

# MINUTES

**HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (HCRMA)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
5:30 P.M. – MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2009  
MISSION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
202 WEST TOM LANDRY STREET  
MISSION, TEXAS**

The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority (HCRMA) Board of Directors held a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, at Mission Chamber of Commerce, 202 West Tom Landry Street, Mission, Texas

In attendance were:

Board Members

Mr. Dennis Burselson, Chairman  
Mr. Rick Perez, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Ramiro, Salazar, Secretary-Treasurer  
Mr. Ramon Garcia  
Mr. Joe Olivarez  
Mr. Ricardo Perez

Others

Ms. Maria Champine  
Ms. Mary Escalona  
Ms. Blakely Fernandez, TRPSA, LLP  
Mr. Everett Owen, Owen Consulting  
Ms. Mario Jorge, TxDOT  
Mr. Gerry Pate, HCRB  
Ms. Flor Koll, HCRB  
Mr. Jacinto Garza, L & G Engineering  
Mr. Eric Dietrich, Hidalgo County, TEDSI  
Mr. Andrew A. Canon, HCMPO  
Mr. Ken N. Jones, LRGVDC  
Ms. Erika Reyna, Hidalgo County Judges Office  
Mr. Tom Rodino, HDR  
Ms. Lorna Jacobson, Citizen

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Chairman Dennis Burselson called the meeting to order at 5:35pm and announced that a quorum of voting members was present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Burselson welcomed everyone in the audience to tonight's meeting. Mr. Burselson acknowledged anyone in the audience who would like to speak at this time. Mr. Melle Williams requested more information regarding the public meetings held in the Donna Area. He stated that he resided at Country Side Village 2 in Donna, Texas. He noted that neither the residents of Country Side Village 2 nor the owner had received any prior information regarding the Hidalgo County Loop. Mrs. Lorna Jacobson, Quite Village II, also requested more detail information regarding the area in Donna, Texas. Chairman Burselson advised Mr. Williams that Mr. Jacinto Garza, HCRB, will be able to provide detail information to him regarding the Hidalgo County Loop and answer any other questions as needed. Chairman Burselson briefly went through a letter from FHWA regarding funding.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. Consideration and Approval of Minutes from March 12, 2009

Chairman Dennis Burselson stated that minutes have been provided for everyone to review. **Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the minutes and stated that only minor changes were made prior to the meeting. Mr. Joe Olivarez seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

B. Consideration and Approval of Outstanding Invoices and Travel Requests

Ms. Maria Champine gave a brief summary of the outstanding invoices. **Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the outstanding invoices and travel requests as presented. Mr. Ricardo Perez seconded the motion and, upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

C. Consideration and Approval of Financial Reports- Cheryl Bellamy, SAS, L.L.P.

Ms. Cheryl Bellamy, SAS, LLP, gave a brief report on the RMA current monthly income. Mr. Burselson noted that the balance of the incoming Vehicle Registration checks from the County were also available. **Mr. Ricardo Perez made a motion to approve the Financial Reports as presented. Mr. Ramiro Salazar seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

#### 4. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS: DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

##### A. Mario Jorge, Texas Department of Transportation

1. Update on Project
2. TxDOT's Toll Equity Program
3. Update on Presentation to Transportation Commission – April 30, 2009

Mr. Mario Jorge gave a brief report on the April 30<sup>th</sup> TxDOT Commission Meeting. He reminded the Board that the RMA will need to give a minor report at the Commission Meeting and will need to submit a survey that needs to be turned in to Mr. Jorge. He stated that they are reviewing the EIS for Sections: A, B, C and De. He noted that TxDOT is reviewing the financial analysis of the Preliminary Agreement. He reminded the board that they should have a decision by the end of the month around May 2009. Mr. Jorge stated that the Pass Through Funding is only \$300 million that are available. He advised the Board that there is tough competition for this funding. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

##### B. Gerry Pate, Hidalgo County Road Builders

1. Loop Project Update
2. Update on Community Outreach
3. Pass-Through Application Time Line

Mr. Pate gave a brief report on the Hidalgo County Loop Project. He advised the Board that a meeting has been scheduled for April 14<sup>th</sup> with PBS&J. He stated that the Pass Through Application is being finalized. Mr. Rick Perez requested that the application be reviewed by the RMA board prior it's submittal to TxDOT. Mr. Pate stated that the Mayor's Club Breakfast went very well. Mr. Jacinto Garza stated that HCRB staff has attended about 14 Public Meetings in different locations around the Hidalgo County area. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

