISD M&O Tax Levy	Snyder ISD M&O and I&S Tax Levies	Scurry County Tax Levy	Scurry County Hospital District Tax Levy	Western Texas College Tax Levy	Estimated Total Property Taxes
				0.1240	1.0400		0.3127	0.2064	0.2457	
2018	\$316,244,863	\$316,244,863		\$392,144	\$3,288,947	\$3,681,090	\$988,898	\$652,729	\$777,014	\$6,099,731
2019	\$297,270,172	\$297,270,172		\$368,615	\$3,091,610	\$3,460,225	\$929,564	\$613,566	\$730,393	\$5,733,747
2020	\$279,433,961	\$279,433,961		\$346,498	\$2,906,113	\$3,252,611	\$873,790	\$576,752	\$686,569	\$5,389,722
2021	\$262,667,924	\$262,667,924		\$325,708	\$2,731,746	\$3,057,455	\$821,363	\$542,147	\$645,375	\$5,066,339
2022	\$246,907,848	\$246,907,848		\$306,166	\$2,567,842	\$2,874,007	\$772,081	\$509,618	\$606,653	\$4,762,359
2023	\$232,093,377	\$232,093,377		\$287,796	\$2,413,771	\$2,701,567	\$725,756	\$479,041	\$570,253	\$4,476,617
2024	\$218,167,775	\$218,167,775		\$270,528	\$2,268,945	\$2,539,473	\$682,211	\$450,298	\$536,038	\$4,208,020
2025	\$205,077,708	\$205,077,708		\$254,296	\$2,132,808	\$2,387,105	\$641,278	\$423,280	\$503,876	\$3,955,539
2026	\$192,773,046	\$192,773,046		\$239,039	\$2,004,840	\$2,243,878	\$602,801	\$397,884	\$473,643	\$3,718,207
2027	\$181,206,663	\$181,206,663		\$224,696	\$1,884,549	\$2,109,246	\$566,633	\$374,011	\$445,225	\$3,495,114
2028	\$170,334,263	\$170,334,263		\$211,214	\$1,771,476	\$1,982,691	\$532,635	\$351,570	\$418,511	\$3,285,407
2029	\$160,114,207	\$160,114,207		\$198,542	\$1,665,188	\$1,863,729	\$500,677	\$330,476	\$393,401	\$3,088,283
2030	\$150,507,355	\$150,507,355		\$186,629	\$1,565,276	\$1,751,906	\$470,636	\$310,647	\$369,797	\$2,902,986
2031	\$141,476,914	\$141,476,914		\$175,431	\$1,471,360	\$1,646,791	\$442,398	\$292,008	\$347,609	\$2,728,807
2032	\$132,988,299	\$132,988,299		\$164,905	\$1,383,078	\$1,547,984	\$415,854	\$274,488	\$326,752	\$2,565,078
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,952,208</b>	<b>\$33,147,549</b>	<b>\$37,099,757</b>	<b>\$9,966,576</b>	<b>\$6,578,514</b>	<b>\$7,831,109</b>	<b>\$61,475,955</b>

Source: CPA, Dermott Wind, LLC

<sup>1</sup>Tax Rate per \$100 Valuation

**Table 4** examines the estimated direct impact on ad valorem taxes to the school district and Scurry County, with all property tax incentives sought being granted using estimated market value from the application. The project has applied for a value limitation under Chapter 313, Tax Code and tax abatement with the Scurry County, Scurry County Hospital District and Western Texas College.

The difference noted in the last line is the difference between the totals in Table 3 and Table 4.

Table 4 Estimated Direct Ad Valorem Taxes with all property tax incentives sought										
Year	Estimated Taxable Value for I&S	Estimated Taxable Value for M&O		Snyder ISD I&S Tax Levy	Snyder ISD M&O Tax Levy	Snyder ISD M&O and I&S Tax Levies	Scurry County Tax Levy	Scurry County Hospital District Tax Levy	Western Texas College Tax Levy	Estimated Total Property Taxes
			Tax Rate <sup>1</sup>	0.1240	1.0400		0.3127	0.2064	0.2457	
2018	\$316,244,863	\$30,000,000		\$392,144	\$312,000	\$704,144	\$253,000	\$202,400	\$258,060	\$1,417,604
2019	\$297,270,172	\$30,000,000		\$368,615	\$312,000	\$680,615	\$253,000	\$202,400	\$258,060	\$1,394,075
2020	\$279,433,961	\$30,000,000		\$346,498	\$312,000	\$658,498	\$253,000	\$202,400	\$258,060	\$1,371,958
2021	\$262,667,924	\$30,000,000		\$325,708	\$312,000	\$637,708	\$253,000	\$202,400	\$258,060	\$1,351,168
2022	\$246,907,848	\$30,000,000		\$306,166	\$312,000	\$618,166	\$253,000	\$202,400	\$258,060	\$1,331,626
2023	\$232,093,377	\$30,000,000		\$287,796	\$312,000	\$599,796	\$253,000	\$202,400	\$258,060	\$1,313,256
2024	\$218,167,775	\$30,000,000		\$270,528	\$312,000	\$582,528	\$253,000	\$202,400	\$258,060	\$1,295,988
2025	\$205,077,708	\$30,000,000		\$254,296	\$312,000	\$566,296	\$253,000	\$202,400	\$258,060	\$1,279,756
2026	\$192,773,046	\$30,000,000		\$239,039	\$312,000	\$551,039	\$253,000	\$202,400	\$258,060	\$1,264,499
2027	\$181,206,663	\$30,000,000		\$224,696	\$312,000	\$536,696	\$230,000	\$202,400	\$258,060	\$1,227,156
2028	\$170,334,263	\$170,334,263		\$211,214	\$1,771,476	\$1,982,691	\$532,635	\$351,570	\$418,511	\$3,285,407
2029	\$160,114,207	\$160,114,207		\$198,542	\$1,665,188	\$1,863,729	\$500,677	\$330,476	\$393,401	\$3,088,283
2030	\$150,507,355	\$150,507,355		\$186,629	\$1,565,276	\$1,751,906	\$470,636	\$310,647	\$369,797	\$2,902,986
2031	\$141,476,914	\$141,476,914		\$175,431	\$1,471,360	\$1,646,791	\$442,398	\$292,008	\$347,609	\$2,728,807
2032	\$132,988,299	\$132,988,299		\$164,905	\$1,383,078	\$1,547,984	\$415,854	\$274,488	\$326,752	\$2,565,078
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,952,208</b>	<b>\$10,976,379</b>	<b>\$14,928,587</b>	<b>\$4,869,202</b>	<b>\$3,583,189</b>	<b>\$4,436,669</b>	<b>\$27,817,647</b>
			<b>Diff</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$22,171,171</b>	<b>\$22,171,171</b>	<b>\$5,097,374</b>	<b>\$2,995,325</b>	<b>\$3,394,439</b>	<b>\$33,658,309</b>

Source: CPA, Dermott Wind, LLC

<sup>1</sup>Tax Rate per \$100 Valuation

**Disclaimer:** This examination is based on information from the application submitted to the school district and forwarded to the comptroller. It is intended to meet the statutory requirement of Chapter 313 of the Tax Code and is not intended for any other purpose.

