REQUEST FOR AC	GENDA PLACEMENT FORM APPROVE
Submission Deadline - 7	Tuesday, 12:00 PM before Court Dates
SUBMITTED BY: Carla Hester	TODAY'S DATE: May 18, 2020
DEPARTMENT : County Judge	
SIGNATURE OF DEPARTMEN	VT HEAD: Roger Hawmon
REQUESTED AGENDA DATE	: May 26, 2020
SPECIFIC AGENDA WORDING	G: Resolution in Support of Passage of H.R. 759
PERSON(S) TO PRESENT ITEM	1: County Judge Roger Harmon
	enclose supporting documentation)
TIME: 5 min.	ACTION ITEM:x WORKSHOP
(Anticipated number of minutes needed	
	EXECUTIVE:
STAFF NOTICE:	
COUNTY ATTORNEY:x	IT DEPARTMENT:
AUDITOR:	PURCHASING DEPARTMENT:
PERSONNEL:	B Commence of the commence of
BUDGET COORDINATOR:	OTHER:
*********This Section to be C	ompleted by County Judge's Office*******
	ASSIGNED AGENDA DATE:
REQUEST RECEIVE	D BY COUNTY JUDGE'S OFFICE
COURT MEMBER APPROVAL	Date

JOHNSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT



RICK BAILEY

Commissioner Pct. #1

KENNY HOWELL

Commissioner Pct. #2

ROGER HARMON County Judge

JERRY D. STRINGER Commissioner Pct. #3

Carla Hester Assistant to Commissioner's Court LARRY WOOLLEY Commissioner Pct. #4

THE STATE OF TEXAS

§

RESOLUTION

COUNTY OF JOHNSON

§ §

SUPPORT OF PASSAGE OF H.R. 759

- WHEREAS, the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas is a federally recognized Indian Tribe located in Polk County, Texas and is committed to supporting the economic development and creation of jobs within the surrounding counties of Deep East Texas; and
- WHEREAS, the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas' Naskila electronic bingo facility, has created over 600 new jobs in Deep East Texas and is the second largest employer in the region, and is responsible for injecting over \$170 million annually in revenue to the region; and
- WHEREAS, the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas provided over 50 fully paid collegiate scholarships for graduating high school students of the Tribe in 2019; and
- WHEREAS, the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas being a good community partner, contributed \$500,000 in donations after Hurricane Harvey to several counties, and purchased 30 manufactured home units;
- WHEREAS, United States Congressman Brian Babin (R-Woodville) has filed H.R. 759 to clarify conflicting federal statutes regarding the right of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas to offer Class II electronic bingo on their tribal lands pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, a right enjoyed and exercised by the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas since 1996; and

RESOLUTION: SUPPORT OF PASSAGE OF H.R. 759 CC: 05-26-2020

Page 1 of 2

WHEREAS, the passage of H.R. 759 is vital to continued economic development and health of both the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas and all Deep East Texas;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THE JOHNSON COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS COURT, joins the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas in support of its effort for passage of H.R. 759 to clarify that the Tribe can enjoy the opportunity for tribal economic development on terms that are equal and fair, and to protect jobs. FURTHER, The Johnson County Commissioners Court, urgently requests that United States Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz of Texas, as well as the other 35 Texans elected to the United States House of Representatives, join Congressman Babin in securing the enactment of H.R. 759 into law.

WITNESS OUR HAND THIS, THE 26TH DAY OF MAY, 2020.

Roger Harmon, Jol	drawson County Judge
Voted: Ves, _	Denn Haus
Rick Bailey, Comm. Rct. #1 Voted:	Kenny Howell, Comm. Pct. #2 Voted: yes, no, abstained
Jerry D. Stringer, Comm. Pct. #3	Larry Woolley, Comm. Pct. #4 Voted:yes, no,abstained
ATTEST: Becky Ivey, County Clerk	voicayes,no,abstanted

RESOLUTION: SUPPORT OF PASSAGE OF H.R. 759

CC: 05-26-2020

The Updated Economic Impact of



Winter 2020

Produced for



by



TXP, Inc.

