

Webb County - City of Laredo
Regional Mobility Authority (RMA)
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, March 21, 2016
9:00 AM

Minutes

The Webb County - City of Laredo, Regional Mobility Authority Board of Directors convened in a meeting at 9:05 a.m. on Monday, March 21, 2016 at the TxDOT Laredo District Office, 1817 Bob Bullock Loop, Laredo, TX.

Minutes are as follows:

Present: Ruben Soto, Jr., Chairman and Presiding Officer, Albert Muller, Sr., Alfonso Mendiola and Arturo Dominguez.

Absent: Jose Murillo, Oscar Lopez, Steve LaMantia and Board Member for Precinct 1 (Unassigned)

Others: Pete Alvarez, TxDOT Laredo District Engineer
Melisa D. Montemayor TxDOT Laredo District Administrator
Mike Graham, TxDOT Environmental Specialist
Marissa Montoya, Office Technician, TxDOT Laredo District (note taker)
Araceli Rangel, Staff Assistant, CPA Office of Ruben Soto, Jr. (note taker)
Richard Ridings, HNTB (Presenter)
Antonio Rodriguez, HNTB
Carlos Lopez and Brad Guilmino, HNTB (Presenter)
Brian O'Reilly, Locke Lord, LLP (Legal Counsel)
Juan Cruz, J. Cruz & Associates LLC (Legal Counsel)

1. Open Meeting and Establish Quorum

After establishing a quorum, Presiding Officer, Ruben Soto, Jr., called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. He then announced the following Board Members present: Albert Muller, Sr., Alfonso Mendiola, Arturo Dominguez and himself, Ruben Soto, Jr.. He also stated that Steve LaMantia, Jose Murillo, Oscar Lopez were absent. He notified everyone present that the meeting was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, and then asked everyone to stand for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Welcome and Introduction of Board Members -Ruben Soto, Jr. (WC-CL RMA Presiding Officer)

Chairman Soto informed all present that the meeting was being recorded and thanked Mrs. Melisa Montemayor and Mr. Pete Alvarez for hosting the meeting. He also thanked TxDOT's Mike Graham for recording, and Marissa Montoya and Araceli Rangel for assisting with the minutes and preparation for the meeting.

3. Action Item: Discussion, Consideration, and Approval of February 16, 2016 WC-CL RMA Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Chairman Soto stated that the Board Members had been provided a copy of the February 16, 2016 meeting minutes for review. He then asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Webb County-City of Laredo RMA meeting that took place on February 16, 2016, as presented.

Albert Muller, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Arturo Dominguez to approve the meeting minutes. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Chairman's Report

- A. Update on WC-CL RMA Bank Account**
- B. Financial Report**
- C. Update on City and County Contributions for Non-Project Operating Expenses**
- D. Update on Development of the WC-CL RMA Strategic Plan**
- E. Resignation of Board Member**

- A. Chairman Soto stated that he was in communications with the bank to set up a money market/ CD accounts. He also consulted with their financial advisor, Don Gonzalez, and he advised not to invest in CDs in excess of 9 months since there might be a rise in interest rates at the end of the year.
- B. Currently the RMA has a bank balance of \$3,459,670.11. Funds dispersed since the last meeting was \$4,495.40 to Locke Lord LLP on road project related legal work.
- C. This item will be discussed later under the discussion of our operating budget and include a report reflecting the RMA's request to city and county for reimbursement, third party funding.
- D. Brian O'Reilly and Mike Graham are continuing to draft the strategic plan. Mr. Soto invited the Board to participate with any input towards a more detailed, long term game plan.
- E. Board Member Paul Saenz resigned, effective March 1, 2016. City Council Members of Dist. 5 & 6 have appointed a new member and is in the process of being certified for eligibility.

5. Action Item (Resolution 16-09): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action on Approval of WC-CL RMA Budget for Fiscal Year End September 30, 2016 and September 30, 2017.

