

May 2023

I. HOUSING RECRUITMENT

- A. **Jeff** – One of the leads from the Dallas Builders Expo is looking to make a site visit in the near future. They represent one of the largest hedge funds in the nation associated with home building. They have already expressed interest in Carlston Ranch, but are looking at anything they say that makes sense.

II. WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT

- A. **Jeff** – At the Ft. Bliss job hiring event John and I attended May 18th, I met with several hiring agencies looking to make connections. They work on behalf of the soldiers in El Paso to connect them with careers after they leave the service. We will be exploring these new relationships going forward. In addition, we have already been invited to the Ft. Bliss Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program Hiring Fair on Thursday August 24th, 2023.

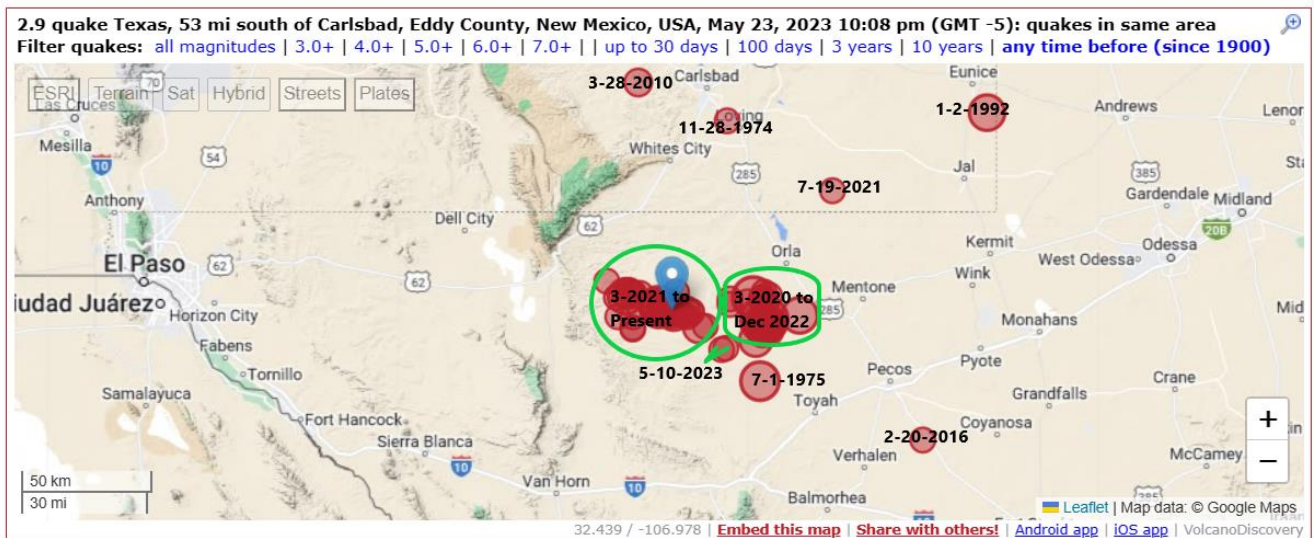
- B. **John**- The attendance was better than any other Army event that we have attended.
 - a. 2,372 soldiers attended the event
 - b. All of the soldiers we spoke with held a grade of E-4 (corporal or specialist) or higher (the majority were sergeants). E-4 basic skills are following:
 - i. Those who have passed the Basic Leader Course
 - ii. Individuals who have been given lower-level supervisory duties
 - iii. Recruits who enter the U.S. Army with a four-year college degree and who also possess civilian-acquired career skills
 - c. Five of our CDOD members attended (along with 123 other companies) and several others sent with us information on jobs open at their respective companies.
 - i. We passed out dozens of flyers from SIMCO, Lakeview, and SENMC.
 - ii. We gathered resumes and have collected a page-and-a-half of interested soldiers (including mechanics, truck drivers, IT specialists, and logistics) for distribution to any of our interested members.
 - iii. CDOD Member Delta Constructors estimated that they spoke with around 75 very interested candidates for their positions.

III. OIL, GAS & ALTERNATE ENERGY

- A. **John** – Updated and ranked active drilling rig data by county, parish, and borough for Permian and United States (data source: Baker-Hughes). Eddy County is again ranked number one in USA (see below):

TOP 25 RANK	County	Latest Week 5-May-23
1	Eddy Co., NM	56
2	Lea Co., NM	49
3	Reeves Co., TX	44
4	Martin Co., TX	41
5	Midland Co, TX	32
6	Loving Co., TX	26
7	Upton Co., TX	17
Tie 8	Howard Co., TX	13
8	Karnes Co., TX	13
8	Weld Co., CO	13
Tie 11	Andrews Co., TX	12
11	De Soto Pa., LA	12
11	Dimmit Co., TX	12
11	Webb Co., TX	12
Tie 15	McKenzie Co., ND	11
15	Panola Co. TX	11
Tie 17	Canadian Co., OK	10
17	Dunn Co., ND	10
17	Reagan Co., TX	10
Tie 20	Caddo Pa., LA	9
20	Montrail Co., ND	9
20	North Slope Bo., AK	9
Tie 23	Culberson Co., TX	8
23	Red River Pa., LA	8
23	Ward Co., TX	8

