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*Regional Forum*  
Newsletter Of The South Plains Association Of Governments

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# Communicating Emergencies

## State emergency communication agency head visits South Plains, speaks to SPAG Board

South Plains Association of Governments Regional 9-1-1 welcomed Kelli Merriweather, Executive Director for the Commission on State Emergency Communications on June 10, 2014.

Ms. Merriweather visited the South Plains and presented information to the SPAG Board of Directors on upcoming changes in the State ESInet project.

Merriweather informed the Board on the changes in the 9-1-1 communities and how they will affect the citizens of the South Plains.

Regional 9-1-1 services will be enhanced across the State with the build of a state wide network that will deliver 9-1-1 traffic to all locations across the state. This type of service will create a system of reliability and redundancy that will prevent 9-1-1 calls from being dropped

or lost in the event of an outage of services.

Ms. Merriweather shared information in the afternoon with the Regional 9-1-1 Advisory Committee and introduced the new idea and technology that will be available to the Public Safety Answering Points.

The Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC) is the governing body for the Regional 9-1-1 program. CSEC oversees the Regional 9-1-1 funding

and works closely with each Council of Governments across the State to ensure funds and strategies are in place for the 9-1-1 services to be delivered to the citizens across the State of Texas.

SPAG appreciates the relationship we have developed with Kelli Merriweather and her staff and look forward to many more years of serving the South Plains Association of Governments and the communities across the Region.



From left to right: Gay Lynn Mosher, SPAG Director of Law Enforcement & 9-1-1; Don Corzine, Yokum County Sheriff; and Kelli Merriweather, Executive Director, Commission on State Emergency Communications



# Setting Priorities

## Review committee meets to discuss CDBG scoring factors

The South Plains Regional Review Committee (RRC) met on Tuesday, July 8, 2014 to discuss and take action on upcoming TxCDBG scoring factors.

Present at the meeting were members of the RRC including elected officials from across the region, representatives from cities and counties that apply for Tx-CDBG funds, the SPAG Regional Services Grants Team and a representative from the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) which administers the TxCDBG program for Texas.

TDA proposed several changes to the TxCDBG program in May

but thanks to the many comments they received, several from the South Plains Region, they have decided to put any changes on hold. For that reason, the scoring factors for the TxCDBG applications in the SPAG region will remain the same this year.

Scoring priorities include: project type (water, sewer, or street), applicant poverty rate, applicant tax rate increase, previous funding history and matching percentage. Awards of up to \$275,000 will be given.

Applications should be released in the next month or two with a deadline of January/February

2015. If your city or county is interested in applying for TxCDBG funds this year, please contact Kelly Davila in the Regional Services Department as soon as possible at [kdavila@spag.org](mailto:kdavila@spag.org) or 806-762-8721.



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# Getting the Word Out

## South Plains AAA visits community fair to educate public



The Area Agency on Aging was out at Essential Home Health's 4th Annual Community Appreciation Event on July 24, 2014. The aging staff members gave out information on the Care Coordination, Benefits Counseling, Information and Referrals and the Caregiver programs. There were hundreds of participants at the fair that walked away with a lot of knowledge. The 1st Annual Caregiver Conference was held by the AAA on August 14, 2014. The free event took place at the Science Spectrum Exhibit Hall.



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2014 LOAN FUNDINGS

20 Year All Inclusive  
 Debenture Rate for  
 July  
 4.95%

Caprock has had several loans fund in the past few months with many mor ein the pipeline waiting to close. Among the recent-ly funded are Kidz Kare, Inc., Sudan Veterinary Services P.A., Spanky’s Restaurant, Inc., and Best Western Plus North Odessa Onn and Suites. Please see the loan bios below for more details and stay tuned for upcoming loan fundings!

Check out our  
**NEW WEBSITE!**  
[WWW.CAPROCK504.ORG](http://WWW.CAPROCK504.ORG)



On March 28, 2014, Caprock Closed the SBA 504 Loan for AMARJ, Inc. dba Kidz Kare, Inc. Too

Kidz Kare, Inc. Too is a daycare and preschool located near Marsha Sharp Freeway and 34th Street. Kidz Kare is owned by certified teacher Anglea Martin who has been in the daycare business since 2001. Kidz Kare’s program is designed to boost social skills while introducing children to the building blocks of early education. The daycare curriculum offers a variety of activities from language arts and computer lessons to math and science lessons. Kidz Kare has both an after school and summer program to accommodate children of various ages. This is Ms. Martin’s first 504 loan in which the proceeds were used for the construction of the building.



On April 30, 2014, Caprock closed the SBA 504 loan for Sudan Veterinary Services, P.A.

