

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

WC-CL RMA Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, December 11, 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 Monday, December 11, 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
Alfonso Mendiola

AGENDA

1. Open Meeting and Establish Quorum

After establishing a quorum, Presiding Officer Jed Brown called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. It was announced that George Beckelhymer 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 October 24, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Chairman Brown opened the discussion regarding the approval of the Minutes for October 24, 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 October 24, 2023, WC-CL RMA Board Meeting Minutes.
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez
Second by: Jose Murrillo
Discussion: No discussion was held
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

6. Chair's Report

a. Discussion on the Alliance for I-69 Texas Annual Meeting Luncheon held in Houston, TX on Nov. 30, 2023.

Chairman Brown informed the Board of his attendance to the Texas Annual Meeting. Killam Development made a commitment to match \$800,000.00 into the Vallecillo Road project.

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 October 31, 2023, the Financial Summary reflects cash in the bank totaling \$2,802,314.16, the value of the investment portfolio was \$8,474,649.16, and accounts receivable were \$745,212.99 which brings the total assets to \$12,022,176.31. Checks paid out of the operating account total \$2,268,000 and deposits made totaled \$1,800,000.00 Additionally, money was transferred over to the investment account bringing the ending balance of the operating account to \$46,280.00.

i. Acceptance of financial statements through October 31, 2023.

Motion: Motion to Accept Financial Statements through October 31, 2023
Moved by: Douglas Howland

Second by: Alfonso Mendiola
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

b. Status Report on Vehicle Registration Fees (VRF)

Treasurer Oscar Lopez informed the board the total registration fees from 2014 to June 2023 is \$19,984,396.90 and the latest VRF received on September 30th was in the amount of \$613,550.000.

8. Action Item (Resolution 23-18): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to authorize WC-CL RMA Chair to negotiate and execute an agreement with the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the development of the Vallecillo Road Project (CSJ: 0922-33-205) for the award of a Community Project Funding Grant.

Melissa Montemayor, LJA, explained to the Board the \$3 million appropriations earmark received earlier in the year to allocate towards Vallecillo Road requires execution with the federal entity. Melissa reminded the Board that this is an 80% reimbursement with a 20% local match. Furthermore, the earmark requires environmental clearance to be able to tap into the reimbursement. Once environmental clearance is received for Vallecillo Road by the end of the calendar year 2024, the RMA will be able to use the \$3 million dollars and get reimbursed for 80%.

Motion: Motion to Approve Item 8 Resolution 23-14.
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez
Second by: Oscar Lopez
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

9. Action Item (Resolution 23-19): Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to authorize WC-CL RMA Chair to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA ID: Z00005056) with the Texas Department of Transportation for the development of the Vallecillo Road Project (CSJ: 0922-33-205) for the inclusion of additional Category 7, Category 10, additional Category 12 Strategic Partnership funds, and the re-purpose of Category 12 Strategic Partnership funds for use in Schematic & Environmental, PS&E and Construction.

Melissa Montemayor, LJA, notified the Board that in order to be able to initiate the execution of the Advanced Funding Agreement with TxDOT, an accurate budget financial spreadsheet is needed. Some of the major changes from the original Advanced Funding Agreement that was last approved include the addition of \$1.6 million of Category 12 Strategic Partnership funds, the addition of \$1.3 million of Category 7 MPO dollars, the \$3 million appropriations earmark, and

\$800,000 from each the RMA and Killam is included in this budget as well.

Motion: Motion to Approve Item 9 Resolution 23-19
Moved by: Arturo Dominguez
Second by: Jose Murillo
Discussion: No discussion was held.
In Favor: Motion passed unanimously.

10. Ethics and Compliance Training to Board of Directors: Presentation by Juan Cruz, J. Cruz & Associates, LLC.

Juan J. Cruz from J. Cruz & Associates presented to the Board the Ethics and Compliance Training.

11. General Engineer Consultant Update:

a. Project Status Update: Vallecillo Road

Baldazar Avila, LJA, informed the Board of the continued efforts with the schematic design, environmental studies, and the right-of-way retracement of the property. Furthermore, traffic data is being processed to prepare the traffic report. Activity coordination is ongoing and will start coordination with the City soon. The project is on schedule and there will be a meeting early next year with TxDOT to discuss the schematics.

b. Project Status Update: North Laredo TRZ feasibility study

Melissa Montemayor, LJA, notified the Board that at the moment it is up to the City of Laredo's discretion to move forward with initiating a study for the North Laredo TRZ.

c. Project Status Update: Cuatro Vientos TRZ next steps

Melissa Montemayor, LJA, informed the Board that they are pending action from the City of Laredo to begin implementation now that the study has been completed.

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

Tony Rodriguez, LJA, updated the Board that they are awaiting notification from TxDOT to perform the TDLR inspection. The Change Order was submitted to TxDot and is pending review.

e. Project Status Update: Springfield Ave. Extension Project, Phase 2

Melissa Montemayor, LJA, informed the Board that the Interlocal Agreement is with the City of Laredo, and they are pending the finalized cost estimate. The one million Category 12 dollars previously allocated to the project require that federal standards need to be utilized for the design and specifications.

f. Project Status Update: Concord Hills

Melissa Montemayor, LJA, informed the Board that similar to Springfield, they are working with the City of Laredo and the developer's engineering consultant on the cost estimate. Once it is finalized, the RMA can execute an Interlocal Agreement with

the City, as well as execute an Advanced Funding Agreement with TxDOT. Additionally, if it is determined that the Category 12 dollars are too restrictive and cost-consuming, there may be discussion to use a different type of funding for the project.

g. Project Status Update: Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A): Vision Zero Webb Laredo Safety Action Plan

Jason Rodriguez, LJA, informed the Board the safety and equity analysis are being completed and initial findings will be reported early next year. There will be two committees, the Vision Zero Working Group, and the Safe Transportation Advisory Council.

h. Proposed Riverbank Side Walk Project Utilizing LWCAMPO Carbon Reduction Funding

Jason Rodriguez, LJA, notified the Board the Laredo/Webb County MPO identified that approximately \$1.7 million in Carbon Reduction Funds are available. These funds can only be used for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and cannot be part of a project that is adding capacity for vehicles on the roadway. LJA is working with the MPO to identify a segment along Riverbank Drive between Aquero Boulevard and south of I-69 West. The proposed River Road project will eventually tie Aquero Boulevard and also connect to Riverbank Drive, as part of that project, and there will be a continuous path that can be used by cyclists and pedestrians.

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

No date and time were set for the next Board meeting. Details for the next Board meeting will follow.

13. Adjournment.

On a motion by Mr. Murrillo and seconded by Mr. Mendiola with no discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:19 am. Motion passes unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.
