

Webb County - City of Laredo  
Regional Mobility Authority (WC-CL RMA)  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Monday, May 7, 2018  
9:00AM

**Minutes**

The Webb County - City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority Board of Directors convened in a meeting at 9:05 a.m. on Monday, May 7, 2018, at TxDOT's Laredo District Meeting Room, 1817 Bob Bullock Loop, Laredo, TX.

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Minutes are as follows:

**Present:** Ruben Soto, Jr., Chairman and Presiding Officer, Jose Murrillo, Jesus Romero, Oscar Lopez, Arturo Dominguez, Steve La Mantia, and Douglas Howland.

**Absent:** Alfonso Mendiola

**Others:** David Salazar, TxDOT, Laredo District Engineer  
Melissa Montemayor, TxDOT Laredo District Administrator  
Araceli Rangel, Staff Assistant, CPA Office of Ruben Soto, Jr., (note taker)  
Mike Graham, TxDOT  
Juan Cruz, Cruz & Associates LLC  
Antonio Rodriguez, HNTB

**1. Open Meeting and Establish Quorum**

After establishing a quorum, Presiding Officer, Ruben Soto, Jr., called the meeting to order at 9:05a.m. He then announced the following Board Members present: Jose Murrillo, Arturo Dominguez, Jesus Romero, Oscar Lopez, Steve LaMantia, and Douglas Howland. He notified everyone present that a notice of the meeting had been 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 TxDOT's, David Salazar and Melisa Montemayor for hosting the meeting. He also thanked TxDOT's Mike Graham for videotaping and Araceli Rangel for assisting with the minutes and preparation for the meeting.

**3A. Action Item: Discussion, Consideration, and Approval of February 20, 2018 WC-CL RMA Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Soto stated that the Board Members had been provided a copy of the February 20, 2018 meeting minutes for review. He then asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the Webb County-City of Laredo RMA meeting that took place on February 20, 2018 as presented. Arturo Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Douglas Howland, to accept the meeting minutes. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

**4A. Chairman's Report-Financial Report**

Chairman Soto informed the board that the Vehicle Registration Fee ("VRF") payment of \$209,620.00 from Webb County was received on February 23, 2018. Since a new staff member had taken office, Chairman Soto had not yet communicated with the county regarding whether the amount received was accurate. The amount did not coincide with the average collections in past years, and some discussion indicated more funding may be distributed. Chairman Soto asked Juan Cruz to follow up.

WC-CL RMA currently has a balance of \$4,453,251.73 and Certificates of Deposit totaling \$2,001,008.22 as of 11-20-17. Funds deposited in the form of interest income totaled \$3,402.74. \$1,008.22 was earned and added to a CD.

- A. Funds disbursed since last meeting were to:
  - HNTB Corporation \$58,870.77 (WA #4 & 7)
  - Locke Lord LLP \$147,202.68
  - Estrada Hinojosa & Co. \$1,500.00
  - J Cruz & Associates LLC \$44,351.06
  - PBM Helin Donovan LLP \$7,000.00
  - Reimbursed Board members' Bond fees \$1,175.00
  - Printed checks \$76.03

**B. AUDIT**

Chairman Soto informed the Board that he had signed an engagement letter for the Audit of the FYE 9/30/17 financial statements. The audit is expected to be completed in June with estimated fees in the range of \$8,500.00-11,000.00.

**C. SURETY BOND RENEWALS**

Chairman Soto reminded the Board members about renewing their bonds.

#### D. RESIGNATION

Chairman Soto informed the Board that Albert Muller had tendered his resignation effective March 17, 2018.

#### E. OTHER UPDATES

- Chairman Soto informed the Board that Personal Financial Statements were due on April 30, 2018.
- Updates on meetings:
  - Met on 2/26/18 with City Manager Horacio De Leon, Planning Director Nathan Bratton, Deputy City Manager Cindy Collazo, and Travis James from TXP, Inc. regarding the Cuatro Vientos TRZ.
  - Addressed MPO on 4/16/18 regarding the North Webb County Regional Study.

#### 5. Action Item (Resolution 18-08): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the 2017 WC–CL RMA Compliance Report.

Chairman Soto informed the Board that in order to comply with state requirements, the RMA board must approve the compliance report.

A motion to approve the 2017 Compliance Report as presented was made by Arturo Dominguez and a second by Jose Murrillo; resolution was unanimously approved.

#### 6. Action Item (Resolution 18-09): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to Accept the FYE September 30, 2018 Budget.

Chairman Soto informed the Board that the budget for FYE September 30, 2018 would not include funding from the City or County.

A motion to approve the FYE 9/30/18 as presented was made by by Douglas Howland and a second from Arturo Dominguez; resolution was unanimously approved.

#### 7. Action Item (Resolution 18-10): Discussion, consideration and Possible Action to Approve an Interlocal Agreement with the Laredo Metropolitan Planning Organization regarding the development of the North Laredo-Webb County Transportation Planning Study.

Chairman Soto informed the Board that after months of promoting a study for the Mines Rd. region, the MPO on April 16, 2018 authorized the RMA to develop the North Laredo-Webb County Transportation Planning Study subject to executing an interlocal agreement and finalizing any advance funding agreements that may be required. The MPO will reimburse the RMA for 80% of the study, not to exceed \$508,000.00. The RMA's funding under the interlocal agreement is not to exceeds 20% of total cost of \$635,000.00.

On a motion made by Oscar Lopez and a second by Jose Murrillo, the resolution was unanimously approved.

