

Odessa Chamber of Commerce

Minutes of Meeting held August 12th, 2008

The August 12th, 2008 Odessa Chamber meeting was held at the Rolling Thunder Saloon. The minutes were read from the previous meeting, and there was no Treasurer's Report.

President Jerry Schafer announced that OTC had offered the use of their board room for Chamber meetings starting in September, with lunch being catered from the Rolling Thunder Saloon. Chief's Bar and Grill has also offered to host the meetings again. No decision was made as to where the meetings will be moved to.

Jerry also mentioned that float donations were down over \$2,400.00 from last year's donations. Chamber dues are down as well and mail requests will be sent.

Keith Bailey of AgVentures was then introduced and he gave a brief summary of the harvest production numbers, stating that harvest was pretty well wrapped up in the Odessa area, with lower intakes. Numbers were about 40% off in this area and about 20-25% off further north. Keith also indicated that Australia is our biggest market influence.

The topic then switched to discussing Inland Empire Oilseeds which will be an oilseed crusher and biodiesel producer in Odessa. Keith mentioned that canola is an alternative crop that does not compete head to head with the wheat market. IEO now employs four employees and will have an employment of 20 at full capacity. The company expects to be at full capacity in the 1st quarter of next year.