1310 South 1st Street, Suite 105
Austin, Texas 78704
www.txp.com

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Tribal gaming in the United States has grown rapidly, with 29 states now participating in some form. The most recent figures from the National Indian Gaming Commission indicate total nationwide tribal gaming revenue reached \$33.7 billion in 2018, up from \$32.4 billion the prior year and accounting for 44.8 percent of the overall U.S. casino market.

The presence of tribal gaming based on electronic bingo at Naskila brings significant benefits to Polk County. In terms of its direct impact, Naskila is currently the 2nd largest employer in Polk County with approximately 410 total employees. These are good jobs at good wages; when benefits are included, the average employee compensation approaches \$50,000 per year. In addition, revenues from Naskila helps fund improvements on the reservation, such as housing and scholarships, as well as supporting a health clinic, day care center, and retail shops that serve the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe and the surrounding community.

When the total impact of Naskila is considered, the benefit to Polk County increases. The ongoing capital investment associated the facility injected \$3.8 million into the local economy over the past two years, a figure that grew to \$4.8 million (and \$1.5 million in wages paid) when the ripple effects are considered. While these impacts end when the project(s) are finished, they undoubtedly have a positive impact across the community.

Naskila generated over \$145 million in operating revenue this year, a figure that climbs to \$170.6 million after the impact of this revenue injection flows through Polk County. A total of 705 permanent local jobs (collectively paying \$19.2 million in annual wages) are attributable to the impact of Naskila, which means this facility alone accounts for almost 6 percent of the private sector wages paid in Polk County. Put another way, approximately 300 local jobs beyond those on-site depend on the presence of Naskila and its ability to bring dollars to Polk County.

2019 Economic Impact of Naskila

	Output	Value Added	Labor Income	Employment
Total Construction	\$4,784,580	\$2,864,820	\$1,482,380	26
2019 Annual Operations	\$170,629,147	\$95,897,726	\$19,195,266	705

Sources: Naskila Gaming, TXP, Inc. Note: See page 4 for definitions of economic impact terms used.

This last point is crucial. The essence of economic development is to draw funds to the local economy, either by selling locally produced goods and services outside the area or attracting visitors who will spend money once they arrive. Naskila is a prime example of the latter approach, as more than 95 percent of its customers come from outside Polk County. As such, it is responsible for over \$170 million in annual spending in the local economy, a process that benefits every stakeholder in the area.

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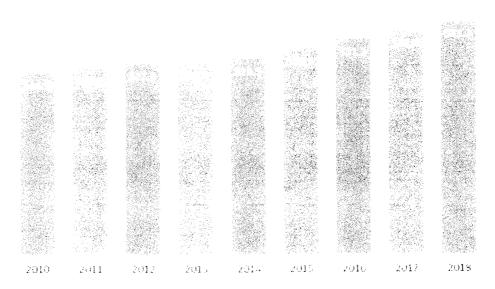
Overview.

Gaming in one form or another has been part of the fabric of American life for hundreds of years. Early Native American culture had games and language describing gambling and believed their gods determined fate and chance. In addition, European colonists brought a history of gaming to American soil, with the British colonization of America funded partially by lottery proceeds. Later, institutions of higher learning such as Harvard, Yale, and Dartmouth utilized lotteries to help build dormitories and supply equipment, and a lottery actually helped pay for a portion of the American Revolution.

The first commercial casino in the U.S. opened in Nevada in 1931. For more than forty years, Nevada was the only state where casino gaming was offered. In 1976, New Jersey voters approved legislation to allow gaming in Atlantic City, and the first casino opened two years later. Since then, gaming has proliferated, as 40 states now have some type of casino gaming presence.

Tribal gaming is a significant and growing part of the overall picture, with 29 states now participating in some form. The most recent figures from the National Indian Gaming Commission indicate total nationwide tribal gaming revenue reached \$33.7 billion in 2018, up from \$32.4 billion the prior year and accounting for 44.8 percent of the overall U.S. casino market.

