

HD47 Rep Hill 'excited' about new appointments

By Jayson Knight

House appointments were made at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City recently, and House Representative Brian Hill received some appointments he's familiar with, and some he's excited to take on.

"I'm excited about the appointments I received and the committees I've been appointed to," Hill said Monday. "This past week, it was announced that I'll be Director of the House Page Program. I also was given an honor of being named Vice Chair of Rules, which is a committee where we have the majority of house bills come through. Then, also, I'll be remaining as Vice Chair of the Northwest Redistricting Committee as well as we continue the redistricting process throughout this year. I'm really excited about all of those. I also have been named to the Insurance Committee. I'll be remaining on the Appropriations and Budget Finance Committee. That's a great honor as well."

Hill said he was grateful, and explained some of what he would be doing within these positions.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity," Hill said. "I'm going to be able to serve our community through those roles. I'll continue in the finance role, where

I served as vice chair previously, to have oversight of the Oklahoma Tax Commission, and also the Department of Commerce now as well. Both of these are roles that I've been extremely involved with throughout my first two years and I look forward to continuing that work as well."

Hill said his role working with the Department of Commerce would involve business development, seeking new businesses and companies to come into both Oklahoma and House District 47.

He said one of the main things he's been working on lately is coordinating with tag agents.

"I'm also working with many of our tag agents with issues with the Oklahoma Tax Commission, regarding tags and license renewal," Hill said. "Both of those two have become difficulties, for not only our tag agents, but also for our residents. I've been working to try and find some real solutions in regards to Real ID and the complications that have come from its implementation this year. Representative Brad Boles and I both have been meeting with Department of Public Safety and with OTC in order to try and find solutions for our districts, which includes of course Tuttle."

Hill said he knows some people might be running into roadblocks to get their driver's license and ID cards renewed, and wants to serve as a lifeline for those residents.

"Anyone that's having issues with either a license renewal or tag renewals," Hill said, "please reach out to our office. That's what we're here for, is to try and help them through that process, and we're very hopeful to see some real solutions come through legislation that has been filed."

Hill said even though there's 101 members in the 57th Legislature's House of Representatives, "It still feels like a small community, each of us trying to do our part to represent our district. I have the privilege of having more of a urban/suburban feel on the north part of HD 47, with a much more rural feel on the southern part of HD 47, which allows me to kind of be able to work in between what people often called the urban-rural divide. It's one of the unique roles I feel like I'm able to fill here in the House."

Hill said he enjoys working with all of the local legislators for this area.

"I just enjoy working with the members," the representative said, "I'm also excited about some of our new mem-



HD47 Rep Brian Hill

bers that are coming in that are adjacent to House District 47, such as Representative Dick Lowe who is coming in, who also will be representing parts of Tuttle. I look very much to working with him and our other representative for Tuttle, Brad Boles.

"I'll also continue to work closely with Senator Lonnie Paxton. He has been exceptional helping in the process, and we often partner on legislation that I'll run in the House and then he will author in the Senate. He's always a great partner for our district."

Ruby's Rustic getting back to it in Tuttle

By Jayson Knight

Owner/operator Elvia Castro opened Ruby's Rustic the first time in 2016, but a family emergency forced the business closed. After the passing of her father, Elvia had to put the business on hold until 2019. It is located at 2420 East State Highway 37 in Tuttle.

"It's the same location just a different building," Elvia said. "It's the same area. We didn't move far, it's just next door. We sell rustic furniture and its mostly handmade. I can also get some

customers brands like Ashley and stuff like that. We're also able to get that kind of furniture."

This authentic rustic furniture is made by her family members in Mexico.

"Yes, they make it," Elvia said. "It's a way of helping them, and a way of letting people know what they do."

So, do they take requests?
"Yes, we do custom orders. So, say you saw something at Mathis Brothers. You saw a really awesome entertainment center that you liked but you wanted it

in real wood, you can give us the measurements and then we can build it for you."

As far as price range, Elvia said Ruby's Rustic compares to other businesses of the like.

"I price my items close to others' prices," Elvia said. "And then if they come in the store and they really like it, I do give them a really good deal. This furniture is really heavy and sturdy. It will last you way longer than other rustic furniture that they sell at the other stores. This is handmade, so we can do whatever color or size you

want or need."

Ruby's Rustic is open Tuesdays through Friday, noon to six. And then Saturdays, from around 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"I'm going to change those hours soon, she said. "I'm just waiting for the weather to cooperate with us a little bit more, and then we'll open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. or 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. If on Sundays they can't come during the week or Saturday and they call me and say, 'Hey, I'm on my way. I'm, you know, driving an hour/two hours away, I'll come and open the store for you.'"