

**CITY OF TUCUMCARI  
CITY COMMISSION  
Work Session Notes  
March 10, 2011**

Those Present: Amiel Curnutt, Robert Lumpkin, and James Witcher  
Staff Present: Bobbye Rose, Clara Rey, Christine Dougherty, Dennis Dysart, Mike Cherry, and Pat Vanderpool

Mr. Vanderpool began by saying that he feels Tucumcari has reached the “tipping point.” He went on to say that historically, we have been here before making this critical in making or breaking what happens. Mr. Vanderpool said that you hear a lot of whispering around the community now. He said it’s time for due diligence and to plan our work and work our plan. Mr. Vanderpool also stressed the importance of understanding what we are competing with. Mr. Vanderpool said that in the south, a small town is considered one with fewer than 40,000 residents. Other communities have incentives that are much greater than what we have to offer.

Mr. Vanderpool then went over the Project Recap handout he provided the Commissioners. Mr. Vanderpool stated there are six critical components to economic development in a community. They are; workforce, infrastructure, sites and facilities, investment capital and financing programs, permitting process and the regulatory environment, and last the tax policies and incentives.

Mr. Vanderpool said there are three major tasks in economic development. They are to pick the right targets, improve the product (the six components), and to deliver the message to those who might want what we have.

Mr. Vanderpool explained that the old economic drivers were agriculture and tourism. He cautioned the Commission regarding agriculture as lots of farms will come out of the crop reserve program in 2012. Mr. Vanderpool said the new economic drivers are energy, the race track, Ute Lake development, the Agriculture Science Center, and partnering with Mesalands.

Mr. Vanderpool discussed the leads he has responded to and explained that he plans to stop depending on the state generated leads and focus on leads generated locally.

Some local projects Mr. Vanderpool is working on include, putting together a Quay County Day Care Alliance, re-opening Dr. Fitzner’s office, and working with a gentleman interested in opening a tortilla factory.

Mr. Witcher told Mr. Vanderpool that if he needed the help of any of the Commissioners, please let them know. Mr. Witcher said that he feels we are not selling Tucumcari with the great shape the City is in, he went on to say the City has a lot going for it.

Commissioner Curnutt asked about the energy transmission lines. He asked if anything can happen without the lines being installed. Mr. Vanderpool responded in the positive saying that a firm is looking at putting lines close to Tucumcari with a hub near Broadview. He added that Clean Line Energy plans to transmit power from Eastern New Mexico to California.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Dougherty, City Clerk