Sudan Veterinary Services is owned and operated by Dr. Christopher Larson, a graduate of Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine. What started out as a small operation out of his home in 2008 has now turned into a 4,200 square foot clinic off of Highway 84 in Sudan, Texas. The clinic is located across the street from the Sudan Feed Lot and is surrounded by several dairy farms. Dr. Larson works with all animals, but specifically the cattle in Lamb County and the surrounding areas. The Sudan Economic Development Corporation assisted Dr. Larson with his practice because they recognized the need for a veterinarian in their rural community. Their assistance was combined with the 504 program to aquire land and build a new facility.



On May 6, 2014, Caprock closed the SBA 504 loan for Spanky’s Restaurant, Inc.

Spanky’s Restaurant is a popular dining destination for both Texas Tech students and the local community. It has been located across from the Texas Tech campus since it first opened in the early 1980s and continues to be a major attraction, especially on football game days. Due to the redevelopment and continued growth of the Texas Tech area, owner Lisa West decided to expand the restaurant. Ms. West, a repeat 504 borrower, used the program to build an additional “Dog House” with amenities that include a 30 foot full-services bar area and kitchen. The traditional counter dining is still available for patrons who enjoy dining upstairs.



On May 3, 2014, Caprock closed the SBA 504 loan for Best Western Plus North Odessa Inn & Suites

Best Western Plus is owned and operated by Rajinder and Anuj Chhabra and Madhuveer Basude. In 2011, they recognized the need for hospitality establishments in the growing commercial area of North Odessa. Using the 504 program, the borrowers purchased vacant land in Northeast Odessa and constructed the 75 room Best Western Plus hotel. Best Western Plus is a full-service hotel that offers both suites, non-suite rooms, and one apartment-style accommodation. In addition to the Best Western amenities, this hotel provides free wireless internet, 32-inch LCD televisions, recliners, and sleeper sofas. The primary borrower, Rajinder Chhabra currently owns and operates three other hotels in the Midland/Odessa area.

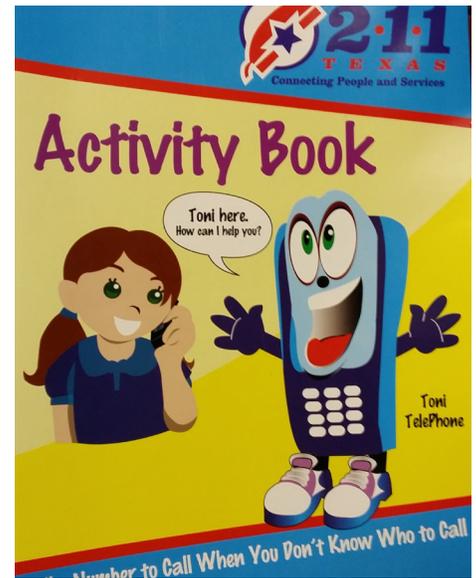
# Back to School with 2-1-1

South Plains 2-1-1 gets kids ready for the new school year

It's "back to school time!" 2-1-1 Texas South Plains participates in a variety of back to school fairs in August.

Many agencies and volunteer groups assemble region-wide events to provide various school supplies such as back packs, pencils/pens, crayons, spiral notebooks, to assist families that may not be able to afford them.

If anyone is interested in learning about the locations and times of these events, email 2-1-1 Texas South Plains at [southplains211@yahoo.com](mailto:southplains211@yahoo.com) to be added to the monthly calendar.



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## Texas Municipal League

TML REGION 3

UPCOMING REGIONAL MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, September 23, 2014

LOCATION: Scottish Rite Learning Center, Lubbock

SOCIAL HOUR: 5:30pm-6:30pm

SOCIAL HOUR SPONSORS: Underwood Law Firm

BUSINESS MEETING/DINNER/WORKSHOP: 6:30pm

WORKSHOP TOPIC: Current Legislative Updates

WORKSHOP PRESENTER: Bennett Sandlin, TML Executive Director

HOST CITY: City of Plains

SOUTH PLAINS ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
 QUARTERLY CALENDAR



<i>SEPTEMBER</i>		
SPAG General Assembly Meeting	9/10/14 6:00 p.m.	Cagle Steaks
<i>OCTOBER</i>		
SPAG Board of Directors Meeting	10/14/14 9:30 a.m.	SPAG Boardroom
<i>NOVEMBER</i>		
SPAG Board of Directors Meeting	11/18/14 9:30 a.m.	SPAG Boardroom
<i>DECEMBER</i>		
SPAG Board of Directors Meeting	12/9/14 9:30 a.m.	SPAG Boardroom

**SPAG** is a voluntary association created by the local governments within State Planning Region 2. It is an independent political subdivision of the state and is one of 24 such organizations in Texas. All local governments in the region are eligible and invited to become a member. Regional Forum is published quarterly by SPAG and is available without cost.

Please direct any correspondence or inquiries to  
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