

MINUTES

**HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (HCRMA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
5:30 P.M. – THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2008
MISSION CITY HALL
1201 S. 18TH ST.
Mission, Texas**

The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority (HCRMA) Board of Directors held a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 12, 2008 at the City of Mission (City Hall), Mission, Texas.

In attendance were:

Board Members

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

Others

Ms. Mary Escalona
Ms. Maria Champine
Ms. Blakely Fernandez, Tuggey Rosenthal Pauerstein
Sandoloski Agather LLP
Mr. Mario Jorge, TxDOT
Commissioner Scott Crane, City of McAllen
Commissioner Angie Garza, City of La Joya
Judge J.D. Salinas, Hidalgo County
Mr. Julio Cerda, City of Mission
Mr. Eric Dietrich, Hidalgo County/ TEDSI
Mr. Forrest Runnels
Mr. Steve Taylor, Rio Grande Guardian
Mr. Jim Moore, PTE
Mr. bobby Villarreal, Hidalgo ROW
Ms. Sophia Hernandez, Hidalgo County
Mr. Gerry Pate, HCRB
Mr. Reza Badiozzamani, L & G- HCRB
Mr. Jacinto Garza, L & G
Mr. Justo Gonzalez Jr. P.E., Dorado Eng.
Mr. Carlos V. Dominguez, P.E., Dorado Eng.
Mr. Fermin Dorado, P.E., Dorado Eng.
Ms. Elizabeth A. Parker, Property Owner
Ms. Florine Dietz, Property Owner
Ms. Sara Vela, Hidalgo County Pct. 3

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Burleson introduced Judge J.D. Salinas. Judge J.D. Salinas, Hidalgo County, submitted into the record the RMA Board consider studying the feasibility of utilizing FM1925 (Monte Cristo Road), east of US 281, as an improved east-west corridor. Judge Salinas submitted a memo with the request.

3. CONSENT ITEMS:

A. Approval of Minutes

1. May 08, 2008
2. May 20, 2008

Mr. Burleson stated that the minutes from the May 08th, May 20th Minutes, Expense Reports and any other business will need to be reapproved to reflect the reappointment of Board Member Ramiro Salazar.

B. Discussion and / or action including but not limited to the approval of Expense Reports

Ms. Maria Champine stated that the expense reports included in the packets were from April and May 2008. The expenses that have been processed for the month of June will be brought to the July 10th RMA Meeting. She stated that the Tex Pool interest was not included but will be included at next month RMA Meeting.

C. Travel Items Requests

None at this time.

Mr. Ron Morrison stated that the Request for Credit Advancement with First National Bank has been included for approval. Mr. Morrison stated that the RMA will be able to close the transaction and also be able to transfer the funds to the RMA Loop Project account. He stated that First National Bank is only charging the RMA fees as funds are draw.

Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the all of the Constant items as presented and approved the Request for Credit Advancement. Vice Chairman Rick Perez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

4. WELCOME AND UPDATE FROM THE CITY OF MISSION

Chairman Burleson welcomed Commissioner Scott Crane, City of McAllen, and Commissioner Angie Garza, City of La Joya. Mr. Burleson introduced City Manager Julio Cerda, City of Mission. Mr. Cerda welcomed the HCRMA Board members and the audience to the City of Mission. He invited the HCRMA to hold future meetings in the City of Mission.

5. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION APPROVING THE BOOKKEEPING AND ACCOUNTING SERVICES FIRM

A. Blakely Fernandez, Tuggey Rosenthal Pauerstein Sandoloski Agather LLP

Chairman Burleson stated that an engagement letter was included for everyone to review. Ms. Fernandez stated that after reviewing the engagement letter; she stated that the RMA is able to move forward with the engagement with Salinas, Allen and Schmitt, LLP. ***Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the Bookkeeping and Accounting Services of Salinas, Allen & Schmitt, LLP and move forward with the Engagement Letter. Mr. Joe Olivarez seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

6. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

A. Blakely Fernandez, Tuggey Rosenthal Pauerstein Sandoloski Agather LLP

No reports were given at this time.