Chairman Soto reported that for fiscal year September 2016, it is anticipated that the vehicle registration fees as being their only revenue. If the VRF collection trend continues, then they should have about \$5 million dollars at the end of the fiscal year. Possible additional sources of revenues could come from interest income of more or less \$1,000 and third party funding from City and County of \$135,000. Projected total revenue is about \$5.187 million dollars and total projected expenses of \$425,864 resulting in a net income of \$4.6 million dollars for this fiscal year. Next fiscal year's revenues are projected to be \$1.9 million dollars and does not include any revenues/expenses of projects that may come online.

Chairman Soto asked for a motion to accept the operating budget resolution 16-09 as proposed for September 2016 and 2017. Albert Muller, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Alfonso Mendiola. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Please view attached Resolution 16-09 for additional information.

6. Action Item (Resolution 16-10): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the 2015 WC-CL RMA Annual Report.

Chairman Soto stated that the annual report reflects the RMA's activities to the city and county. It describes all transportation revenue, bond issuances anticipated for the coming year, the financial condition of the authority, all project schedules and the status of the RMA's performance under the most recent strategic plan and is due March 31, 2016. Mr. Soto asked Mr. O'Reilly if they were only reporting the annual report to the board and no action will be taken. Mr. O'Reilly said that the board needs to authorize to develop and submit the report by the deadline of March 31st. This is something all the RMAs submit every year, but since ours is a younger RMA, there is not much to comply with; however in anticipation of possibly issuing revenue bonds within the next year, we would have to have that notice on file with the county and city. Mr. O'Reilly stated that he would be able to assist them with the report.

Chairman Soto asked for a motion to approve resolution 16-10 to file the annual report with the county and city. Albert Muller, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Arturo Dominguez. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Please view attached Resolution 16-10 for additional information.

7. Action Item (Resolution 16-11): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the 2015 WC-CL RMA Compliance Report.

Mr. Soto stated that according to the Texas Administrative Code, the compliance report is due February 29, 2016. It was completed and submitted to TxDOT on the due date. Copies were distributed to the board.

Mr. Soto asked for a motion regarding the approval of resolution 16-11 for the 2015 WC-CL RMA Compliance Report as submitted. Albert Muller, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Arturo Dominguez. No further discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Please view attached Resolution 16-11 for additional information.

8. Action Item (Resolution 16-12): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Supplemental Work Authorization No. 2.1 with HNTB for Continued Work on Development of a Financial Plan for Loop 20/I69 Project.

Mr. Soto stated that HNTB is requesting an extension for the existing work authorization to June 30, 2016 and not an increase of fees.

Mr. Soto asked for a motion to approve resolution 16-12 for supplemental work authorization 2.1 to HNTB. Albert Muller, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Arturo Dominguez. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Please view attached Resolution 16-12 for additional information.

9. Action Item (Resolution 16-13): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Supplemental Work Authorization No. 3.1 with HNTB for Continued Work on a Local Funding Options Study for RMA Projects.

Chairman Soto stated that this was for the approval for an extension to June 30, 2016.

Mr. Soto asked for a motion to approve resolution 16-13 for supplemental work authorization 3.1 to HNTB. Albert Muller, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Arturo Dominguez. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Please view attached Resolution 16-13 for additional information.

10. Action Item (Resolution 16-14): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Work Authorization No. 5 with HNTB for Preparation of Applications for Federal Grants for the Loop 20 Highway Project.

Mr. Soto informed the board that applications for federal FASTLANE grants are due April 14, 2016. These grants are available until 2020. Mr. Soto stated that the RMA should file an application for funding of the Loop 20 & Jacaman Rd. overpass. Mr. Soto asked for a motion to approve resolution 16-14 for work authorization no. 5 to HNTB for preparation of the application for this federal grant. Albert Muller, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Arturo Dominguez to approve resolution 16-14. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Please view attached Resolution 16-14 for additional information.

Mr. Soto also stated that TxDOT recently hired HNTB to apply for a fast lane grant for the Loop 20 - IH35 overpass, thus increasing the Laredo's chances of receiving grant funds.

11. Action Item (Resolution 16-15): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to Authorize Estrada Hinojosa & Company, Inc. to Provide Financial Advisor Services Related to WC-CL RMA Projects.