## Attachment B – Tax Revenue before 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Limitation Start

This represents the Comptroller’s determination that Dermott Wind, LLC (project) is reasonably likely to generate, before the 25th anniversary of the beginning of the limitation period, tax revenue in an amount sufficient to offset the school district maintenance and operations ad valorem tax revenue lost as a result of the agreement. This evaluation is based on an analysis of the estimated M&O portion of the school district property tax levy and direct, indirect and induced tax effects from project employment directly related to this project, using estimated taxable values provided in the application.

	Tax Year	Estimated ISD M&O Tax Levy Generated (Annual)	Estimated ISD M&O Tax Levy Generated (Cumulative)	Estimated ISD M&O Tax Levy Loss as Result of Agreement (Annual)	Estimated ISD M&O Tax Levy Loss as Result of Agreement (Cumulative)
<b>Limitation Pre-Years</b>	2014	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2015	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2016	\$4,828	\$4,828	\$0	\$0
<b>Limitation Period (10 Years)</b>	2017	\$312,000	\$316,828	\$2,976,947	\$2,976,947
	2018	\$312,000	\$628,828	\$2,779,610	\$5,756,556
	2019	\$312,000	\$940,828	\$2,594,113	\$8,350,670
	2020	\$312,000	\$1,252,828	\$2,419,746	\$10,770,416
	2021	\$312,000	\$1,564,828	\$2,255,842	\$13,026,258
	2022	\$312,000	\$1,876,828	\$2,101,771	\$15,128,029
	2023	\$312,000	\$2,188,828	\$1,956,945	\$17,084,974
	2024	\$312,000	\$2,500,828	\$1,820,808	\$18,905,782
	2025	\$312,000	\$2,812,828	\$1,692,840	\$20,598,621
	2026	\$312,000	\$3,124,828	\$1,572,549	\$22,171,171
<b>Maintain Viable Presence (5 Years)</b>	2027	\$1,771,476	\$4,896,304	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2028	\$1,665,188	\$6,561,492	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2029	\$1,565,276	\$8,126,768	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2030	\$1,471,360	\$9,598,128	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2031	\$1,383,078	\$10,981,207	\$0	\$22,171,171
<b>Additional Years as Required by 313.026(c)(1) (10 Years)</b>	2032	\$1,300,094	\$12,281,300	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2033	\$1,222,088	\$13,503,388	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2034	\$1,148,763	\$14,652,151	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2035	\$1,079,837	\$15,731,988	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2036	\$1,015,047	\$16,747,035	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2037	\$911,040	\$17,658,075	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2038	\$911,040	\$18,569,115	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2039	\$911,040	\$19,480,155	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2040	\$911,040	\$20,391,195	\$0	\$22,171,171
	2041	\$911,040	\$21,302,235	\$0	\$22,171,171
		<b>\$21,302,235</b>	is less than	<b>\$22,171,171</b>	

<b>Analysis Summary</b>	
Is the project reasonably likely to generate tax revenue in an amount sufficient to offset the M&O levy loss as a result of the limitation agreement?	No

NOTE: The analysis above only takes into account this project's estimated impact on the M&O portion of the school district property tax levy directly related to this project.

Source: CPA, Dermott Wind, LLC

**Disclaimer:** This examination is based on information from the application submitted to the school district and forwarded to the comptroller. It is intended to meet the statutory requirement of Chapter 313 of the Tax Code and is not intended for any other purpose.

Year	Employment			Personal Income			Revenue & Expenditure		
	Direct	Indirect + Induced	Total	Direct	Indirect + Induced	Total	Revenue	Expenditure	Net Tax Effect
2015	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	0	\$0
2016	10	9	19	\$400,000	\$600,000	\$1,000,000	53405.8	53405.8	\$0
2017	200	177	377	\$8,000,000	\$14,000,000	\$22,000,000	1190185.5	-671386.7	\$1,861,572
2018	6	17	23	\$270,000	\$3,730,000	\$4,000,000	167846.7	251770	-\$83,923
2019	6	15	21	\$270,000	\$2,730,000	\$3,000,000	144958.5	244140.6	-\$99,182
2020	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000	129699.7	228881.8	-\$99,182
2021	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000	122070.3	198364.3	-\$76,294
2022	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000	106811.5	183105.5	-\$76,294
2023	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000	91552.7	160217.3	-\$68,665
2024	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000	137329.1	152587.9	-\$15,259
2025	6	17	23	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000	129699.7	122070.3	\$7,629
2026	6	12	18	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000	129699.7	114440.9	\$15,259
2027	6	15	21	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000	129699.7	61035.2	\$68,665
2028	6	10	16	\$270,000	\$1,730,000	\$2,000,000	76293.9	53405.8	\$22,888
2029	6	6	12	\$270,000	\$730,000	\$1,000,000	53405.8	53405.8	\$0
2030	6	4	10	\$270,000	\$730,000	\$1,000,000	53405.8	22888.2	\$30,518
2031	6	2	8	\$270,000	\$730,000	\$1,000,000	30517.6	-22888.2	\$53,406
2032	6	6	12	\$270,000	-\$270,000	\$0	15258.8	-38147	\$53,406
2033	6	0	6	\$270,000	\$730,000	\$1,000,000	0	-91552.7	\$91,553
2034	6	0	6	\$270,000	-\$270,000	\$0	-45776.4	-99182.1	\$53,406
2035	6	(2)	4	\$270,000	-\$270,000	\$0	-76293.9	-114440.9	\$38,147
2036	6	(6)	0	\$270,000	-\$270,000	\$0	-91552.7	-198364.3	\$106,812
2037	6	(2)	4	\$270,000	-\$270,000	\$0	-99182.1	-213623	\$114,441
2038	6	(4)	2	\$270,000	-\$1,270,000	-\$1,000,000	-122070.3	-259399.4	\$137,329
2039	6	(6)	0	\$270,000	-\$270,000	\$0	-122070.3	-305175.8	\$183,106
2040	6	(6)	0	\$270,000	-\$1,270,000	-\$1,000,000	-167846.7	-366210.9	\$198,364
2041	6	(4)	2	\$270,000	-\$1,270,000	-\$1,000,000	-198364.3	-411987.3	\$213,623
2042	6	(10)	-4	\$270,000	-\$1,270,000	-\$1,000,000	-213623	-419616.7	\$205,994
<b>Total</b>							<b>\$1,625,061</b>	<b>-\$1,312,256</b>	<b>\$2,937,317</b>
							<b>\$24,239,552</b>	is greater than	<b>\$22,171,171</b>

**Analysis Summary**

Is the project reasonably likely to generate tax revenue in an amount sufficient to offset the M&O levy loss as a result of the limitation agreement?

