

**WEBB COUNTY – CITY OF LAREDO  
REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY BOARD**

WC-CL RMA Board of Directors Meeting  
Teleconference Meeting  
Hosted by J. Cruz & Associates, LLC  
216 W. Village Blvd., Ste. 202, Laredo, Texas 78041  
Wednesday, May 19, 2021  
2:00 PM

**BOARD MINUTES**

The Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority (WC-CL RMA) Board met at the above date via Teleconference. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. WC-CL RMA Board Chair Jed A. Brown present and presiding. The following board members were present:

Jed A. Brown  
Douglas B. Howland  
Oscar O. Lopez  
Arturo Dominguez  
Alfonso Mendiola  
Antonio Arce  
Viridiana Fernandez

The following board members was absent: Jose Murillo, George Beckelhymer

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**AGENDA**

**1. Open Meeting and Establish Quorum**

After establishing a quorum, Presiding Officer Jed Brown, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. It was announced the following Board Member was absent: Jose Murillo and George Beckelhymer. He then 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.

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**2. Welcome the Board Members – Jed Brown (WC-CL RMA Presiding Office)**

Chairman Brown informed all present that the meeting was being recorded and telephones must be silenced or muted to avoid interference. Chairman Brown also informed the board that they must identify themselves when speaking.

Lisa Paul, Attorney, added that Viridiana Fernandez was present and was unable to respond at the time of roll call due to her speaker being muted.

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**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

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

No public comments to report.

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**5. Action Item: Consideration and Approval of the Minutes for:  
A. February 25, 2020 - Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Brown stated that the Board Members had been provided a copy of the Minutes for the February 25, 2021, Regular Board Meeting for review. He then asked for a motion to accept the Board Meeting Minutes of the Webb County-City of Laredo RMA.

Motion: So Move  
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez  
Second by: Alfonso Mendiola  
Discussion: Vice Chairman Howland observed that the correct name of the new board member is Antonio Arce, Jr. and not Arturo Arce as stated in Item 8a.  
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

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**6. Presentations:**

Chairman Brown went on to inform the board that the Texas Department of Transportation would be updating the board on the following three projects:

**A. Presentation by Texas Department of Transportation on Area Projects with specific updates on the following:**

- **Hachar-Ruthinger project;**  
David Salazar, and Jesus Saavedra, and Humberto Gonzalez, Jr. Laredo Area Engineers for Texas Dept. of Transportation, updated the Board on the area projects under construction. Mr. Saavedra went on to present to the Board and gave a status update with project completion percentages and estimated completion dates. Humberto Gonzalez, Jr. continued with updating the board on the status of the Hachar-Reuthinger Roadway project and entertained questions by the board.
- **Mines Road “Super Street” project; and**  
Humberto Gonzalez, Jr. continued to update the board on the Mines Road “Super

Street” project with status of worked performed, improvements, projected scheduled termination date and estimated construction cost. He went on to illustrate a projected traffic flow model and answered questions by the board.

- **IH-35 North Checkpoint.**

David Salazar went on to inform the board on the project status as well as the schematic stage, construction estimate and project completion date.

**B. Financial Report**

- **Acceptance of the financial statements through April 30th, 2021**

Chairman Brown ask Oscar Lopez, treasurer, to report the financial information. Mr. Lopez went on to report that as of April 30, 2021, the checking account has a current balance of \$715,908.33, savings account with a balance of \$1,075,475.25, and a certificate of deposit with a balance of \$9,082,942.22, which matures in June at an interest rate of .15%.

Funds disbursed since last meeting were:

Commerce Bank Charges	\$65.94
HNTB Corporation	\$206,676.40
IBC Insurance Agency	\$737.50
J. Cruz & Associates LLC	\$11,032.09
Locke Lord LLP	\$9,993.67
LBS Media LLC	\$3,600.00
Ruben Soto, Jr., CPA	\$5,519.00
Deluxe Check	\$155.90
Commerce Bank – Transfer	\$500,000.00

Funds received since last meeting were:

Commerce Bank CD Interest	\$2,248.68
Commerce Bank Svgs Interest	\$475.25
Webb County VRF	\$1,014,890.00

Motion: So Move  
Moved by: Antonio Arce  
Second by: Viridiana Fernandez  
Discussion: No discussion was held  
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

**C. Status Report on Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) Program and Collections**

Chairman Brown went on to relate that the VRF funds as of April 2021 were reported in the previous agenda item.

**7. Chairman's Report:**

**A. Compliance Calendar**

Chairman Brown went on to remind the Board of the ongoing commitment to the RMA, it was important to maintain all reports and audit to comply with the City, County and State. He reminded the Board that all requirements are to be submitted to keep up with the active compliance calendar.

**B. Lomas del Sur Overpass along Cuatro Vientos – Update on possible project**

Chairman Brown went on to report that at a meeting with the City Laredo and Webb County, it was discussed that the Overpass along Cuatro Vientos was being given the highest priority. Chairman Brown added that there may be a potential opportunity at a later date for the RMA to be involved to help expedite this project.

