

Webb County - City of Laredo
Regional Mobility Authority (WC-CL RMA)
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, December 19, 2016
9:00 AM

Minutes

The Webb County - City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority Board of Directors convened in a meeting at 9:10 a.m. on Monday, December 19, 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, Jose Murrillo, Oscar Lopez, Jesus D. Romero, Arturo Dominguez, and Douglas Howland.

Absent: Steve LaMantia, Alfonso Mendiola

Others: Pete Alvarez, TxDOT Laredo District Engineer
Melisa Montemayor, Laredo District Administrator
Carlos Rodriguez, TxDOT Area Engineer
Marissa Montoya, Office Technician, TxDOT Laredo District (note taker)
Araceli Rangel, Staff Assistant, CPA Office of Ruben Soto, Jr. (note taker)
Brian O'Reilly, Locke Lord LLP
Antonio Rodriguez, HNTB
Dan Gonzales, Estrada Hinojosa & Company

1. Open Meeting and Establish Quorum

After establishing a quorum, Presiding Officer, Ruben Soto, Jr., called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. He then announced the following Board Members present: Jose Murrillo, Arturo Dominguez, Oscar Lopez, Douglas Howland, Albert Muller and Jesus D. Romero. 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 Mrs. Melisa Montemayor and Mr. Pete Alvarez for hosting the meeting. He also thanked

TxDOT's Mike Graham for videotaping, and Marissa Montoya and Araceli Rangel for assisting with the minutes and preparation for the meeting.

3. Action Item: Discussion, Consideration, and Approval of November 21, 2016 WC-CL RMA Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Chairman Soto stated that the Board Members had been provided a copy of the November 21, 2016 meeting minutes for review. He then asked for a motion to accept the minutes for the Webb County-City of Laredo RMA meeting that took place on November 21, 2016 as presented.

Douglas Howland made a motion, seconded by Oscar Lopez to accept the meeting minutes. No discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

4A. Chairman's Report—Financial Report

Chairman Soto informed the board that there was a balance of \$4,291,410.96 in the account. The RMA is still due about \$600,000.00 from the county for the vehicle registration fees. He proceeded to let them know that there had been no communication lately from the county to our legal advisor Juan Cruz as to the status of the monthly deposits. Oscar Lopez asked how far in arrears was the county Mr. Soto mentioned 5 months. Funds disbursed since last meeting were to HNTB Corporation for work authorizations 1, 4, and 6 for a total of \$36,583.83. Locke Lord LLP was paid \$15,140.93.

4B. Chairman's Report—Surety Bond Requirements for Board Members

Chairman Soto reminded Board members of the option of paying for their own public official bond and having the RMA reimburse them once funds are available for that purpose.

4C. Chairman's Report—Update on Auditing Firm

Mr. Soto informed the Board that he had received a phone call on December 14th, 2016 from Laura Gray, an auditor with PMB Helin Donovan, informing him she will be sending an information request probably this week. She plans to get started the first week of January. She wanted to come down with staff, but Mr. Soto told her that there wasn't much to do since there weren't many transactions. It could probably be done through e-mails and phone calls. Mr. Soto is trying to keep it as brief as possible to keep the cost down.

4D. Chairman's Report—Report of Dec. 13, 2016 TxDOT, RMA Chairs Meeting

Mr. Soto informed the Board that on December 13, 2016 he attended an RMA Chairs meeting in Austin, TX hosted by Texas Transportation Commission Chairman Tyron Lewis. Chairman

Lewis mentioned that TxDOT is going through sunset review and the Chairs were briefed on financing and planning issues.

5. Introduction and Swearing-In of New Board Member, Jesus D. Romero

At the last Webb County Commissioner's meeting, Precinct I Commissioner Frank Schiraffa, appointed Jesus D. Romero to serve on the RMA board. Mr. Romero then took the Oath of office with Notary Araceli S. Rangel officiating.

6. Action Item (Resolution 16-31): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the FYE 9/30/17 WC-CI RMA Budget.

Mr. Soto then directed the board to review the Summary of Expenses For Reimbursement from the city and county. These have to do since the inception of the RMA. Since exception we are requesting reimbursement of expenses totaling \$94,854.10. Our request for reimbursement for this next fiscal year which ends September 30, 2017 is a total of \$163,650.00. Mr. Soto then discussed the next report which was a summary of actual revenue and expenses for this past fiscal year which ended September 30, 2016 and the proposed budget for next fiscal year. As you can see, the actual net surplus for the past fiscal year was \$1,474,146.71 and the proposed budget for next year is \$1,486,350.00. Since this is just a budget it does not take into account additional fees or environmental costs, etc. if we enter into another project. Is there a motion to approve the RMA's fiscal September 30, 2017 budget as presented? Mr. Oscar Lopez made the motion and Mr. Jose Murillo seconded. Mr. Howland then questioned an item on the second page \$143,650.00 city/county reimbursement in your budget and on the first page it shows \$163,650.00. Oscar Lopez then asked if the amount should be \$163,650. Mr. Soto mentioned that he would email the corrected information to them. With those changes, Mr. Soto asked if there was any more discussion and there was none. All voted in favor.

7. General Engineering Consultant Report.

Mr. Soto then asked Mr. Antonio Rodriguez from HNTB Engineering to give an update to the board and an overview of what we have done since the beginning for the new board members.

Mr. Rodriguez then proceeded with his report. HNTB Engineering came on board on August of 2015 were contracted September of that year. It's been over a year and three months and Mr. Rodriguez provided a review of the work completed under the six work authorizations with the RMA.

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

Mr. Carlos Rodriguez from TxDOT stated that at the last meeting they discussed several projects. They discussed the SER project and the shift in traffic. They would move everything closer to Wal-Mart, so they would be able to work on the main lanes. For February 2017, they would be able to have the tie in point to add US 59/Saunders frontage road. As of now, they are still looking at March 2018 as the completion date. There is also the Oscar Renda project (25%). The placement of beams should be at the beginning of the year, and that will take place at night and on the weekends. For International (15%), the contractors are going to be working on the retaining walls, building up embankments, the caps and the columns will continue being constructed. On Northbound traffic from Killam to Muller for FM 1472, it was discussed adding an additional concrete lane and will be meeting on the second Monday of 2017 (Jan. 9th, 2017). 8 months is the initial target date. Mrs. Montemayor stated that if they could accelerate the project, then they would and the RMA will be updated. Mr. Rodriguez stated that in 2017 they will be working on overlays on San Bernardo, Chihuahua, US59 and 359. That would be done at night to reduce traffic congestion. Only certain sections will be worked on and a grade 4 hot mix overlay will be used, not a seal coat. Mr. Soto asked about south of checkpoint (mile marker 30) and if there was going to be an electronic detection device to warn the truck drivers. Mr. Danny Magee stated that there would be a Digital Message Sign that they were already looking into.

9. Open Public Forum/Comment Period.

None.

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

Chairman Soto stated that the next meeting will be tentative since next month is Martin Luther King holiday. Board will be updated as soon as date is finalized. Location TBD.

11. Adjournment.

Oscar Lopez made a motion, seconded by Jose Murillo to adjourn the Webb County - City of Laredo RMA meeting at 10:10 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 DECEMBER 19, 2016 WERE APPROVED ON THIS THE 21ST DAY OF FEBRUARY 2017.

Submitted by:
Marissa J. Montoya
Office Technician
TxDOT Laredo Dist.
& Araceli Rangel, Adm. Assistant to
Ruben Soto, Jr. CPA