Yes

## **Attachment C – Limitation as a Determining Factor**

Tax Code 313.026 states that the Comptroller may not issue a certificate for a limitation on appraised value under this chapter for property described in an application unless the comptroller determines that “the limitation on appraised value is a determining factor in the applicant’s decision to invest capital and construct the project in this state.” This represents the basis for the Comptroller’s determination.

### **Methodology**

Texas Administrative Code 9.1055(d) states the Comptroller shall review any information available to the Comptroller including:

- the application, including the responses to the questions in Section 8 (Limitation as a Determining Factor);
- public documents or statements by the applicant concerning business operations or site location issues or in which the applicant is a subject;
- statements by officials of the applicant, public documents or statements by governmental or industry officials concerning business operations or site location issues;
- existing investment and operations at or near the site or in the state that may impact the proposed project;
- announced real estate transactions, utility records, permit requests, industry publications or other sources that may provide information helpful in making the determination; and
- market information, raw materials or other production inputs, availability, existing facility locations, committed incentives, infrastructure issues, utility issues, location of buyers, nature of market, supply chains, other known sites under consideration.

### **Determination**

The Comptroller has determined that the limitation on appraised value is a determining factor in the Dermott Wind LLC’s decision to invest capital and construct the project in this state. This is based on information available, including information provided by the applicant. Specifically, the comptroller notes the following:

- Per the applicant in Tab 5 of the application:
  - a) Dermott Wind, LLC is a national wind developer with the ability to locate projects of this type in other states within the United States and other regions within Texas with favorable wind characteristics.
  - a) The applicant is actively assessing and developing other projects outside of Texas that are competing for limited investment funds. These include Oklahoma, Nebraska, Indian, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, New Mexico, Arkansas, Alabama and Mississippi.
  - b) Dermott Wind, LLC has entered into a number of contracts related to the project, including long-term lease option agreements with area landowners and service agreements and scopes with various consultants (environmental, airspace, etc.) to assess the suitability of the site, and a request for studies leading to an interconnection agreement with the transmission provider. None of these contracts obligate the applicant to construct the project.
  - c) Without the available tax incentives, the economics of the project become far less attractive and the likelihood of selling the electricity at a competitive price will significantly decrease.

- d) Without the limitation approval, the applicant would likely terminate the project, including the aforementioned contracts, leases, and limited improvements, in order to reallocate resources in areas with more favorable economics.
- e) The appraised value limitation is critical to the ability of the project to move forward as currently sited.
- Per Comptroller research:
  - a) On December 17, 2015, *Electric Energy online.com* reported that, Electric Transmission Texas, LLC (ETT) has energized the last of seven 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line projects associated with the Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ) initiative in west Texas. One of the transmission lines is the Clear Crossing to Dermott, a 90.1 miles line from the Stamford area in Haskell County the Snyder Area in Scurry County at a cost of approximately \$189.2 million.
  - b) On March 15, 2016, the *Snyder Daily News* reported that the Scurry Commissioners Court agreed to a 10 year abatement agreement in which Dermott Wind, LLC will make payments in lieu of taxes. Dermott Wind will pay a minimum of \$175,000 per year for the first five years and \$274,000 per year for the second five years.
  - c) April 12, 2016, the *Snyder Daily News* reported that a representative of Lincoln Clean Energy said the company has leased 37,000 acres and is expected to commence construction in November, 2016.
  - d) April 27, 2016, the *Snyder Daily News* reported that, the Scurry County Hospital District board of directors approved a 10 year payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreement with Dermott Wind, LLC. Chief Financial Officer John Everett said that the PILOT agreement calls for the district to receive \$160,000 per year. After the 10 year agreement expires, the wind farm will return to the tax roll.

### **Supporting Information**

- a) Section 8 of the Application for a Limitation on Appraised Value
- b) Attachments provided in Tab 5 of the Application for a Limitation on Appraised Value
- c) Additional information provided by the Applicant or located by the Comptroller

**Disclaimer:** This examination is based on information from the application submitted to the school district and forwarded to the comptroller. It is intended to meet the statutory requirement of Chapter 313 of the Tax Code and is not intended for any other purpose.

# **Supporting Information**

**Section 8 of the Application for  
a Limitation on Appraised Value**

**SECTION 6: Eligibility Under Tax Code Chapter 313.024**

1. Are you an entity subject to the tax under Tax Code, Chapter 171?  Yes  No
2. The property will be used for one of the following activities:
  - (1) manufacturing  Yes  No
  - (2) research and development  Yes  No
  - (3) a clean coal project, as defined by Section 5.001, Water Code  Yes  No
  - (4) an advanced clean energy project, as defined by Section 382.003, Health and Safety Code  Yes  No
  - (5) renewable energy electric generation  Yes  No
  - (6) electric power generation using integrated gasification combined cycle technology  Yes  No
  - (7) nuclear electric power generation  Yes  No
  - (8) a computer center that is used as an integral part or as a necessary auxiliary part for the activity conducted by applicant in one or more activities described by Subdivisions (1) through (7)  Yes  No
  - (9) a Texas Priority Project, as defined by 313.024(e)(7) and TAC 9.1051  Yes  No
3. Are you requesting that any of the land be classified as qualified investment?  Yes  No
4. Will any of the proposed qualified investment be leased under a capitalized lease?  Yes  No
5. Will any of the proposed qualified investment be leased under an operating lease?  Yes  No
6. Are you including property that is owned by a person other than the applicant?  Yes  No
7. Will any property be pooled or proposed to be pooled with property owned by the applicant in determining the amount of your qualified investment?  Yes  No

**SECTION 7: Project Description**

1. In Tab 4, attach a detailed description of the scope of the proposed project, including, at a minimum, the type and planned use of real and tangible personal property, the nature of the business, a timeline for property construction or installation, and any other relevant information.
2. Check the project characteristics that apply to the proposed project:
 

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land has no existing improvements	<input type="checkbox"/> Land has existing improvements (complete Section 13)
<input type="checkbox"/> Expansion of existing operation on the land (complete Section 13)	<input type="checkbox"/> Relocation within Texas