## 8. General Engineering Consultant Report

Mr. Antonio Rodriguez, Assistant Project Manager from HNTB Corporation, reported on current projects:

- WA 04 - GEC WA
  - Mr. Rodriguez informed the board of the Developed Order of Magnitude Construction Costs for Improvements at FM 1472 and Killam Industrial Blvd:
    1. Full Intersection Improvements
      - \$8.6M to \$10.6M - Total Project Cost (Engineering and Construction)
      - \$7.1M to \$9.0M - Construction Only
    2. Killam Industrial
      - \$1.3M to \$1.6M - Total Project Cost (Engineering and Construction)
      - \$1.1M to \$1.3M - Construction Only
    3. River Bank
      - \$1.7M - Total Project Cost (Engineering and Construction)
      - \$1.4M - Construction Only
    4. FM 1472
      - \$6.5M to \$9.0M - Total Project Cost (Engineering and Construction)
      - \$5.3M to \$7.7M - Construction Only
  - Mr. Rodriguez stated that he met with Councilman Altgelt and Ms. Montemayor to review results of the costs. Requested that a meeting with District Traffic Engineer Danny Magee regarding including dedicated right turn lane from FM 1472 to Killam Industrial Blvd regarding any benefits of that improvement. He confirmed that such an inclusion would be beneficial. We will update the estimate to account for that improvements.
  - Mr. Magee recommends an in-depth traffic analysis be performed of the intersection to confirm the benefits of the improvements from a level of service perspective. The City has already obtained recent traffic data along FM 1472 as part of the City-wide Traffic Signalization Project. The RMA could explore this prior taking the next step on these improvements.
  - We need to review the UTP to determine if any construction dollars remain that could be allocated for the Killam Industrial Improvements.
  - HNTB supported Chairman Soto and Board Member Arturo Dominguez in a Technical Discussion with Councilman Altgelt, Ms. Montemayor, Mayor Saenz and City Manager De Leon to discuss long term transportation concerns for the community, including the World Trade Expansion, Fast Lane, the Outer Loop, Bridge 5 and the North Laredo Webb County Transportation Planning Study on 4/12/18.

- HNTB supported Chairman Soto in presenting to the MPO Policy Committee in March and April with a status of the WC-CL RMA and the benefits of the North Laredo Webb County Transportation Planning Study. Thanks to the help of Mr. Juan Cruz and his team, the Policy Committee agreed to support the WC-CL RMA in leading the study for this important region of the community on 4/16/18.

#### Other Items

- HNTB has coordinated a meeting with Mr. De Leon, the Mayor, Ms. Montemayor and Councilman Rodriguez to discuss a financial plan for funding the new arterial from Cuatro Vientos to Concord Hills with Mr. Edward Garza of Crane Engineering (Webb County Drainage District Engineer).
- HNTB has coordinated a meeting with Councilman Altgelt and El Metro Staff to review possible funding solutions from the MPO to assist in improvements for El Metro.
- HNTB also works to assist the RMA in positioning itself as the lead agency for Bridge 5.

#### **9. Update from TxDOT on the Status of Projects in the TxDOT Laredo District.**

Ms. Melisa Montemayor, TxDOT Laredo District Administrator, proceeded to inform the board that the Spur 400 project on Loop 20 had been completed at a cost of \$33 million. The International Overpass at Loop 20 was completed in November. The Kansas City Southern Project overpass is being widened. Right now, they are working on the southbound frontage road bridge west side main lanes; the project is 63% complete. It's expected to be completed by December 2018. Another project also under construction in this area north on Loop 20 at the Milo Interchange section is I35 and I59, including construction of the east and west bound main lanes over I35 and over the railroad. They are currently working on the retaining walls.

Ms. Montemayor focused on a innovative point of the construction process that has not been seen in south Texas: concrete capitals. The capital is that section above the column and below the beams. TxDOT is using this to help streamline the construction projects. The project is 15% complete. Expected date of completion is December 2019. This is a \$26.5 million dollar project.

Ms. Montemayor reported on the Loop 20 right-of-way acquisition. The right-of-way staff and their consultant are working with affected owners along the Loop 20 I59/69 corridor. TxDOT staff is getting ready for a public meeting in July with affected property owners. Two properties owned by government entities are required in the acquisition. The timeline for the overpass at the airport has been extended to 2024. The other 5 overpasses, such as Jacaman, will let in 2023 and the others, Del Mar, University, and Shiloh will let in 2022.

Ms. Montemayor stated that if the MPO did not want to build the frontage roads first, then the money could be shifted to another part of the project such as overpasses. They are moving on the design of the entire corridor, overpasses, frontage road, and main lanes. They'll be ready when construction dollars are available.

Ms. Montemayor mentioned that the infra grant application results would be coming out in June or July from the federal government. At that time, they will know if grant awarded for all five direct connectors including the one that has been funded and the additional land on I69 west which is between World Trade Bridge and I35 adding the additional travel lane to the inside so making that three lanes in each direction. A \$130 million application was submitted by the City of Laredo for construction. Seed money in the amount of \$30 million dollars was included with the application. A consultant has been working on all the design projects, it will get to letting as soon as possible.

**14. Open Public Forum/Comment Period.**

No one signed up on the public comments.

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

Chairman Soto mentioned that next meeting would tentatively be scheduled for possibly July or June, if needed, with location to be announced.

**16. Adjournment.**

Arturo Dominguez made a motion, seconded by Jesus Romero, to adjourn the Webb County-City of Laredo RMA meeting at 10:28 a.m. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES FOR THE WEBB COUNTY - CITY OF LAREDO REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HELD ON MAY 7th, 2018 WERE APPROVED ON THIS THE 11th DAY OF JUNE 2018.

Submitted by:  
Araceli Rangel, Adm. Assistant to  
Ruben Soto, Jr. CPA