B. Mario Jorge, Texas Department of Transportation District Engineer

Mr. Mario Jorge stated that they have had a couple of meetings with Hidalgo County Road Builders. He stated that there is about \$11 Million available for the proposed Military Highway portion of the Hidalgo County Loop. Mr. Jorge stated that he will have more meetings in the future to see if there could be other funding available.

C. Everett Owen, Project Consultant

1. Agreement with TxDOT to assume Military Highway (Between Spur 600 and FM 493)

Mr. Owen stated that this past month we have been studying all off the routes for the Loop Project. He stated that the RMA agreement with TxDOT regarding Military Highway is being studied by Hidalgo County Road Builders. TxDOT has confirmed that they will not be able to fund the Military Highway section for the Loop Project. Mr. Owen stated that the RMA will need to negotiate with Hidalgo County Road Builders regarding the extra cost will be to include the Military Highway section into the Loop Project. The RMA will also need to negotiate with TxDOT on how the process will be and allocate if any funds are available for this project. Mr. Burleson advised the Board members that the Hidalgo County Transportation Policy Committee meeting will be taking action to approve a Resolution to give the RMA designation of the La Joya Loop and the Mid Valley Connector.

2. Gerry Pate, Hidalgo County Road Builders

Mr. Pate stated that their meetings with TxDOT have been coming along very good. He stated that HCRB has already started looking into adding the Military Highway section into the Loop Project. Mr. Pate stated that the Public Meetings in May went very well. They received several comments from the public; some were negative and others were very positive. He stated that they were in the process of scheduling four (4) public meetings for July 2008. Board Member Ramon Garcia stated that he would like to see more public involvement to be advertised. He suggested having the advertisement to be bigger in size and also include a map showing the suggested routes. He also recommended advertising in the smaller City newspapers, internet, and City and Government websites. Mr. Pate stated that they are planning to mail out a notice to all of the citizens located near the proposed routes. Mr. Pate stated that they would like to recommend approval of the four (4) public meetings. Mr. Burleson asked if the Board would give a consensus to approve all four public meetings in July. Mr. Ramon Garcia suggested bringing the advertisement for approval at the next RMA meeting.

3. Ron Morrison, RBC Capital Markets

Mr. Ron Morrison stated that the only reports he had was the credit advancement paperwork that was approved earlier today. Mr. Burleson stated that RBC is preparing the financial plan for the RMA. This item will be brought back at a later time.

4. Cheryl Bellamy, SASLLPCPA

No reports were given at this time.

7. ITEMS OF DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Update on advertisement for the possible hiring of an Executive Director

Mr. Burluson stated that the position for Executive Director has been advertised in the newspapers and City and Government websites. Ms. Mary Escalona stated that there have been two submittals but that the deadline for submittals is June 27, 2008. A copy of the Monitor advertisement for the Executive Director was provided for all of the Board Members to review.

B. Discussion on Hidalgo County RMA Budget for upcoming years

The Board members would like to have an RMA workshop to discuss all of the RMA responsibilities will be in the future and what we are expected to do. Mr. Burluson stated that all of the RMA consultants, legal counsel and RBC are in the process of creating a master list of the RMA responsibilities. He suggested that the Cities, County & MPO's be invited to attend the workshop.

8. OPEN HOUSE UPDATE FOR THE LOOP PROJECT

A. Report on Open House meetings held in April

B. Possible Action for future Open House Meetings.

Both of these items were discussed under Mr. Gerry Pate, HCRB, reports.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551:

A. Section 551.071. Consultation with Attorney

B. Section 551.072. Deliberation Regarding Real Property

C. Section 551.074. Personal Matters

No executive session was held.

10. ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. Possible Action

B. Possible Action

C. Possible Action

No action items were taken.

11. NEW OR OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Burluson advised everyone that a Team Tx meeting has been scheduled to meet in Houston on June 26th and 27th. He invited all of the Board members to attend.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairmen Rick Perez seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Ramiro E. Salazar, Secretary-Treasurer