Mr. Soto stated that he would like the board to consider authorizing their financial advisor to provide support services to our GEC, HNTB, on work authorizations requiring financial advisory assistance. He suggested the agreement not exceed \$20,000 and any services over this amount would have to come back to the board for approval.

Mr. Soto asked for a motion to approve resolution 16-15 to authorize Estrada Hinojosa & Company, Inc. to provide financial advisor services related to the WC-CL RMA projects. Albert Muller, Sr. made a motion, seconded by Arturo Dominguez to approve resolution 16-15. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Please view attached Resolution 16-15 for additional information.

12. Report: Update on Vallecillo Road Project.

Chairman Soto stated that Killam Development recently sent him information regarding the development of the Vallecillo property. The Executive Committee will arrange a meeting with them to discuss the information presented and report back to the board.

13. Report: Update from TxDOT on the Status of Projects in the TxDOT Laredo District.

Mrs. Montemayor stated that Spur 400 is 25% complete with the east frontage road. The final completion date of the project is May 2018. Regarding the KCS overpass at the at grade frontage roads, Oscar Renda just had the preconstruction meeting and they started officially on March 7th.

Regarding the International and Loop 20 project by Anderson Columbia construction, they are waiting for a pre-construction meeting and after that the construction should start. On 1472, Angel Brothers is doing an overpass between Sobretillo toll road, that project is 25% complete. They are going to start on a southern portion and everything should be complete by May 2016. On 83 there is an overlay between Chacon and Palo Blanco. That project should be complete by May 2016 and they are going to move over to I35 west frontage road and they are going to do an overlay.

Mrs. Montemayor stated that at the last meeting she was asked how much the Columbia toll roads bring in and she stated that in 2014 it brought in \$1.34 million dollars, in 2015 it brought in over \$2 million dollars and in 2016, it took about \$1 million dollars for maintenance, that does not include administrative fees. Mr. Mendiola asked which percentage was nonpayment as in people that don't pay. Mrs. Montemayor stated that issue was brought up in the past because people with Mexican license plates, those notices are sent out, but they don't know how many are coming back paid. There are also some U.S. license plates that don't pay as well. Mr. Mendiola stated that the one in Seguin declared bankruptcy and that's why he inquired. Mrs. Montemayor stated that the Spur 400 is a TxDOT maintained road, so with their maintenance fund maintaining that on a yearly basis. They brought in \$2 million dollars in 2015, it took them about \$1 million dollars to maintain it and the other \$1 million went to the TxDOT general fund. The \$600,000 traffic signalization improvement was approved at the MPO to improve traffic signals throughout the city of Laredo using CBI fund to do that work. Right now the contract services department is working with city of Laredo to engage and execute a contract to use those funds for the construction and the improvement of those signals.

14. General Engineering Consultant Report

- A. Presentation of Loop 20 Financial Plan**
- B. Presentation on County Transportation Reinvestment Zone**
- C. Update on Progress Under Current Work Authorizations**

- A. Mr. Soto introduced Carlos Lopez and Brad Guilmino from HNTB who would present the financial plan for Loop 20. Please view presentation for full details.
- B. Mr. Soto introduced Richard Ridings from HNTB who would give a presentation on the County Transportation Reinvestment Zone. Please view presentation for full details.
- C. Richard Ridings stated that on work order no. 2, they provided a draft financial plan and they will continue to work on it. On work authorization no. 3, the TRZ report will be presented to the county next week.

15. Open Public Forum/Comment Period

None.

16. Report: Date/Time/Location of the Next Regular Board Meeting.

Chairman Soto stated that the next meeting will be held on Monday, April 25, 2016, 9 a.m. Location TBD.

17. Adjournment.

Alfonso Mendiola made a motion, seconded by Arturo Dominguez to adjourn the Webb County - City of Laredo RMA meeting at 9:56 a.m. Motion passed unanimously and meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES FOR THE WEBB COUNTY - CITY OF LAREDO REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HELD ON MARCH 21, 2016 WERE APPROVED ON THIS THE 25th DAY OF APRIL 2016.

Submitted by:

Marissa J. Montoya
Office Technician
TxDOT Laredo Dist.