**SECTION 8: Limitation as Determining Factor**

1. Does the applicant currently own the land on which the proposed project will occur?  Yes  No
2. Has the applicant entered into any agreements, contracts or letters of intent related to the proposed project?  Yes  No
3. Does the applicant have current business activities at the location where the proposed project will occur?  Yes  No
4. Has the applicant made public statements in SEC filings or other documents regarding its intentions regarding the proposed project location?  Yes  No
5. Has the applicant received any local or state permits for activities on the proposed project site?  Yes  No
6. Has the applicant received commitments for state or local incentives for activities at the proposed project site?  Yes  No
7. Is the applicant evaluating other locations not in Texas for the proposed project?  Yes  No
8. Has the applicant provided capital investment or return on investment information for the proposed project in comparison with other alternative investment opportunities?  Yes  No
9. Has the applicant provided information related to the applicant's inputs, transportation and markets for the proposed project?  Yes  No
10. Are you submitting information to assist in the determination as to whether the limitation on appraised value is a determining factor in the applicant's decision to invest capital and construct the project in Texas?  Yes  No

Chapter 313.026(e) states "the applicant may submit information to the Comptroller that would provide a basis for an affirmative determination under Subsection (c)(2)." If you answered "yes" to any of the questions in Section 8, attach supporting information in Tab 5.

# **Supporting Information**

**Attachments provided in Tab 5  
of the Application for a  
Limitation on Appraised Value**

## Tab Item 5

### **Documentation to assist in determining if limitation is a determining factor:**

The Applicant for this Project has entered into a number of contracts related to the project, including long-term lease option agreements with area landowners and service agreements and scopes with various consultants (environmental, airspace, etc.) to assess the suitability of the site, and a request for studies leading to an interconnection agreement with the transmission provider. None of these contracts obligate Applicant to construct the Project.

In order for the project to qualify for the federal income tax Production Tax Credit (PTC), the Applicant was required to complete a minimum amount of PTC qualification work before the statutorily imposed deadline of December 31, 2015. This work consisted of earth-moving to prepare two holes for turbine foundations (though foundations were not installed) and installation of approximately 2,000 linear feet of road connecting the two foundation holes. These were not deemed taxable improvements by the Scurry County Central Appraisal District and no tax bill was delivered.

The Applicant is a national wind developer with the ability to locate projects of this type in other states within the United States and other regions within Texas with favorable wind characteristics. The Applicant is actively assessing and developing other projects outside of Texas that are competing for limited investment funds. This appraised value limitation is critical to the ability of the Project to move forward as currently sited.

Without the available tax incentives, the economics of the Project become far less attractive and the likelihood of selling the electricity at a competitive price will significantly decrease. The Applicant for this project is competing against other developers who have been offered or are in the process of applying for Value Limitation Agreements with other school districts. Obtaining the limitation is critical to the economic and competitive viability of this Project. Without the limitation approval, the Applicant would likely terminate the Project, including the aforementioned contracts, leases, and limited improvements, in order to reallocate resources in areas with more favorable economics.

# **Supporting Information**

**Additional information  
provided by the Applicant or  
located by the Comptroller**

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## **Electric Transmission Texas energizes last of seven CREZ transmission lines in west Texas**

December 17, 2015

The overall CREZ initiative involves nine different transmission service providers, including ETT, constructing 2,400 miles of transmission lines to carry 18,500 megawatts of west Texas wind generation to major load centers in ERCOT.

Electric Transmission Texas, LLC (ETT) has energized the last of seven 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line projects associated with the Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ) initiative in west Texas.

The Edith Clarke to Cottonwood transmission line was energized to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) grid Dec. 4. The transmission line is 88.4 miles long and runs from the Crowell area in Foard County to the Afton area in Dickens County. This phase of the ETT CREZ program represents approximately \$175.4 million of ETT's estimated total CREZ investment of approximately \$1.5 billion.

Energizing the Edith Clarke to Cottonwood transmission line completes the last of the seven greenfield 345-kV transmission projects assigned to ETT as part of the CREZ initiative. The overall CREZ initiative involves nine different transmission service providers, including ETT, constructing 2,400 miles of transmission lines to carry 18,500 megawatts of west Texas wind generation to major load centers in ERCOT. All CREZ projects are scheduled for completion by the end of 2013. ETT received the second largest assignment of CREZ projects from the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT).

ETT, a joint venture between subsidiaries of AEP and MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company, received 20 percent of the Texas CREZ initiative. ETT's share of the CREZ project includes building approximately 460 miles of new double-circuit 345-kV lines, upgrading three 138-kV existing lines totaling 178 miles and 16 switching stations, as well as acquiring rights-of-way across 578 tracts of land and upgrading existing stations and transmission lines. It is the largest transmission construction venture in AEP's history, and one of its most demanding.

### **The other six 345-kV transmission lines include:**

- Riley to Edith Clarke - a 41.5-mile line running from the Vernon area in Wilbarger County to the Crowell area in Foard County at a cost of approximately \$91.8 million
- Tesla to Riley - a 65.6-mile line from the Childress area in Childress County to the Vernon area in Wilbarger County at a cost of approximately \$134.5 million
- Tesla to Edith Clarke - a 55-mile line from the Vernon area in Wilbarger County to the Crowell area in Foard County at a cost of approximately \$98.3 million

- Edith Clarke to Clear Crossing - a 79.2-mile line from the Crowell area in Foard County to the Stamford area in Haskell County at a cost of approximately \$157.7 million
- Clear Crossing to Dermott - a 90.1-mile line from the Stamford area in Haskell County to the Snyder area in Scurry County at a cost of approximately \$189.2 million
- Clear Crossing to West Shackelford - a 33.7-mile line from the Stamford area in Haskell County to the Albany area in Shackelford County at a cost of approximately \$76.5 million.

"This truly is an example where the theme teamwork and technology' applies," said ETT President Calvin Crowder. "There were hundreds of employees and contractors from various companies and departments within the AEP organization working together to ensure that we completed these projects in advance of the 2013 year-end deadline set by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

"In addition to assigning ETT the second largest share of the transmission projects, the PUCT also assigned ETT the largest amount of advanced technology projects associated with the CREZ initiative," Crowder added. "Given that the ETT CREZ transmission projects are located in the center or backbone' of the area designated for development, ETT was charged with incorporating new technology that supports system stability as the power produced by wind generators in remote west Texas areas is carried long distances to the eastern areas of ERCOT."