**C. Vallecillo Road Project – Update on possible sources of funding**

Chairman Brown informed the board that the source of funding for the Vallecillo Road project remains through Congressman Henry Cuellar and Texas Department of Transportation closing the gap on funding the project. Chairman Brown added that he favors the course of action this project is taking.

**E. Approval by Texas Transportation Commission of City of Laredo's request for exception to requirements of 43 TAC §26.51(b)(1)(A) concerning eligibility to serve as director of Webb County-City of Laredo RMA.**

Chairman Brown went on to inform the board that a potential conflict of interest was presented due to a member's spouse who serves as a director in a nonprofit receiving funds from the City of Laredo. The RMA submitted a letter to the City of Laredo and TxDOT, which was determined that the employment would not result in any substantial conflict and approved the board member to continue to serve the RMA.

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**8. General Engineer Consultant Update.**

1) Project Status Update: Los Presidentes Road Project, Phase 1 and 2A

Antonio Rodriguez, HNTB and Eduardo Garza, Crane, went on updated the Board on the Los Presidentes Road Project and report on the status of construction. Mr. Garza went on to illustrate a site plan of the arterial roads and reported a projected completion date was ahead of schedule.

2) Project Status Update: Killam Industrial Blvd. Turn Lane Project

Antonio Rodriguez, HNTB went on to update the Board on the Killam Industrial Blvd. Turn Lane Project and illustrated the development of the driveway configuration to comply with TxDOT and welcomed any questions by the board.

3) Project Status Update: Vallecillo Road Project

Antonio Rodriguez, HNTB went onto illustrate the board a schematic of the project and reported that based on the traffic study report, this project would be a good

benefit to the area. Mr. Rodriguez went on to update the board with the construction and welcomed any questions by the board.

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**9. Action Item (Resolution 21-08): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Board Action to Approve Supplemental Work Authorization No. 12.2 with HNTB for Continued development of Plans, Specifications and Estimate of the FM 1472 (Mines Road) and Killam Industrial Blvd. Turn Lanes Project.**

Chairman Brown asked to Antonio Rodriguez, HTNB, to elaborate on the request for the Supplemental Work Authorization. Mr. Rodriguez went on to inform the board that the current Supplemental Work Authorization No. 12.2 is set to expire in June and due to steel production delay, the construction has a new projected start in June. Mr. Rodriguez added that they are requesting an extension in time and not funds by extending the termination date of June to December 2021.

Motion: So Move  
Moved by: Oscar Lopez  
Second by: Antonio Arce  
Discussion: No discussion was held  
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

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**10. Action Item (Resolution 21-09): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Supplemental Work Authorization No. 4.10 with HNTB for Continued Project Development Services.**

Chairman Brown asked to Antonio Rodriguez to inform the Board that the action item. Mr. Rodriguez went on to remind the board that this work authorization allows them to provide support to the Chair and the members on project development, perform project administrative and coordination duties, including contract administration, project management, research and other related administrative tasks including technical assistance, data collection and review, and attend authority meetings associated with a project. He added that this Authorization is set to expire at the end of June 2021 and respectfully request and extension to January 31, 2022, and a budget increase of \$110,000.00.

Motion: So Move  
Moved by: Antonio Arce  
Second by: Arturo Dominguez  
Discussion: No discussion was held  
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

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**11. Action Item (Resolution 21-10): Discussion, Consideration and Possible Board Action to Approve the 2021 WC-CL RMA Annual Report.**

Chairman Brown went on to inform the Board that the required Annual Report to be filed with the Webb County Commissioners Court and Laredo City Council in accordance with the Texas Transportation Code was included in the board packet for review. Chairman Brown went on to inform the Board that the report reflected RMA's performance of several transportation projects under the most recent strategic plan. Chairman Brown welcomed questions by the board members.

Motion: So Move  
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez  
Second by: Doug Howland  
Discussion: No discussion was held  
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

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**12. Annual Ethics and Compliance Training to Board of Directors: Presentation by Juan Cruz, J. Cruz and Associates, LLP.**

Chairman Brown informed the Board of the annual compliance training as required to adopt and enforce internal ethics and compliance program. Chairman Brown invited Juan J. Cruz to make his presentation. Mr. Cruz went on to make his training presentation on Ethics and Compliance and answered questions by the board members.

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**13. Legislative Update: Presentation by Brian O'Reilly, Locke Lord, LLP.**

Chairman Brown invited Brian O'Reilly to inform the Board of the Legislative Session Update on bills that apply to the City of Laredo. Mr. O'Reilly updated the board and explained on three specific bills that would be in the interest of the RMA. Mr. O'Reilly answered questions presented by the board.

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

Chairman Brown informed the Board that the next board meeting will be scheduled in or about July unless one was needed sooner.

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**15. Adjournment.**

On a motion made by Antonio Arce and second by Oscar Lopez. With no discussion, meeting was

adjourned at 3:54 P.M. Motion passed unanimously and meeting was adjourned.