

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

WC-CL RMA Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, April 4, 2023, 10:00 AM
International Bank of Commerce
1200 San Bernardo Ave.
3rd Floor - Community Suite

BOARD MINUTES

The Webb County-City of Laredo Regional Mobility Authority (WC-CL RMA) Board met on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at the IBC Community Suite. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. WC-CL RMA Board Chair Jed A. Brown present and presiding. The following board members were present:

Jed A. Brown
Antonio Arce, Jr
Oscar O. Lopez
Jose Murillo
Douglas B. Howland
Arturo Dominguez
Diana Palacios
George Beckelhymer

AGENDA

1. Open Meeting and Establish Quorum

After establishing a quorum, Presiding Officer Jed Brown, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. It was announced that Alfonso Mendiola was absent. Mr. Brown 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.

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

Chairman Brown welcomed the board and informed all present that the meeting was being recorded and speakers must identify themselves when speaking.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

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

No public comments to report.

5. **Action Item: Discussion, Consideration and Possible Board Action Concerning the Approval of the January 23, 2023 WC-CL RMA Regular Board Meeting Minutes.**

Chairman Brown opened the discussion concerning the approval of the Minutes for the January 23, 2023, Regular Board Meeting. He then asked for a motion to accept the Board Meeting Minutes of the Webb County-City of Laredo RMA.

Motion: Motion to Approve the January 23, 2023, WC-CL RMA Board Meeting Minutes.
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez
Second by: Jose Murillo
Discussion: No discussion was held
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

6. **Chair's Report**

a. **Compliance Calendar Update**

Chairman Brown informed the Board that their Personal Financial Statements are due May 1st.

b. **Coordination with City of Laredo Regarding Creation of Transportation Reinvestment Zones**

Chairman Brown informed the Board that the City has requested a TRZ for the North but has not entered into an agreement as of yet.

c. **Update Regarding Laredo Economic Development Corporation Presentation Scheduled for May 9, 2022**

The RMA will be presenting along with TxDot showcasing the projects being worked on, including the River Corridor Study.

d. **Update Regarding I-69 Alliance**

Chairman Brown informed the Board the RMA has been approached to join the Alliance. More discussion and consideration to come regarding whether it the RMA should participate in based on cost and value.

e. **Update Regarding New Appointments to Texas Transportation Commission**

Chairman Brown updated the Board on the new appointments of Steve Alvis from Houston and Alejandro Mead from Mission to the Texas Transportation Commission.

7. **Presentations**

a. **Financial Report**

Chairman Brown asked WC-CL Treasurer, Oscar Lopez, to provide the financial report to the Board. Mr. Lopez reported that as of January 31, 2023, Financial Summary reflects cash in bank totaling \$3,563,883.26, the value of the investment portfolio was \$6,901,1577.04, and accounts receivable brings total assets to \$10,986,650.30. Checks paid out of the operating account total \$695,209.46. The checking balance as of January 31, 2023, is \$208,878.01

b. Acceptance of financial statements through January 31, 2023.

Motion: Motion to Accept Financial Statements through January 31, 2023
Moved by: George Beckelhymer
Second by: Arturo Dominguez
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

c. Status Report on Vehicle Registration Fees (VRF)

Chairman Brown advised the Board of \$18.2 million in funding as well as \$8.95 million that has mostly been allocated to projects.

d. Financial Investment Planning Report by Oscar Lopez

Mr. Lopez reports that as of January 23, 2023, the value of the portfolio of the US Treasury Securities and some cash from maturity, was \$7,108,335 consisting of \$2,191,295 cash. The Investment Committee met and decided to authorize the investment manager to split those \$2 million to fill in the gaps of maturities of the existing portfolio, so that the RMA would have about a million dollars maturing on average, every three months.

e. Presentations by Texas Department of Transportation on the Following Projects:

• **Hachar – Reuthinger Project**

Presentations by Ana Duncan from Texas Department of Transportation. Additional funding has been added including category seven funds in the amount of \$47.79 million bringing the category seven up to \$100 million. Additionally, there are category two funds of \$26.5 million, category four funds of \$17.9 million, and Laredo District funding of \$2.2 million bringing the allocation to \$146.6 million. Tx Dot will be able to proceed with the 4-lane divided highway. The original schedule calculated target date was February 2024 however now looking at completion date of April 2024. Final plans will be made by December 2023 with a let date of January 2024. and the ready to let date will be January 2024.