### **For more information:**

#### **Organization:**

Electric Transmission Texas LLC

#### **Address:**

400 W 15th St

Austin, Texas

United States, 78701

[www.ettexas.com](http://www.ettexas.com)

Tel: 512-391-6301

# Snyder Daily News

Vol. 67 No. 272

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

8 Pages • 75¢

Home of  
Donald Hartzog



Yvette Villarreal  
U.S. Navy  
Operation Desert Storm/Shield

Today's Veterans sponsored by  
Nix's Auto & Tire Service  
1510 25th Street 573-3567

**INSIDE**  
College basketball  
tournaments schedules  
- See Page 5

**WEATHER**



Robert McComb  
Monday's high: 83 degrees  
Monday's low: 43 degrees  
7 a.m. reading today: 58 degrees  
Precipitation: None  
2016 precipitation: 0.83 of an inch

**TODAY'S QUOTE**  
One man with courage  
makes a majority.  
- Andrew Jackson

**FINANCES**

WT-Int. Crude	\$37.18
WTIC Posted	\$33.50
Natural Gas	\$1.82
Patterson-LTI	\$17.38
Oxy-Permian	\$67.60
Kinder Morgan	\$17.75

**LOTTERY**

Monday's Results  
Texas Two Step  
3-24-26-35 BB: 32

Cash Five  
13-15-16-26-36

Pick 3 Morning  
4-1-7 Sum It Up: 12

Pick 3 Day  
9-9-3 Sum It Up: 21

Pick 3 Evening  
6-8-8 Sum It Up: 22

Pick 3 Night  
3-1-3 Sum It Up: 7

Daily 4 Morning  
6-1-2-6 Sum It Up: 15

Daily 4 Day  
8-2-5-8 Sum It Up: 23

Daily 4 Evening  
7-8-4-1 Sum It Up: 20

Daily 4 Night  
9-9-7-9 Sum It Up: 34

**Ask Us**  
Q — When is the District 2-4A track meet?  
A — Snyder will host the District 2-4A track meet on April 12 and April 14

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## Taking a swing



Noah Preston was among the first children who got to swing a bat at a piñata Monday afternoon at the Scurry County Museum.

SDN Photo/Shirley A. Gorman

## Commissioners OK Dermott wind farm tax abatement

The Scurry County Commissioners approved and adopted an adjustment to the county's investment policy, adding Texas Class in addition to keeping TexPool County Treasurer Nelda Colvin said Texas Class has a better interest rate than TexPool and said it would be helpful for the treasurer's office.

The court proclaimed March to be National Piñata Month in Scurry County. The court also accepted donations to the Scurry County Library and Scurry County Senior Citizens' Center.

The court approved a \$3,000 line-item transfer for the Scurry County Senior Citizens' Center from utilities to maintenance; repair and miscellaneous expenses to pay for major plumbing repairs, an oven and an air conditioning/heating unit.

The court opened six bids for the general contractor on the Cavender Road project. No action was taken on the bids. The bids will be considered and discussed at a future meeting.

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The court opened six bids for the general contractor on the Cavender Road project. No action was taken on the bids. The bids will be considered and discussed at a future meeting.

See Abatement, Page 8

## Seven people given prison sentences by Armstrong

Seven people are headed to prison after appearing in District Judge Ernie B. Armstrong's courtroom recently.

Paul Eugene Anderson, 43, of Snyder, had his probation on burglary of a building and possession of a controlled substance revoked after he was found in possession of a firearm on Sept. 6.

He had originally been given a two-year sentence, probated five years, and was ordered to pay a \$1,500 fine and \$610 in court and attorney fees, as well as participate in the TAIP program.

His probation on the drug charge was revoked after he broke into a habitation and attempted to steal a shotgun, television, jewelry and tools from his victim on Sept. 9.

On that original possession of a controlled substance charge, Anderson was given a two-year sentence, probated five years, and ordered to pay a \$1,500 fine, \$180 in restitution and \$610 in court and attorney fees.

Those two-year sentences will be served concurrently.

Anderson was given a five-year sentence after he entered a guilty plea to a third-degree felony charge of unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

He was also ordered to pay a \$1,500 fine and \$909 in court and attorney fees.

Anderson was caught in possession of a firearm on Sept. 6.

He will serve that five-year sentence after he completes his two-year sentences.

Anderson was also given a 10-year sentence, which he will serve concurrently with his five-year sentence, after pleading guilty to second-degree felony burglary of a habitation.

In addition to the sentence, he was ordered to pay a \$1,500 fine, \$950 in restitution and \$909 in court and attorney fees.

The charge stems from a September incident in which he attempted to steal a firearm from his victim.

Clint Thomas Purifoy, 36, of Odessa, was given a pair of sentences he will serve concurrently after entering guilty pleas.

On a third-degree felony charge of evading arrest, Purifoy was sentenced to

30 years. He was also ordered to pay \$919 in court and attorney fees.

On Nov. 18, 2014, Purifoy attempted to flee from a peace officer.

He was given a second 30-year sentence after pleading guilty to bail jumping/failure to appear, a third-degree felony, enhanced.

On that charge he was also ordered to pay \$909 in court and attorney fees.

Purifoy did not appear for a Jan. 10 court hearing.

He has previous convictions for burglary of a habitation in May 2002 in Ector County and December 2004 in Tom Green County.

Bartley Murl Goodman, 39, of Snyder, See Prison, Page 8

## Five acres burned



The Snyder Fire Department sent three trucks and 11 firefighters to fight a grass fire on FM 1606, five miles west of Ira, at 2:03 p.m. Monday. Deputy Fire Marshal Brad Bawcum said the fire burned about five acres and took the fire department about 30 minutes to get under control. A power line is believed to be the cause of the fire, Bawcum said.

SDN Photo/Glen Brockenbush

## Asphalt repairs scheduled on city streets this week

Sections of Austin Ave and 37th Street will be closed this week as asphalt repairs are made to the street surfaces, according to a press release from the City of Snyder.

Crews started making asphalt cut repairs Monday on Austin Ave, between 37th and 42nd streets, and on 37th Street, between Ave. V and El Paso Ave. The construction is scheduled to continue until Friday.

A new waterline is being installed on 32nd Street, between Beaumont Ave. and Ave. V. Installation began Monday and is expected to last until the end of the month.

From April 1-6, water lines will be tied in on 32nd Street, from Beaumont Ave. to Ave. V, causing residents in that area to be without water for about an hour while the service changes over.

## DCOS board to meet Wednesday

The Development Corporation of Snyder (DCOS) board of directors will meet Wednesday morning.

The board is scheduled to review financial information and hear Executive Director Bill Leters' monthly report.

A closed session to discuss real property and prospects is also scheduled. Any action needed from the closed session will be conducted in open session.

The meeting will begin at 7 a.m. in the DCOS boardroom located in the Prosperity Bank complex.

## States should not jail people over fine nonpayment, Justice Department says

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department is discouraging state court systems from jailing poor defendants who fail to pay fines or fees, warning against practices that it says run afoul of the Constitution and erode community trust.