##### C. Tracy Hill / Sharon Becca, PBS&J

1. Update on Environmental Review
- No reports given at this time.

##### D. Blakely Fernandez, TRPSA

1. Update on Legislation Session
2. Discussion of Ethics Filing Deadline – April 31, 2009

Ms. Blakely Fernandez reminded the Board members that their Personal Financial Statements were due by April 31<sup>st</sup>. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

##### E. Everett Owen, Owen Consulting

1. Status of review of Preliminary Information
2. Update on Scope of Environmental Process / Classification Letter
3. Review of Budget - Progress versus Expenditures

Mr. Everett gave a minor report regarding the Hidalgo County Loop. He stated that he will have a more detail update after the meeting in Austin. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

##### F. Chairman's Report

1. Discussion on April and May RMA Meetings
2. Update on Audit
3. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action on Staffing
4. Update on Board Appointments by County

Chairman Burleson stated that the Audit is coming along very well. There is still some information that is pending but we should be able to have a minor report by the end of April. Mr. Burleson stated that Mr. Ruben Serna turned in a resignation letter due to personal reasons. Mr. Ken Jones, LRGVDC, gave some alternative suggestions regarding hiring a permanent fulltime RMA staff member. He stated that a job description for the Planner I position was passed out for everyone to review. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

#### 5. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR UPDATED PROPOSALS FOR FINANCIAL ADVISORY SERVICES

Chairman Burleson stated that the RMA needs to hire a consultant for Financial Services. He stated that the submittals that were turned in back in 2007 were being reviewed. He requested to ask the three firms to re-submit an updated proposal. **Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the Request for Updated Proposals for Financial Advisory Services. Mr. Joe Olivarez seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

6. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPROVING AUTOMATIC PAYMENT OF DEBT SERVICE FROM DEBT SERVICE ACCOUNT  
 Chairman Burleson stated that the First National Bank Interest payment is due the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month. He stated that sometimes the meeting is scheduled prior to receiving the invoice and this may cause the payment to be paid late. He requested that we approve the First National Bank Interest Payments to be paid automatically from the Debt Service Account. He noted that a report will be given at the following meeting if the invoice has been paid. **Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the Resolution approving Automatic Payment of the Debt Service from the Debt Service Account. Mr. Ricardo Perez seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**
  
7. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE FOR SECTIONS E AND F  
 Chairman Burleson stated that the public meetings on E and F will be delayed and will need to be brought back next month. **Mr. Ramon Garcia made a motion to table this item and be brought back next month. Mr. Ramiro Salazar seconded the motion and upon the vote the motion carried unanimously.**
  
8. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND APPROVAL OF TECHNICALLY PREFERRED ALIGNMENT FOR SECTIONS B AND D  
 Chairman Burleson stated that the public meetings for sections B and D have been done and went very well. Mr. Pate recommends that these sections are ready to move forward to the next step. **Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the Technically Preferred Alignment for Sections B and D. Mr. Joe Olivarez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**
  
9. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND APPROVAL OF DISCLOSURE RELATED TO PROJECT  
 Chairman Burleson stated that Disclosures are needed for all of the consultants. Ms. Fernandez stated that the RMA Consultants will need to have their Disclosures available for posting. **Vice Chairman Rick Perez made a motion to approve the Disclosure related to Project. Mr. Ramon Garcia seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**
  
10. EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE:
  - A. Section 551.071. Consultation with Attorney
    1. Discussion on legal issues pertaining to Preliminary Project Development Agreement
  - B. Section 551.072. Deliberation Regarding Real Property
  - C. Section 551.074. Personnel Matters**Vice Chairman Rick Perez made a motion to go into Executive Session Pursuant to Section 551.071. Mr. Ricardo Perez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**  
*Chairman Burleson stated that no action was taken under Executive Session.*
  
11. NEW BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETING AGENDA  
 Chairman Burleson stated that we will need to have another meeting this month. He asked for everyone to contact Mary Escalona and see if they are available to meet April 23<sup>rd</sup>. He also mentioned that next month's meeting is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup>.
  
12. ADJOURNMENT  
**Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Joe Olivarez seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

ATTEST:

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 Ramiro E. Salazar, Secretary-Treasurer