Figure 1: Tribal Gaming in the United States (\$Billions)



Sources: National Indian Gaming Commission, TXP

Steadily growing revenue is just one marker of tribal gaming's economic footprint. In addition, casino operations have strengthened sovereign tribal governments and helped many tribes achieve economic self-sufficiency, both within and outside the gaming industry. This is the case with the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe, one of only three federally recognized tribes in the State, with roots in East Texas since the late 18th century. Today, the Alabama-Coushatta Reservation comprises approximately 10,200 acres in Polk County, 17 miles east of

In the summer of 2016, the Alabama-Coushattas opened Naskila Gaming (Naskila) on the reservation. Originally, the facility was 15,000 square feet with 365 Class II electronic bingo machines. In August 2017, Naskila doubled in size, expanding to over 30,000 square feet. The facility now features almost 800 Class II electronic bingo machines, an 88-seat restaurant, a café with an outdoor covered patio, and some retail offerings.

In order to fully understand the growing impact of Naskila on the local economy, the Texas Forest Country Partnership commissioned TXP to produce the following updated economic impact report. The analysis is divided into two sections: 1) the impact of capital spending, and 2) the impact of annual operations.

Model Inputs & Assumptions

Construction & Ongoing Annual Operating Expenditures

Livingston, Texas adjacent to Big Thicket National Preserve.

Total new construction spending at Naskila during 2018-19 was \$3.8 million. Meanwhile, total estimated Naskila annual operating revenue for 2019 was \$145.2 million, including gaming revenue (defined as equivalent to the amount of the entry fee minus the amount paid out in prizes, commonly referred to as the "handle"), eating & drinking, retail, and miscellaneous. Naskila has approximately 410 full-time employees, who earn \$37,727 per year on average before adding the value of the extensive benefits package that Naskila provides to employees.

Economic Impact Methodology

Economists use a number of statistics to describe regional economic activity. Four common measures are "Output," which describes total economic activity and is generally equivalent to a firm's gross sales or top-line; "Value Added," which equals gross output of an industry or a sector less its intermediate inputs or purchases from other firms used in the production process; "Labor Income," which corresponds to wages and benefits; and "Employment," which refers to jobs that have been created in the local economy.

In an input-output analysis of new economic activity, it is useful to distinguish three types of expenditure effects: direct, indirect, and induced.

Direct effects are changes associated with the immediate effects or final demand changes. Spending by patrons for gaming, clothing, food, etc. while they at Naskila are examples of direct effects.

Indirect effects are changes in backward-linked industries caused by the changing input needs of directly affected industries – typically, additional purchases to produce additional output. Satisfying the demand from customers means that restaurants must purchase food, supplies, and other services. These downstream purchases affect the economic output of other local merchants.

Induced effects are the changes in regional household spending patterns caused by changes in household income generated from the direct and indirect effects. The restaurant owner experiences increased income from visitor spending, as does the cleaning supplies outlet. Induced effects capture the way in which increased income is spent in the economy.

A multiplier reflects the interaction between different sectors of the economy. An output multiplier of 1.4, for example, means that for every \$1,000 injected into the economy, all other sectors produce an additional \$400 in output. The larger the multiplier, the greater the economic impact. Since Naskila is located in the Polk County, TXP used the RIMS II input-output multipliers produced by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis for that area.

Figure 2: The Flow of Economic Impacts



Economic Impact Results

Naskila Construction Spending

Over the previous two years, the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe has invested an additional \$3.7 million in capital improvements at Naskila. The estimated total economic output impact related to this investment is approximately \$4.8 million, with \$2.9 million in value-added. The increase in regional economic activity supported an estimated 26 total jobs with labor income of about \$1.5 million. The economic impacts associated with capital investment are finite; once the project(s) are complete, these impacts come to an end. See Table 1 for more detail.

