

STAFF REPORTS

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Julie Green, PBPA

During Q 3 2019, our community affairs efforts were varied and vast! We continued working with the Priority Midland team members and giving insight and serving as a source of information through their monthly meetings as well as data that industry helps make an impact on. Similarly, PBPA community affairs was asked by the United States Census Bureau to serve on Midland County's Complete Count Committee. The committee is made up by many other representatives from county and city entities and leaders. The focus of the committee is to engage and educate citizens on the census and the importance for as many people as possible to be counted in Midland County next year. The committee had identified the challenges that the county will face in trying to secure an accurate count and creating initiatives to target each of those challenges and address them in the coming months. Julie Green has been keeping in touch with officials in Hobbs and Carlsbad who are on similar committees through the Bureau to share ideas and resources.

Along with the theme of community developments, this quarter, PBPA sponsored and attended the Lea County EnergyPlex conference for the third year. At the conference this year, a lot of the discussed concerned ways in which industry and the communities of Lea County have found a way to partner and work with the growth, for the better, instead of fighting it. The conference also focused on other forms of energy that affect the community. Conference goers had the chance to hear from leaders in the Nuclear and Solar industry as well. As part of being advocates for communities, we find it important to maintain educated and current on other forms of energy and their industries as well, in order to maintain secure and sustainable communities that can work safely with them. During a time in which the Permian Basin as a whole is juggling to deal with the influx of people, toll on infrastructure, and improving quality of life and living conditions, for its citizens, it's important to information share and learn from others' experiences; observing what has been successful and what has not. Lea County serves as a great blueprint of managing its ever-evolving community issues.

In August, PBPA staff traveled to San Angelo for a few events focused on legislative issues. PBPA met with Senator Charles Perry to discuss the past session and his plans for the interim. The information Senator Perry shared gave us a glance at what is on the horizon, that we as industry leaders need to be aware of, in terms of changes to water and sustainability. The intimate meeting gave us the chance to voice what we thought was important for legislators to be zoned in on, on behalf of industry, in the coming year. Just a short two days later we were on our way again to San Angelo for the annual West Texas Legislative Summit. The summit was comprised of over 400 attendees from across the state and beyond, including legislators and agency leaders. The summit focused on energy, agriculture, transportation, and ports. In addition to furthering our education on each of these topics, this event gives us the opportunity to strengthen relationships with stakeholders and elected officials.

The previous referenced relationships with elected officials tend to come in handy often and were needed less than a week late when PBPA traveled to Lubbock to visit with our friend and lawmaker, Congressman Jodey Arrington about a new EPA rule that would benefit West Texas oil and gas producers. Congressman Arrington was joined by the Deputy Regional Administrator for the EPA, David Gray, while announcing the proposed changes to a burdensome and costly federal regulation, currently impacting industry. The proposed amendments to the existing rule would remove a regulatory duplication, saving industry millions of dollars in compliance costs each year, while maintaining health and environmental protection. Deputy Gray and Congressman Arrington looked to us at the PBPA to reach out to members to raise awareness and garner support for their proposed rules changes.

While we had a busy week of trips to San Angelo in August, we would be remiss if we didn't pay southeastern New Mexico some attention in the midst of those travels, and pay attention we did. On the day between our meeting with Senator Perry and the West Texas Legislative Summit, PBPA staff attended a meeting in Carlsbad regarding the NMED's and EMNRD's development of state methane regulations, per Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham's executive order on climate change. PBPA staff and several PBPA members were on hand at the Carlsbad meeting and have been in ongoing conversations with NMED, EMNRD, and the Governor's office concerning the possible methane regulations. We will continue to engage and provide updates as this process moves forward.

The Mayor's annual Energy Summit in Carlsbad was held on September 12th and PBPA staff, as well as many members, were in attendance. The focus of the summit this year was on Workforce in the industry.

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The event was well attended and gave residents and industry a chance to hear from peers about what's been going on within industry for the past year. Mayor Dale Janway hosted many different speakers, many of whom are PBPA members, such as XTO, Marathon, Occidental, Concho Resources, as well as New Mexico's Governor, Michelle Lujan Grisham, and former Chancellor of Texas Tech University, Kent Hance. The speakers spoke to the crowd about many different topics, including but not limited to, what their ideal workforce looks like, is currently needing, and the direction it is headed. PBPA's hard work at advocating for the welfare of the oil and gas industry and its communities was graciously acknowledged at the summit, but all the hard work would be for not, without our wonderful members and their support.

On the lighter side of events, on the first weekend of October, we attended the annual Celebrate Energy Game at Texas Tech University. Tech's Energy Game is always a great event at which PBPA is given the ability to be showcased and recognized for their work. Texas Tech University and PBPA have been partnering for many years on industry studies, networking for students, and legislative efforts. The association is honored at Texas Tech's football game, along side many other industry leaders and giants. It's something that we are very proud to be asked to participate in and enjoy getting together with our fellow Energy pioneers.