

Cooke County Taxpayers:
NCTC has \$25,159,056 Total Funds, (Cash on Hand), per their 9-30-13 financial statement on NCTC's web site.

We believe they should use some of that cash for some of the bond improvements rather than raise the NCTC property tax rate 60%. We do not agree Cooke County Taxpayers should pay the full cost of the improvements when **only one in ten nursing graduates are from Cooke County**. We do not agree they need to spend \$257/SF on Health Sciences. They could get a very nice two-story build-

ing for \$150/SF. We would support higher taxes for Career Technology if NCTC didn't have \$25 Million in the bank and we could vote on it separately.

NCTC's financial statement shows about \$1,950,000 is restricted by law or contract. See the web site at the end for a link to their financial statement and more analysis on the line items and restrictions. Having served six years on the NCTC Board, I'm familiar with their finances.

To make sure the \$25 Million wasn't a seasonal blip, we went back and looked at NCTC's financials for

the past 14 months. Their lowest total cash on hand during that period was \$22,350,488. After subtracting \$1,950,000 for restricted funds, they had over \$20,400,000 left. Even if they spent the full \$14.8 million bond amount, **they would still have \$5,600,000 in reserves and working capital for their worst month** in the past 14. We don't recommend they spend all of it as we believe there are lower cost alternatives.

Our local bank executive and his bank are strongly for this bond. Have you wondered why? According to NCTC's financial

statement, that **bank pays NCTC .04% interest on their deposits and 1.00% on a CD**. If the bank uses that NCTC money to buy the NCTC bonds estimated to pay 5.00% interest, **that bank could make up to \$592,000 in profit the first year**, more if they don't pay NCTC 1.00% on all that money on deposit. That's a lot of dough for one bank, at taxpayer expense. That's only the first year on a 25 year bond.

I can't go into it all here but if NCTC built the Health Sciences center for \$150/SF vs. the \$257/SF they want, they would only have to raise tuition

\$1200/yr. to about \$3550 using our banker's numbers. See details on the web. That's less than half of what NCTC says TWU and UNT charge. That's still a bargain and it would be a fair allocation. Contrary to what the banker said, Texas Education Code 54.0513(b) says: "*A governing board may set a different tuition rate for each program and course level offered by each institution of higher education.*"

Please join us in asking NCTC to spend their cash first on these top priorities. They've spent tens of millions on lower priority

items in the last ten years. In September, they spent \$1.21 Million more on the PAC and building demolition. Isn't it time they first spent their money on the top priorities they keep bringing back to us, **before asking for more taxes?**

If they can run the other four campuses without bonds and raising property taxes, (only Graham pays property taxes, capped @ 5 cents), why can't they apply the same management practices to Gainesville?

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