Table 1: Naskila Total 2018-19 Construction Economic Impact in Polk County

Industry Sector	Output	Value Added	Labor Income	Employmen
Agriculture	\$16,720	\$9,120	\$3,420	0
Mining	\$380	\$380	\$0	0
Utilities	\$2,280	\$1,520	\$380	0
Construction	\$3,812,540	\$2,299,000	\$1,269,960	20
Durable Mfg.	\$120,080	\$34,580	\$12,920	0
Non-Durable Mfg.	\$6,080	\$2,660	\$760	0
Wholesale trade	\$41,420	\$28,120	\$8,740	0
Retail trade	\$176,700	\$117,420	\$50,540	2
Trans./Warehouse	\$63,460	\$30,400	\$11,020	0
Information	\$37,620	\$22,420	\$6,080	0
Finance/Insurance	\$52,440	\$28,880	\$7,980	0
Real Estate	\$211,280	\$150,100	\$34,580	1
Prof./Tech. Services	\$14,440	\$8,740	\$5,700	0
Mgmt. of Companies	\$9,880	\$6,080	\$4,180	0
Admin. Services	\$16,340	\$8,740	\$4,180	0
Educational Services	\$6,840	\$4,560	\$2,280	0
Health Care, etc.	\$90,060	\$54,340	\$26,600	1
Arts/Recreation	\$2,280	\$1,140	\$380	0
Accommodation	\$4,560	\$2,660	\$1,140	0
Eating/Drinking	\$41,040	\$22,040	\$11,400	1
Other services	\$58,140	\$30,020	\$18,240	0
Households	N.A.	N.A.	\$1,900	0
Total	\$4,784,580	\$2,864,820	\$1,482,380	26

Source: TXP, Inc.

Note: See page 4 for definitions of economic impact terms used.

Naskila Annual Operations Economic Impact

Based on estimated direct Naskila revenue this year of just over \$145 million, the aggregate economic impact of operations at Naskila is \$170.6 million in economic activity/output, with \$95.9 million in value-added. This increase in regional economic activity supported 705 total jobs with labor income of approximately \$19.2 million. See Table 2 for more detail.

Table 2: Naskila 2019 Operations Economic Impact in Polk County

Industry Sector	Output	Value Added	Labor Income	Employmer
Agriculture	\$54,454	\$34,848	\$15,965	1
Mining	\$750	\$0	\$0	0
Utilities	\$92,288	\$47,255	\$15,270	0
Construction	\$357,882	\$209,869	\$81,627	1
Durable Mfg.	\$137,924	\$42,852	\$19,606	0
Non-Durable Mfg.	\$275,172	\$105,308	\$30,513	1
Wholesale trade	\$489,323	\$331,537	\$109,753	1
Retail trade	\$2,557,333	\$1,710,051	\$736,667	24
Trans./Warehouse	\$1,169,023	\$599,654	\$258,108	5
Information	\$2,318,267	\$1,362,509	\$432,846	8
Finance/Insurance	\$4,016,778	\$2,255,501	\$679,929	12
Real Estate	\$5,426,263	\$3,826,050	\$845,569	31
Prof./Tech. Services	\$1,715,913	\$1,250,225	\$744,783	11
Mgmt. of Companies	\$844,455	\$506,534	\$356,082	4
Admin. Services	\$2,615,344	\$1,496,956	\$691,925	25
Educational Services	\$96,843	\$64,080	\$32,040	. 1
Health Care, etc.	\$1,158,880	\$701,703	\$342,869	8
Arts/Recreation	\$137,801,640	\$76,330,110	\$10,741,350	447
Accommodation	\$119,855	\$75,545	\$29,790	1
Eating/Drinking	\$7,968,924	\$4,172,156	\$2,550,755	109
Other services	\$1,411,835	\$757,488	\$462,326	11
Households	\$0	\$17,493	\$17,493	2
Total	\$170,629,147	\$95,897,726	\$19,195,266	705

Source: TXP, Inc.

Note: See page 4 for definitions of economic impact terms used.

The presence of tribal gaming brings significant benefits to Polk County. In terms of its direct impact, Naskila is currently the 2nd largest employer in Polk County with approximately 410 total employees. Less than half of these employees come from the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe, with the majority coming from surrounding areas. These direct jobs pay an average of \$37,727; when benefits such as 401(k) plans and health insurance are included, the average total employee compensation approaches \$50,000 per year.

Beyond the benefits to those directly employed, revenues from Naskila provide funding for improvements on the reservation, such as housing and scholarships, as well as supporting a health clinic, day care center, and retail shops that serve the Tribe and the surrounding community.