A letter sent Monday by the federal government to state court administrators makes clear that judges should consider alternatives to jail, such as community service, for poor defendants who don't pay their fines.

It also stated judges must consider whether defendants have the ability to pay and should not turn to incarceration without first establishing that a missed payment was willful.

The memo arose after a December meeting convened by the Obama administration that brought together judges, court administrators, prosecutors and others to discuss improvements in how court fees and fines are assessed. The guidance comes amid concerns that some local courts are effectively punishing poor people for their poverty by imposing crippling fines and fees that, when unpaid, may result in jail time.

That practice was exposed last year in a federal report on the Ferguson, Mo. city government in which the Justice Department concluded that the municipal court levied exorbitant fines for petty offenses and routinely issued arrest warrants to residents who missed court appearances.

## Spring clean up



Adam Blume (l-r), Brittany Smith and Dylan Nobles helped pick up loose branches and twigs in the yard outside Scurry Community Services today. Scurry Community Services is asking volunteers to help spruce up the facility this week.

SDN Photo/Glen Brockenbush

# Snyder Daily News

Vol. 67 No. 296

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

8 Pages • 75¢

Home of  
Mark Whitmire



Bobby Goodwin  
U.S. Navy  
1956-59

Today's Veterans sponsored by  
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## WEATHER



Nicolas Malmsten

Monday's high: 80 degrees  
Monday's low: 49 degrees  
7 a.m. reading today: 50 degrees  
Precipitation: None  
2016 precipitation: 1.56 inches

## TODAY'S QUOTE

Don't be afraid to expand yourself, to step out of your comfort zone. That's where the joy and the adventure lie.  
- Herbie Hancock

## CORRECTION

In the weekend edition, Snyder Deputy Fire Marshal Nathan Hines was misidentified as fellow Deputy Fire Marshal Brad Bawcum in a front page outline. The *Snyder Daily News* apologizes for the error.

## LOTTERY

Monday's Results  
Texas Two Step  
14-19-22-35 BB: 9

Cash Five  
3-19-30-32-33

Pick 3 Morning  
6-2-4 Sum It Up: 12

Pick 3 Day  
5-2-4 Sum It Up: 11

Pick 3 Evening  
9-4-5 Sum It Up: 18

Pick 3 Night  
6-6-1 Sum It Up: 13

Daily 4 Morning  
2-0-4-8 Sum It Up: 14

Daily 4 Day  
9-6-9-4 Sum It Up: 26

Daily 4 Evening  
9-0-4-4 Sum It Up: 17

Daily 4 Night  
5-8-2-4 Sum It Up: 19

## ASK US

Q — Was a cause ever determined in the March 22 motor vehicle accident involving Snyder police Cpl. Trey Patrick?

A — Snyder Chief of Police Terry Luecke said Cpl. Patrick lost control of his vehicle after coughing.

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## Pct. 3 voters will cast ballots at county barn

All Scurry County voters who live in Pct. 3 will vote at the county barn on election day during the May 24 runoff. County Clerk Melody Appleton said since a locally contested race is on the ballot, the Texas Secretary of State's office informed her that one voting location must be open in that precinct on election day. All voters who vote in Pct. 8, 9 and 10 will vote at the barn on election day, she said.

All other voters will cast ballots on the

first floor of the Scurry County Courthouse.

The Republican Party nomination for the Scurry County Commissioners' Court Pct. 3 seat will be determined between Shawn McCowen and Howard Limmer.

Glen Robertson and Jodey Arrington will meet for the Republican Party nomination for the District 19 U.S. House of Representatives seat.

No Democrats filed to run for either

office.

Other Republican Party runoffs will be for Railroad Commissioner (Gary Gates and Wayne Christian), the Place 2 seat on the Criminal Appeals Court (Mary Lou Keel and Ray Wheelless) and the Place 5 seat on the Court of Criminal Appeals (Scott Walker and Brent Webster).

The only Democratic Party runoff will be for Railroad Commissioner. Grady Yarbrough will face Cody Garratt. Appleton said since both parties will

have a runoff, voters may only cast ballots in the primary in which they voted in on March 1. Anyone who did not vote on March 1 is eligible to vote in the runoff they choose, she said.

All early voting will be held May 16-20 on the first floor of the courthouse from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

On May 24, both the barn and courthouse will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

To be eligible to vote in the election, a person must be registered by April 25.

## WTC board approves abatement application

The Western Texas College board of trustees, on Monday, approved a tax abatement contract with Lincoln Clean Energy, which will develop Dermott Wind, LLC.

Will Ferguson, who works in Lincoln Clean Energy's Austin office, said the company has leased 37,000 acres in the Dermott area and will build a wind farm that will have as many as 110 turbines. He said Lincoln Clean Energy is looking to install 2.3 megawatt turbines and construction should begin in November, with the farm being operational during the third quarter of 2017.

Ferguson said the proposed abatement would generate \$2.5 million for the college over the 10-year agreement, if approved by trustees next month.

Chief Financial Officer Patricia Claxton said the college will accept bids for its maintenance/custodial contract this year. Soleda is the current contractor and Claxton said other companies have expressed interest in submitting bids. She hopes to bring a recommendation for board approval during the July

11 meeting. Roy Bartels, chief technology and information security officer, informed the board that he will be reviewing proposals for the phone service. The college is currently paying \$8,000 per month for the service.

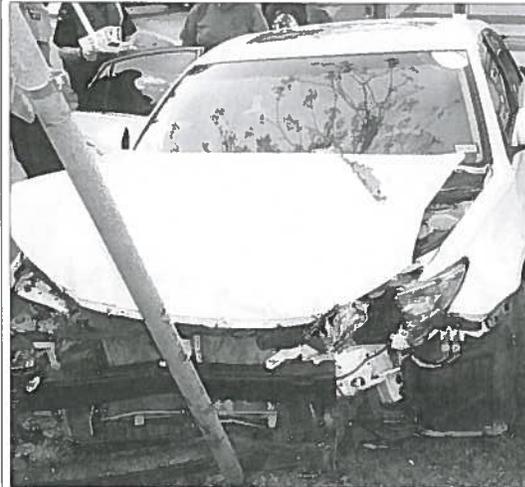
WTC President Dr. Barbara Beebe announced that Rep. Dustin Barrows, R-Lubbock, will be the commencement speaker at the May 6 ceremony at The Coliseum.

Trustees voted to cancel the May 7 election since there were no contested races. Incumbents Tim Riggan will represent Place 3 and Dr. Jay Kidd will represent Place 4.

Texas Association of School Board policy updates, the investment policy, which must be updated annually, and an updated mission statement/goals were approved.

Drew Bullard will represent trustees on the Scurry County Museum board of directors and Eddie Peterson will be the representative on the WTC Foundation board of directors. Mark McClain was also approved to serve on the foundation board.

