

MINUTES

2025 PKLA Annual Meeting

Saturday June 7, 2025

Possum Kingdom Lake Chamber of Commerce

PKLA Director, Mike Carter, welcomed attendees to the meeting.

Introduction of Special Guest

GUEST SPEAKERS

Palo Pinto County Judge - Shane Long spoke about the of State of the County.

Just a few of his presentation topics included were the County's efforts with FM4 and working with TxDot. He reviewed Commissioners Court and the upcoming timelines for the 2026 election. The County appraised value is currently at 6.3 billion. Half of the Appraised value is found around Possum Kingdom Lake.

BRA Possum Kingdom Lake Manager, Troy Weatherhead, reported the rain in April and May has resulted in 2025 being the 3rd wettest spring ever recorded. Troy reviewed the process of water release from the dam. Texas Forest Service is working an agreement with the SET Ranch to possibly build a fire break behind Hog Bend. BRA is currently in a water quality study. Water monitors have been placed around the lake. Troy pointed out additional monitors are now in Cedar Creek Slough.

PKLA President, Monte Land, provided a TCEQ City of Abilene Wastewater Renewal Permit WQ00005213000 updated report. A graph was provided to illustrate the spring rain flows into the lake. PKLA hydrologist, Kirk Kennedy, reviewed information in Abilene's renewal application and how the new data does not support assumptions in the application.

Texas Parks and Wildlife PK Fish Hatchery representative, Ryan Rogers, reviewed remodeling of the fish hatchery that was built in the 40's. Ryan stated that operation of the PK site opened in the 50's and is funded by fishing license sales. The current remodel is to fix the cement stairs and replace the liners. Only half the ponds, closest to Highway 16, are being worked on the other half of the ponds are still in operation, producing fish. Although the hatchery produces a variety of fish species, every striper comes from the PK Hatchery. There are five hatcheries in Texas. The PK Hatchery has become the largest producer of small mouth bass. Tours of the hatchery can be scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday. Call ahead to schedule a tour.

Palo Pinto County Sheriff, J. R. Patterson, introduced Sheriff Deputy David Carlyle and Precinct 3 Constable McKee as part of the law enforcement team for Possum Kingdom Lake. The Sheriff Substation on Park Road 36 will serve as headquarters. The PK Lake Law Enforcement team will be comprised of DPS, Game Wardens, Sheriff Deputies and the Constable.

Emergency Service District No. 1 (ESD 1) Fire Chief, Danny Watkins, reported about the efforts of the ESD 1 board to update local volunteer fire department with not only a plan of action but equipment. Danny spoke about the current efforts in Graford to lower the fire insurance premiums. He illustrated how these efforts will help with insurance at the lake both east and west side. A fire boat has been purchased and is being outfitted with fire equipment that will aid with fire suppression from the shoreline. It will also aid EMS efforts on the lake. Training for volunteers will begin this summer.

The meeting adjourned at noon.

PKLA Directors

Mike Carter

Mert Fewell

Monte Land

Hank Lattimore

Russell Madden

Brent Nance

Stacy Urban

Jeff Young

Community Attendees

Air Evac - Rhonda Deen

Peyco Southwest – Cole Carter & Jim Maibac

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