The direct benefits extend beyond Polk County across the region and the State. While the majority of Naskila employees live in the area, more than \$5 million in annual payroll flows to other Texas counties. By the same token, Naskila spent over \$24 million with vendors located in 21 counties across East Texas and elsewhere in the state in 2019.

When the total impact of Naskila is considered, the benefit to Polk County increases. The ongoing capital investment associated the facility injected \$3.8 million into the local economy over the past two years, a figure that grew to \$4.8 million (and \$1.5 million in wages paid) when the ripple effects are considered. While these impacts end when the project(s) are finished, they undoubtedly have a positive impact across the community.

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This last point is crucial. The essence of economic development is to draw funds to the local economy, either by selling locally produced goods and services outside the area or attracting visitors who will spend money once they arrive. Naskila is a prime example of the latter approach, as more than 95 percent of its customers come from outside Polk County. As such, it is responsible for over \$170 million in annual spending in the local economy, a process that benefits every stakeholder in the area.

1.6% 1.7% 70.7% San Jacinto - Other

Figure 3: Naskila Payroll Share by County

Sources: Naskila Gaming, TXP

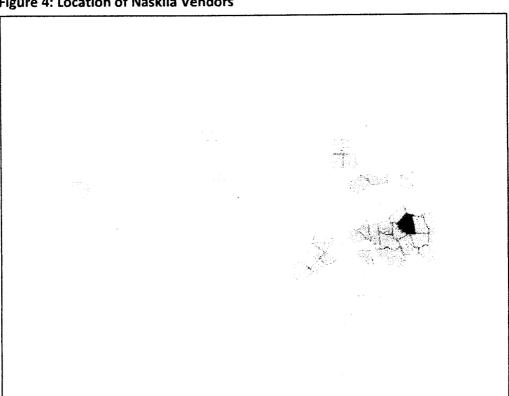


Figure 4: Location of Naskila Vendors

Sources: Naskila Gaming, TXP

About Texas Forest Country Partnership

The Texas Forest Country Partnership (TFCP), formerly known as the Pineywoods Economic Partnership and the Deep East Texas Development Association, was founded in 1960 as a non-profit economic development organization. The TFCP is the leader of all economic development efforts across the East Texas region. Its primary mission is to enrich the economic prosperity of the region through marketing, business development and advocacy.

TFCP goals are to strengthen regional involvement and decision-making to support economic growth, promote a highly qualified, well-trained workforce, support rural diversification and the regeneration of the East Texas region.

These goals are based on a landscape where jurisdictions can build upon shared strengths and cost effectively provide business attraction and retention services that bring greater prosperity. The 12 counties that the TFCP serves are Angelina, Houston, Jasper, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Tyler, and Trinity.

TXP reserves the right to make changes, corrections, and/or improvements at any time and without notice. In addition, TXP disclaims any and all liability for damages incurred directly or indirectly as a result of errors, omissions, or discrepancies. TXP disclaims any liability due to errors, omissions, or discrepancies made by third parties whose material TXP relied on in good faith to produce the report.

Any statements involving matters of opinion or estimates, whether or not so expressly stated, are set forth as such and not as representations of fact, and no representation is made that such opinions or estimates will be realized. The information and expressions of opinion contained herein are subject to change without notice, and shall not, under any circumstances, create any implications that there has been no change or updates.



May 11, 2020

To: North & East County Judges and Commissioners

Fr: Polk County Judge Sydney Murphy

Re: Cancelled NE Co Judges & Commissioners Conference Event

Greetings NECJCA Members,

I hope this letter finds you and all of your community's families safe and healthy. We are living in extraordinary times, and I sincerely regret that the ongoing health crisis has compelled us to cancel this year's North & East County Judges and Commissioners Association Conference. Along with visiting fellow commissioner's court members and learning about the resources to help improve quality of life in our respective communities, I had hoped to take advantage of the opportunity to introduce you to a good friend and neighbor of East Texas that you may not yet have had a chance to meet.

In my county, I have the unique distinction and privilege to have the oldest Native American tribe in Texas located just 15 minutes east of Livingston. The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe has been in the area since the late 1700s. The Tribe has always been a good neighbor to the surrounding East Texas community, dating back to when Sam Houston asked them to help him in the fight for Texas Independence.

