

MINUTES

DRAFT #3

**HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (HCRMA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
4:00 P.M. – THURSDAY, AUGUST 09, 2007**

**HIDALGO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ROOM
100 E. CANO – EDINBURG, TX**

PRESIDING: DENNIS BURLESON, CHAIRMAN

The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority (HCRMA) Board of Directors held a regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 09, 2007 at the Hidalgo County Commission Room, 100 E. Cano, Edinburg, TX. In attendance were:

Board Members

Mr. Dennis Burleson, Chairman
Mr. Rick Perez, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Ramiro Salazar, Secretary-Treasurer
Mr. Ruben Plata
Mr. Ruben Serna
Mr. Ricardo Perez

Others

Ms. Mary Escalona, HCMPO
Mr. Ken N. Jones, LRGVDC
Mr. Richard Zamora, Pate Eng.
Ms. Veronica Chidester, Pate Eng.
Mr. Jose Reyes, TEDSI
Ms. Jennie Tamborelli, Pate Engineering
Mr. Gerry Pate, Pate Engineering
Ms. Vanessa Wallace, Pate Engineering
Mr. Mark Heidaker, PAS
Mr. Godfry Garza, HCDD
Mr. Richard Zamora, Pate Engineering
Mr. Ryan Murphy, RGV Vipers, NBAD-League
Mr. Jerry Murphy, NBA
Mr. Scott Young, Pate Engineering
Mr. Joe A. Califa, JE Saenz
Mr. Fred Schuster, Schuster Farms
Mr. Martin Vila, P.E., Raba-Kistner Consultants, Inc.
Mr. Jeremiah Gonzalez, Edinburg Review
Mr. Mark Luper, TEDSI
Mr. Robert Saenz, Halff Assoc.
Mr. Raul Garcia, Halff Assoc.

1. Call to Order & Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Dennis Burleson called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. and announced that a quorum of voting members was present.

Chairman Dennis Burleson introduced Mr. Ricardo Perez as the new RMA Board Member. Mr. Perez is a resident of the City of La Joya and we welcome him aboard. County Judge J. D. Salinas welcomed the RMA Board Members to the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court. Judge J.D. Salinas officially swore in Mr. Ricardo Perez as the newest Regional Mobility Authority Board Member.

2. **Consider Approval of Minutes**.....Chairman

A. **Minutes of July 25, 2007 RMA Meeting**

Chairman Burleson then moved to Item 2 A. Mr. Ken Jones suggested that an addition to page 2, Item 5, line 3; for it to read as follow, “Both proposers gave a ballpark figure amount, **excluding engineering fees**, on the scope of the project.” *Mr. Ruben Plata made a motion to approve the minutes from July 25, 2007 with the corrections. Mr. Ruben Serna seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

B. **Minutes of July 30, 2007 RMA Meeting**

Chairman Burleson then moved to Item 2 B. Chairman Burleson asked if any changes needed to be made, there being none, the chairman proceeded on to the next item. *Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the minutes from July 30, 2007. Mr. Ruben Plata seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

3. **Public Comment**.....Chairman

Chairman Burleson then moved to Item 3. Chairman Burleson asked if there was any citizen input. There being none, the chairman proceeded on to the next item.

4. **Consider Approval of Re: Expense Report**.....Chairman

Chairman Burleson then moved to Item 4. Mr. Ken Jones stated that an expense report and an invoice from Legal Counsel were attached for their review. This last month’s expense report shows a balance \$170,098.14. Expenses for consideration for approval is a salary expense for April & July 2007, travel reimbursement for Chairman Burleson for the Transportation Forum, and Legal Counsel expenses. (A copy of the expense report has been made a part of these minutes). *Mr. Ruben Serna made a motion to approve the Expense Report. Mr. Ramiro Salazar seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

5. **Consideration of TxDOT’s Disadvantaged Business Entity (DBE) program as the HCRMA’s program in compliance with federal guidelines and a Memorandum of Understanding with the Texas Department of Transportation.**.....Chairman

Chairman Burleson then moved to Item 5. Ms. Blakely Fernandez stated that the RMA needed to have a DBE policy in place in compliance with federal guidelines should the RMA expend any federal funds for its projects. The RMA can create a program or adopt TxDOT’s program. Ms. Fernandez stated that by adopting TxDOT’s program the RMA would be allowed to use TxDOT’s consolidated list, websites and other pertinent information. *Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve TxDOT’s DBE program as the HCRMA program in compliance with federal guidelines and a Memorandum of Understanding with the Texas Department of Transportation. Mr. Ruben Serna seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

6. **Consideration of Professional Services Contracts for Financial Advisory Services**Chairman

Chairman Burleson then moved to Item 6. Ms. Blakely Fernandez stated that after getting together with the Chairman, RBC and FNB representatives a contract was negotiated for Board approval and it appears to be a standard contract(s). Ms. Blakely stated that the fixed transactional fees are a bit higher than Cameron County, but there is no retainer. Ms. Fernandez stated that the RMA would be billed per transaction. After further discussion, Ms. Fernandez recommended approval of the contract terms as presented. Mr. Ruben Plata commented that he abstains from voting because he's employed by First National Bank. Chairman Burleson stated that he currently works in the financial industry and has worked with RBC and FNB. *Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the Professional Services Contracts for Financial Advisory Services. Mr. Joe Olivarez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously (Ruben Plata abstaining; Vice Chairman Rick Perez abstaining.).*

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7. **Consideration of a Memorandum of Understanding with Hidalgo County**.....Chairman
Chairman Burleson then moved to Item 7. Mr. Jesus Ramirez, Montalvo Ramirez Law Firm, stated that the attached MOU is only a draft. At this time we are asking to adopt the draft and submitted to the County for review. If the County has any recommendations, we will bring it back to RMA Board for further review and adoption. *Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Hidalgo County. Mr. Ruben Plata seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

8. **Consideration and Selection of an Agent for the Southern Loop Project**.....Chairman
Chairman Burleson then moved to Item 8. Mr. Burleson stated that Mary Escalona would pick from a hat of who will go first. He advised the other team that there is another conference room upstairs where they could wait until called upon. Mr. Burleson stated that Williams Brothers would go first. The Williams Brothers team gave a detailed presentation of the Southern Loop Project. The Board members asked the Williams Brothers Team several questions. Chairman Burleson asked for a brief 10 min. break. Hidalgo County Road Builders team gave a detail presentation of the Southern Loop Project. The Board members asked Hidalgo County Road Builders a several questions.

Mr. Burleson adjourned the Board into Executive Session at 8:35 p.m., pursuant to Section 551.017(1) of the Texas Government Code to consult with counsel on legal issues. No action was taken in Executive Session. The Board reconvened in Open Session at 8:50 p.m.

Upon returning from Executive Session, Vice Chairman Rick Perez made a motion to select Hidalgo County Road Builders as the Selected Agent for the Southern Loop Project. Mr. Ruben Plata seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

9. **New or Old Business**
None at this time.

10. **Adjournment**
The Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn. *Mr. Ruben Plata made a motion for adjournment; Mr. Ruben Serna seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.*

ATTEST:

Ramiro E. Salazar, Secretary-Treasurer