## Two injured



Two people were transported to Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of 35th Street and Austin Ave. at 5:16 p.m. Monday.

SDN Photo/Glen Brockenbush

## Historical groups schedule community event to raise money

By Shirley A. Gorman  
SDN Features Editor

The Rosewood Chapel in Heritage Village on The Coliseum grounds is in need of repainting, but the coffers of Historic Scurry County, Inc. and the Scurry County Historical Commission have been depleted by other painting projects.

Repainting and repairing the Cornelius Dodson House and the Dermott School recently cost \$20,000, according to Elyndabeth Toland, president of Historic Scurry County, Inc.

She said they incurred additional expense because some of the wood on the Dodson House had rotted and needed to be replaced before it could be painted.

"The wood for the Dodson House had to be specially milled in Lubbock," Toland said. "That cost us \$2,500 and the process took six weeks."

Toland complimented the car-

entry work involved in replacing the damaged panels.

Before the first stroke of the paint brush could be applied, Toland said the wood on the house and school was scraped and primer was applied.

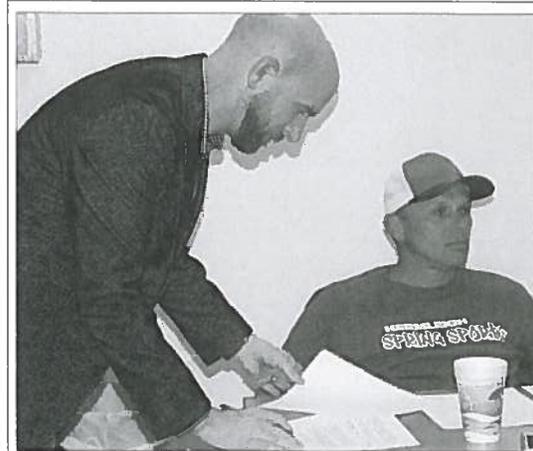
"That's what the experts at Southern Electric advised us to do. We didn't want to have to repaint the buildings anytime soon," Toland said.

Southern Electric also sold the paint to them at contractors' prices, which helped reduce the overall cost, she said.

With fresh coats of paint on the school and house, Toland said they are now looking to paint the chapel built by Bernhard Bartels in 2011. With their resources depleted, she said they began looking for ways to raise more money.

At the same time, some members of the historical organizations began downsizing their

See Funds, Page 2



New Hermleigh ISD Superintendent Brent Dawson (left) signed his contract after Monday's board of trustees meeting. Also pictured is board member Bubba Betts.

SDN Photo/Glen Brockenbush

## Hermleigh board finalizes contract with Dawson; Mallory resigns as AD

The Hermleigh ISD board of trustees finalized the contract of new Superintendent Brent Dawson during Monday's meeting.

Dawson, who was named the lone finalist on March 21, signed a two-year contract with an \$83,000 annual salary. Dawson, who is the current superintendent at Strawn ISD, will replace Ronnie Roemisch, who will retire after his contract expires on June 30.

Dawson said he is happy to have the contract finalized and is eager to get started.

"You're anxious and kind of nervous, but the main thing is you're excited," Dawson said. "I'm hoping to come back in May so I can start building relationships and familiarize myself with the community."

The board also accepted the resignations of pre-kindergarten teacher Karen Whittenburg, high school teacher Tracy Dickerhoff and football coach/athletic director Shane Mallory, who was hired as the new coach at Union Hill.

Mallory's letter of resignation, which he handed in on Thursday, stated he was not actively looking to leave Hermleigh, but was offered a job opportunity which would not likely be available in the next couple of years.

He led Hermleigh to a 10-2 record in 37 years and the school's first district championship in 2015 and first playoff win in 41 years.

The board also approved a \$13,000 request to move the electrical hookup for the school district's Internet equipment located at the former high school building to a tower located near the new facility.

The board approved an instructional material allotment and TEKS certifications for the 2016-17 school year.



Mallory

## Grand Champion anniversary screening moved to June 17-18

The 15th anniversary celebration of *Grand Champion* has been postponed, according to Barry Tubb, the writer, producer and director of the film.

Tubb said two outdoor screenings are now planned for Father's Day weekend, June 17-18. Each showing will begin at dusk at 1301 Ave. T.

Admission is by donation, Tubb said, and all proceeds will benefit the Scurry County Boys and Girls Club.

"Everyone will be welcome to the movie screenings, regardless of donation," Tubb said.

Children's activities will be held earlier in the day and a gospel brunch featuring barbecue prepared by Norman Malone will be served.

"Gospel singers are welcome to apply to perform on those dates," Tubb said.

He also encouraged moviegoers to bring blankets and lawn chairs.

Scurry County residents appeared in *Grand Champion*, which starred Emma Roberts, Julia Roberts, Bruce Willis, Jacob Fisher and Joey Lauren Ad-

See Screening, Page 2

# Snyder Daily News

Vol. 67 No. 309

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

8 Pages • 75¢

Home of  
Denise McCauley



Jesus Alonzo  
U.S. Navy  
1999-2008

Today's Veteran sponsored by  
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1510 25th Street 573-3567

## WEATHER



Stephanie Kirkland  
Tuesday's high: 89 degrees  
Tuesday's low: 54 degrees  
7 a.m. reading today: 54 degrees  
Precipitation: 0.02 of an inch  
2016 precipitation: 4.61 inches

## DECISION 2016

Snyder ISD Early Voting  
Through Tuesday, April 26  
Monday's Votes: 30  
Total Votes: 78  
Source: Snyder ISD

## CORRECTION

In Tuesday's edition, a headline was incorrect for the Ira Tahoka softball game story. The Lady Bulldogs defeated Tahoka. The *Snyder Daily News* apologizes for the mistake.

## LOTTERY

Tuesday's Results  
Mega Millions  
14-16-17-28-48 MB: 2  
Megaplier: 2

Cash Five  
2-13-17-28-37

Pick 3 Morning  
5-1-5 Sum It Up: 11

Pick 3 Day  
5-6-2 Sum It Up: 13

Pick 3 Evening  
4-3-2 Sum It Up: 9

Pick 3 Night  
2-6-6 Sum It Up: 16

Daily 4 Morning  
8-4-8-0 Sum It Up: 20

Daily 4 Day  
3-6-1-9 Sum It Up: 19

Daily 4 Evening  
0-9-1-2 Sum It Up: 12

Daily 4 Night  
6-6-8-8 Sum It Up: 28

## Ask Us

Q — Is the tank dam at the nature trail park leaking, and if so, are there any plans to fix it?