• **U.S. 59/I-69 W Corridor from the Intersection of US 59 and Loop 20 (Bob Bullock Loop) to 7.49 miles West of FM 2895.**

Presentation by Mr. Gonzalez. Estimate let date is FY 2030 with a possibility of the project being accelerated. There are currently 12 alignment options that

are being considered. Project development process is in the early phase of looking at improvements after which the schematic and environmental process can begin.

f. Legislative Update by Brian O'Reilly, Locke Lord, LLP

Brian O'Reilly informed the Board that they are currently tracking 255 bills from the legislative session that could possibly impact RMA in some form. Some noteworthy bills include: HB-101 which would require that at least one appointee to the Commission reside on the border; HB 4422, would require TxDOT to conduct a study along the border about public safety, border security, and modernizing transportation infrastructure, on the border crossings, occupancy, highway system; HB 3805, would create a funding category for projects related to border security and establishing international trade corridors; there has been nothing filed for transportation reinvestment zones.

8. Action Item (Resolution 23-04): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve the 2022 Compliance Report.

Chairman Brown informed the board of the 2022 Compliance Report required to be submitted annually and once approved can be sent to the necessary parties.

Motion: Motion to Approve 2022 Compliance Report
Moved by: George Beckelhymer
Second by: Arturo Dominguez
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

9. Action Item (Resolution 23-05): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve the 2023 Annual Report.

Chairman Brown went on to inform the board that the annual report in the board packet, consists of the RMA's 2022 Project Report, the Statement of Net Position, the Annual Audit Report, Annual Operating and Capital Budget, and the Strategic Plan.

Motion: Motion to Approve 2023 Annual Report
Moved by: George Beckelhymer
Second by: Arturo Dominguez
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

10. Action Item (Resolution 23-06): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to

Approve Supplemental Work Authorization No. 11.4 with HNTB for additional budget and time for construction phase services as a part of the continued development of the Los Presidentes Road Project, Phases 1 and 2A.

Tony Rodriguez from HNTB presented to the Board that the Los Presidentes Road Project was essentially completed but due to limited availability of concrete and water led to an extended timeframe. HNTB is asking for an additional \$19,712.73 for their subconsultant Crane Engineering to cover the overrun budget as well as an additional two months ending on May 31, 2023, to allow for final paperwork processing.

Motion: Motion to Approve Item 10 Resolution 23-06
Moved by: George Beckelhymer
Second by: Jose Murillo
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

11. Action Item (Resolution 23-07): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for the development of the plans, specifications, environmental, and construction of the Vallecillo Road Project.

No discussion was held.

Motion: Motion to Approve Item 11 Resolution 23-07
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez
Second by: Jose Murillo
Discussion: Brian O'Reilly comments that funding set forth must cover cost overruns. Mr. Brown clarifies that TxDot is not responsible for any cost overruns.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously

12. General Engineer Consultant Update:

a. Project Status Update: Vallecillo Road

Melissa Montemayor, HNTB, informed the board that the Advanced Planning Agreement has been approved by TxDot and will now move forward with bringing back a work authorization. Looking at a let date of May 2026.

b. Project Status Update: Los Presidentes Phases 1 & 2A

Tony Rodriguez, HNTB, informed the board the project was mostly complete with a few items pending including the final version of the change order and getting the irrigation system meter and the electrical circuit service active. Nonetheless, the road is up and running. The safety issue with the sidewalk was addressed and fixed.

c. Project Status Update: Killam Industrial Blvd. at FM 1472 Turn Lane Project

Tony Rodriguez, HNTB, updated the Board that the project is considered 95% complete with the last touch being the flat work and the final walkthrough being in May.

d. Project Status Update: Springfield Ave. Extension Project, Phase 3

Tony Rodriguez, HNTB, informed the board the project was 95% complete, only pending the installation of wooden light poles temporarily while concrete poles come in.

e. Project Status Update: River Road Corridor Study

Melissa Montemayor, HNTB, updated the board that the study would be completed by the end of April and presented to the Laredo Economic Development Corporation along with the City Council and MPO in May.

f. Project Status Update: Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Application

Melissa Montemayor, HNTB, informed the board that she has been attending seminars from the Federal Highway Administration on how to enter into the agreement with them. The \$1.6 million is eligible, in addition to the Safety Action Plan, to be used for a feasibility study or design. Can also apply for additional safety action plan funds.

g. Project Status Update: Concord Hills Blvd. Extension

Tony Rodriguez, HNTB, informed the board that in the process of verifying the City of Laredo's estimate, some severe discrepancies were found, and they have contacted the city engineer so that it can be reviewed and resolved.

h. Project Status Update: Springfield, Phases 1, 2, or 4

Tony Rodriguez, HNTB, informed the Board that CAT 12 funds are being used for this project as well. In reviewing a draft, discrepancies have been identified that will be addressed with the City.

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

No date and time was set for the next board meeting. Details for the next board meeting will follow.

15. Adjournment.

On a motion by Mr. Lopez and seconded by Mr. Arce, with no discussion, meeting was adjourned. Motion passes unanimously, and meeting was adjourned.