- B. John-** Met with an owner of a company that is considering an office in Eddy County. They have an office in Houston and one in Midland. He was concerned about lack of housing and employees in Carlsbad. Not interested in man camps. Currently, their employees come out of Midland-Odessa Area to work here. Provided information and contacts on new housing as well as contacts for planning department at City.
- C. John-** Attended a workshop on Broadband Communications and available grant programs offered by state and federal government. The workshop was hosted by the Permian Strategic Partnership and several CDOD Members were in attendance at the Conoco Phillips CAIP office.
- D. John-** At request of the mayor's office, I am preparing information to present in a discussion with the Current Argus and NMSU on seismicity in the Permian basin and New Mexico. I have been monitoring the earthquake activity since 2020 and compiled data and a map on the activity in the Delaware basin. As most of you are probably aware, the seismic events that are constantly being mentioned by the New Mexico opponents of our oil and gas industry are not even occurring in our state. The map below that I have put together with the help of USGS data and the website www.Volcanodiscovery.com, illustrates this clearly:



IV. NUCLEAR

- A. John-** Started working with the French company that operates the nuclear fuel recycling facility in La Hague, France, to plan our visit to their facility and associated trans-loading facility. A group of local and state leaders plan on touring the site in late summer. As many know, this type of operation is the target that we have been after for over 20 years. The interim storage facility is one piece to this larger nuclear industry that we intend on bringing to Eddy and Lea Counties.
- B. John-** Have been corresponding with the NMED, SIMCO, and the Mayor's Nuclear Task Force on the upcoming WIPP Permitting process and associated mediation that will be held this summer regarding WIPP's NMED Permit. Attended two meetings on the permitting. Apparently, the CDOD was the ONLY

interested entity that supports WIPP other than the Permittees that requested a hearing on NMED preposterous additions to the WIPP permit. This makes us an official “interested party” in the entire mediation process. Without the CDOD and its resolution passed by the board earlier this year, our community would not have been left out of the process.

V. MEDICAL

- A. **John-** Attended Carlsbad Medical Center’s Community update meeting at the Riverside Country Club. Hospital CEO Nick Arledge gave a presentation on the new physicians that have been employed and announced some incoming doctors. I met several of the new physicians.

VI. RETAIL/RESTAURANTS/ENTERTAINMENT/HOSPITALITY

- A. **Jeff** – The former Executive Inn & Suites has been demolished. In talking with the developer of this property, they are open to retail and restaurant leads as well as the possibility of selling the property outright.
- B. **Jeff** – A retail project I began working on over a year ago has gotten hot again. With the opportunities that come with newly vacant buildings in the area, they are searching for the right situation so that they can enter the Carlsbad market. This particular entity can also assist with getting people back to work.
- C. **Jeff** –I continue to work on finding a location for a quick serve chicken restaurant. They have specified that they only wish to be located north of the Hobbs highway on Pierce Street.
- D. **Jeff** – Spoke with a broker who represents a piece of land north of Lowe’s Home Improvement. They would like to attract either a large restaurant or retailer, or a combination of smaller businesses for development on this property.
- E. **Jeff** – Spoke with another broker who has a piece of land that he needs subdivided. I referred him to the City’s planning department to handle this.
- F. **Jeff** – Talked with a local business owner who is looking to open a food truck. He had questions about his license and marketing.

VII. ADMINISTRATION

- A. **John-** Posted both open positions with the NM Department of Workforce solutions.
- B. **John-** Continue to handle Office Manager daily duties [deposits, mail runs, filing, scanning and sending all of the bookkeeping paperwork to Belenda (invoices, checks, deposit slips, bank statements, IRS and DPWFS letters, etc.), printing and delivering checks, printing meeting packets, etc.]
- C. **John-** Reviewed over 100 resumés and interviewed 15 candidates for office manager and local development coordinator positions. Have identified successful candidates for both positions.

- D.** **John-** Jeff and I met with Jim Lucero and Kevin Davis from the NM Economic Development Department to discuss the state of the area's economy. These guys took Susie Russell's place.
- E.** **John-** Assisting Eddy County Manager Roberta Gonzales with interview process for their Community Services Director position.
- F.** **John-** Attended a meeting with the NM DOT District Engineer regarding projects in our area and priorities.
- G.** **Jeff** – Posted the open positions of Local Development Coordinator and Office Manager on Indeed, and have been forwarding all applications to John.
- H.** **Jeff** – Getting ready for the CDOD Annual Meeting, taking place on June 22, 2023. We will honor several individuals and companies for their contributions to economic development.