

# MINUTES

**HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (HCRMA)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
5:30 P.M. – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2007**

**CITY OF PHARR COMMISSIONERS ROOM  
118 S. CAGE BLVD. – PHARR, TX**

The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority (HCRMA) Board of Directors held a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 12, 2007 at the City of Pharr, City Commission Room, Pharr, 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

Others

Ms. Mary Escalona, HCMPO  
Mr. Ken N. Jones, LRGVDC  
Mr. Richard Zamora, Pate Eng.  
Ms. Gerry Pate, Pate Engineering  
Mr. Ron Morrison, RBC Capital Markets  
Ms. Jessica Causy, Zachary Construction  
Mr. Allan Butcher, Raba-Kistner  
Mr. Sam Maldonado, J. E. Saenz  
Ms. Alma Walzer, S & B Infrastructure  
Ms. Veronica De La Fuente, Hidalgo County Judge's Office

1. **Call to Order & Establishment of a Quorum**

Chairman Dennis Burleson called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. and announced that a quorum of voting members was present

Chairman Dennis Burleson introduced Mayor Leopoldo Palacios, City of Pharr. Mayor Leopoldo Palacios welcomed the RMA Board members and the audience to the City of Pharr. Mayor Leopoldo Palacios invited the RMA to have more Board meetings in the City of Pharr. The Mayor stated that he would be recommending to the Hidalgo County MPO to add Pate Engineering's presentation regarding the Hidalgo County Loop to next month's Policy Meeting.

2. **Consider Approval of Minutes from August 9, 2007 RMA Meeting** .....Chairman

Chairman Dennis Burleson then moved to item 2. Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the minutes from August 9, 2007. Mr. Ruben Plata seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

3. **Public Comment**

Chairman Burleson then moved to item 3. - Public Comment; however no one had signed up for Public Comment.

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

Chairman Dennis Burleson then moved to item 4. Mr. Ken Jones stated that attached was an invoice from both legal councils and the administration expense report. He stated that the balance was \$166,242.99 with an interest amount of \$822.28. The balance as of July 31, 2007 is \$167,065.27. Mr. Jones asked for approval to pay current bills for legal council, staff salary and Trophie's Etc. Mr. Burleson stated that if any of the board members had any outstanding expenses that needed to be paid that the paperwork would need to be submitted to Mr. Jones. *Mr. Ramiro Salazar made a motion to approve the Expense Report. Mr. Ricardo Perez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

5. **Consideration of Interim Development Agent Agreement**.....Chairman  
 Chairman Dennis Burluson then moved to item 5. Ms. Blakely Fernandez stated that last month the RMA board selected Hidalgo County Road Builders to be the designated agent for the Southern Loop Project. We have been negotiating with their council the Interim Development Agent Agreement. This agreement gives Hidalgo County Road Builders to act on behalf of the Hidalgo County RMA with matters related to planning, financing, development of the project. They are going to focus on the financing that they proposed to the RMA. They will not enter into any binding agreements. They would need to bring those agreements for final approval. *Vice-Chairman Rick Perez made a motion to approve to enter into an Interim Development Agent Agreement with Hidalgo County Road Builders. Mr. Ricardo Perez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*
6. **Report from Hidalgo County Road Builders**.....Chairman  
 Chairman Dennis Burluson then moved to item 6. Mr. Gerry Pate, Hidalgo County Road Builders gave a brief presentation regarding the Hidalgo County Southern Loop. Mr. Pate stated that a hard copy of the presentation would be Fedex for all of the Board members to review. He stated that extra copies would be made available upon request. *Reports only, no action taken at this time.*
7. **Status Report**.....Chairman  
 Mr. Burluson asked if anyone else from Legal council or RBC have any status reports at this time. Mr. Mario Jorge congratulated the RMA Board for making the selection for a consultant for the Southern Loop Project. Mr. Jorge gave a brief update on when TxDOT is going to be having meetings regarding the Loop.
- A. **Update on Vehicle Registration Increase of \$10 (Resolutions turned in by the Cities)**  
 Mr. Ken Jones stated that a listing of all the cities that have approved to support the SB1888. He stated that as the cities are submitting their City Resolutions they are being forwarded to the County.
- B. **Update on Administrative Budget Contributions**  
 Ms. Debby Morales stated that the City of McAllen has agreed to contribute \$50,000, The City of Mission Economic Development has agreed to \$25,000 contribution, City of Edinburg has agreed to contribute \$25,000 and the City of San Juan has agreed to contribute \$14,328. The LRGVDC finance department has sent out invoices to all three cities. The City of Progreso placed this item up for consideration at yesterday's City Commission Meeting but it was tabled. It is scheduled to discuss at their next City Commission meeting on: October 9, 2007 to be reconsidered. Next week the Cities of: Mercedes, Weslaco and La Joya will have this item up for approval. The City of Donna is scheduled to have their meeting on October 4, 2007. Ms. Morales requested if any of the RMA Board members would be able to attend the Cities Commission Meetings for support and if they were to have any questions.
- C. **Discussion RE: Establishment of Subcommittees & Task Forces**  
 Chairman Burluson stated that if any of the Board members would like to meet to discuss any of the subcommittees. He stated that we would need to set up a planning committee that will be the primary contact with the developer to review plans and construction activity. They will also have to come up with a strategic plan that we will need for next year. We will need to set up the committees by next month.

8. **Discussion and Possible Action RE: Meeting Schedule**.....Chairman  
Chairman Dennis Burleson then moved to item 8. Mr. Burleson stated that the Hidalgo County MPO would be moving into the new building in Weslaco by the end of the month. He would like to have next months RMA meeting at the new building. The next RMA meeting is scheduled to meet on Thursday, October 11, 2007 at 5:30 PM.

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. Joe Olivarez seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.*

ATTEST:

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Ramiro E. Salazar, Secretary-Treasurer