Since opening its electronic bingo facility, Naskila Gaming (Naskila means Dogwood in their native language), in 2016 on the Alabama-Coushatta Reservation, the Tribe has become the second largest employer in Polk County with over 400 team members. These are well paying jobs with full healthcare benefits and a generous 401 retirement plan, and over 70% of the employees that work at Naskila are non-tribal members living in Polk and surrounding counties.

The economic impact and boost in tourism from the 1 million plus visitors a year has resulted in over \$170 million influx to our local economy here in East Texas. In addition, the Tribe is doing business with over 216 Texas vendors throughout the state. I've included a copy of the economic impact study recently updated by The Texas Forest Country Partnership that shows what these jobs and this spending signifies to all of East Texas.

Sadly, the State of Texas has moved to shut down this facility, showing little concern for the detrimental impact it would cause to our region, and the Tribe is awaiting US Legislation that will allow them to keep their doors open. More than 60 Resolutions of Support have been signed by County Judges and Commissioners Courts, Mayors and City Councils, Chambers and Economic Development Corporations and Community Business Leaders from all over East Texas and beyond. A list of these supporters is also included with this letter.

I hope that the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe can count on your support, as well. Although they are temporarily closed, like so many other Texas businesses, the Tribe has continued to pay all team members as well as their tribal and government departments. These life-changing jobs and the economic impact that this very popular entertainment destination has created will help our entire region recover as Texas begins to get back to work.

Please find enclosed a sample resolution for those counties that have not already approved a resolution of support for your commissioner's court consideration. We cannot overlook the impact of this operation on our local economies, especially during these unprecedented times in our state, and I genuinely appreciate your attention to this matter. My most sincere thanks to those of you that have already passed a resolution to support the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe and Naskila Gaming.

The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe has played an integral role in Texas History, proving themselves to be our partners and allies time and again. Please help us show our regard for their continued support of all of East Texas by standing with them at this time of need.

Best regards & blessing to everyone,

Approved Resolutions/Support

Last Updated: February 25, 2020

Polk County Commissioner's Court

Polk County Chamber of Commerce

Polk County Republican Party

Polk County Higher Education and Technology Foundation

Tyler County Commissioner's Court

Tyler County Chamber of Commerce

Tyler County Hospital Board

DETCOG- Deep East Texas Council of Government

Texas Forest Country Partnership

Hardin County Commissioner's Court

Walker County Commissioner's Court

San Jacinto County Commissioner's Court

San Jacinto County Republican Party

Jefferson County Commissioner's Court

Trinity County Commissioner's Court

Liberty County Commissioner's Court

Chambers County Commissioner's Court

Chambers County Republican Party

Orange County Commissioner's Court

Jasper County Commissioner's Court

Jasper Economic Development Co.

Newton County Commissioner's Court

Sabine County Commissioner's Court

Cherokee County Commissioner's Court

Madison County Commissioner's Court

Shelby County Commissioner's Court

San Augustine County Commissioner's Court

Houston County Commissioner's Court

The Woodlands Chamber of Commerce

Conroe/Lake Conroe Chamber of Commerce

Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Houston Asian Chamber of Commerce

Lufkin/Angelina Chamber of Commerce

Cleveland Chamber of Commerce

Livingston City Council

Woodville City Council

Cleveland City Council

Shepard City Council

Splendora City Council

Onalaska City Council

Ivanhoe City Council

Goodrich City Council

San Augustine City Council

Lovelady City Council

New Waverly City Council

Corrigan City Council

Galveston Maritime Business Association

Lake Travis Republican Party

Bell County Republican Party

Hopkins County Republican Party

Hays County Republican Party

Additional Support:

National Congress of American Indians

All Pueblo Council of Governors

USET- United South and Eastern Tribes, INC.

CHI St. Luke's Health Memorial

Polk County VFW Post #8568

Southern News Group-Houston

Escapees RV Club-Livingston

Texas Familias Council

Church Street Financial Livingston, Texas

Livingston Rotary Club

Onalaska Police Department

Ivanhoe City Marshal's Office

Eastex Telephone Co.

C.T Jones Insurance Co.

Pedigo, Furniture

Prestige Oyster Inc.