A — Scurry County Parks Superintendent Larry Thompson said the tank dam is seeping, but not leaking, and will not fail. Thompson said that tank dam, as well as the other tank dams in the county, have been seeping since about October and said there is "no fixing it."

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## Hospital board approves PILOT agreement

By Ben Barkley  
SDN Managing Editor

The Scurry County Hospital District board of directors approved a 10-year payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreement with Dermott Wind, LLC, which is being developed by Lincoln Clean Energy, during today's meeting.

Chief Financial Officer John Everett said the PILOT agreement calls for the district to receive \$160,000 per year. After the 10-year agreement expires, the wind farm will return to the tax roll, Everett said. Will Ferguson, who works in Lincoln Clean Energy's Austin office, previously said the company has leased 37,000 acres in

the Dermott area and will build a wind farm that will have as many as 110 turbines.

He said Lincoln Clean Energy is looking to install 2.3 megawatt turbines and construction should begin in November, with the farm being operational during the third quarter of 2017.

The board also approved moving

the 2015 fiscal year but the finance committee will not meet.

Board chairman Russell Riggan said appointments will need to be made to the finance committee since Job Bob Cave and Morris Light will no longer be on the board of directors.

The May 25 agenda will include appointing the committee and hearing the financial audit

for the 2015 fiscal year.

The board also approved several policy updates. They were for home health, nutritional service diet manual, menu changes, menu planning, patient food service, patient clean liquid diet, meal service to patients, suspected stroke and trauma team activation guidelines and activation levels.

## Job opportunities



Dr. Berry Jordan (right), the STEM grant project director at Western Texas College, discussed engineering projects to Snyder High School juniors (l-r) Zachary Patter, Jacob Gonzalez, Isidro Martinez and Howon Bang at the Jump Start Expo at The Coliseum today.

SDN Photo/Glen Brockenbush

## Trustees recess talks on football coach; no decision made

The Snyder ISD board of trustees held a nearly 90-minute closed session today, to discuss the vacant head football coach/athletic director position, then recessed without making a decision.

Board chairman Ronnie Anderson and the board returned from the closed session to announce the meeting was recessed until 2:45 p.m. because board member Jim Drake had a prior engagement.

Anderson said the board would meet at 2:45 p.m. and convene in closed session to continue the discussions.

Any action needed from the talks in closed session will be done in open session.

The board and Superintendent Jim Kirkland met in closed session to hear the administration's recommendation for James Polk's replacement.

The *Snyder Daily News* will publish the board's decision on its website, as well as the newspaper's Facebook and Twitter pages, once the meeting concludes.

The district paid search firm Champion \$5,000 to help compile and screen applicants.

Kirkland interviewed seven candidates for the position last week when James Polk resigned to take a similar position at Gainesville ISD.

Polk was the head coach for two seasons at Snyder, leading the Tigers to the Class 4A Division 1 playoffs in 2015. He was an assistant coach under former Snyder coach Aubrey Sims.

Since Polk's resignation, Andrew Roy was named the interim head coach and Brad Weese was named the interim athletic director.

Weese was recently hired as the girls' basketball coach at Gainesville High School.

Snyder 2015's season will begin with a road game against Midland Greenwood on Aug. 26. The first home game of 2016 will be against Seminole on Sept. 9.

Snyder will compete in a district with Big Spring, Brownwood, Stephenville and Wylie.

## Ira trustees to review 2016-17 school calendar

The Ira ISD board of trustees on Thursday will review and vote on the 2016-17 school calendar. No other action items are listed on the agenda. Trustees will hear reports from the administration

covering school topics and financial issues. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the boardroom located in the Roy Sallee Gym and open to the public.

## Gruben: Cotton farmers may benefit from recent rains

Local cotton farmers should benefit from the recent rains, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent Greg Gruben said.

But first they may have some repair work to complete in the fields after the storms that brought more than four inches of rain to parts of Scurry County.

"In some places, it came pretty fast and broke some terraces," Gruben said. "So there's going to need to be some repair work before they can get started planting."

Scurry County was taken out of a drought stage by the U.S. Drought Monitor last week after nearly four inches of rainfall this month. Gruben said he believes cotton farmers should be excited about the recent rains, especially

because there was still underground moisture from last year's rains.

Gruben said cotton farmers will need a wet summer to produce a good enough crop to offset recent low cotton prices.

"We need to have a big crop to try to help some of those guys out," Gruben said. "The price is not good right now."

Gruben said the early rains were nice, but not necessarily a sign of what's to come.

"Last year, we were on pace to have a bumper crop," Gruben said. "But after a while, it just dried up. As long as Mother Nature doesn't turn off the faucet, we'll be OK. Otherwise, we could be back in a wreck real quick."

## Playoff time



Snyder seniors Bailey Garcia (left) and Cholee James talk before Monday's practice at Cates Field. The Lady Tigers will play Dalhart in a Class 4A bi-district softball playoff game at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in Plainview. For more on the game, see Page 5.

SDN Photo/Larry McCarty



Nikki Hale held a garbage bag open while her son, Luke, emptied a bucket of trash during Saturday's work day at Deep Creek Park. Also pictured is Liam Hale.



Audrey Hentley helped rake during Saturday's work day at Deep Creek Park Saturday.

## Snyder Christian School cleans up Deep Creek Park

In honor of Earth Day, Snyder Christian School held its second work day at Deep Creek Park on Saturday.

Students and parents raked and carried away trash bags filled with leaves.

Students included Audrey Herring, Mya Hale, Shelby Powell and Luke Hale.

According to teacher Liffin Moller, the first work day a few months ago included trimming

branches and hauling away loads of trash. The group also planted flowers, including bachelor buttons, wine cups, bluebonnets, moonrises and poppies.

"We purchased the flower seeds from Scurry Gardens at a discount," Moller said. "Recent rains really helped the flowers grow."

Mulch — provided by the city — will be applied in the future, Moller said.

## Math scores slip for nation's high school seniors

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's not a promising picture for the nation's high school seniors — they are slipping in math, not making strides in reading and only about one-third are prepared for the academic challenges of entry-level college courses.

Scores released today from the Nation's Report Card show one-quarter of 12th graders taking the test performed proficiently or better in math. Only 37 percent of the students were

proficient or above in reading.

The average score for math in 2015 declined one point from 2013, marking the first drop in a decade. For reading, scores were flat over the same period of time, and down five points from more than two decades ago when the test was first given to students in 1992.

The Education Department's Peggy Carr said the report suggests a pattern in scores for reading that needs a deeper look.

"There is a gap, a widening of a gap of higher and lower ability students, and I think that's something we need to think about," said Carr, acting commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics.

Reading scores increased for the highest-performing students last year, up two points for the highest group of performers on the test, and down six points from 2013 for the lowest-performing seniors.