

BEXAR COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY

Meeting, June 7, 2004, 10:00 a.m., Bexar County Commissioners Court

MINUTES

1. Call to Order. Chairman B. Thornton called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. All members were present with the exception of Mr. R. Diaz who had requested to be excused.

2. Approval of Bexar County Regional Mobility Authority Minutes for May 3, 2004. A motion to approval the minutes was requested by Chairman Thornton. General W. McBride made a motion to accept the minutes as presented with one correction. Change the date of the minutes being approved to *April 13, 2004*. Mr. J. Reed seconded. Motion passed.

Chairman Thornton took the opportunity to thank Mr. S. Mitchell, Chief of Staff for the County Judge, and members of his staff for assisting and guiding the RMA working committees as they held numerous meetings during this past month.

3. Communications, including the citizens who sign the register to speak; and reports. There were no citizens signed to speak. Committee reports followed:

Mr. J. Reed, chair, Planning Committee, said his report would center on items 5 and 6 of the agenda. Mr. Reed asked board members to review the handouts provided. These handouts show the TxDOT alignment of the Trans-Texas Corridor also referred to as "TTC-35." TTC-35 is an 800 mile transportation corridor stretching from the Oklahoma/Texas border to the Texas/Mexico border. This corridor parallels IH 35 and is one of four high priority elements of the TTC. The purpose of the corridor is to provide faster and safer transportation. The present status of this project includes environmental studies being conducted in 70 counties in Texas. A "preferred" corridor is expected as the outcome of the studies. The intent of the design of the corridor selected would flow through rural areas and not pass directly through metropolitan centers.

Committee member R. Thompson added that information provided at the recent TxDOT meeting left him with more questions than answers but found the meeting and information to be educational. He also mentioned that an interesting part of the selected design eventually will leave decisions up to local RMA as to how they will link up to this corridor from the existing transportation network.

Mr. J. Reed said that he would like for the board to make a recommendation to TxDOT regarding the linkages just mentioned by Mr. R. Thompson.

Comments were received from Mr. T. Griebel, SAMCO; Ms. Joanne Walsh, MPO Director; Mr. D. Casteel, TxDOT District Engineer; and Ms. Julia Brown, Deputy TxDOT District Engineer.

Chairman Thornton suggested that Mr. J. Reed work with local officials from SAMCO, MPO and TxDOT and draft a letter indicating support for local projects. This letter would be sent by June 24, 2004, to the Texas Transportation Commission. General McBride made this suggestion as a motion. Mr. R. Thompson seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. J. Reed then reported on item 6. He asked Ms. Joanne Walsh to speak to the planning process steps necessary to initiate a transportation infrastructure project. He referred board members to one of the handouts, "Project Development Process." Ms. Walsh's primary message to the board was that the MPO is here to help the RMA. She continued by explaining how the MPO gets involved in transportation issues and that the MPO is responsible, by mandate, for regional transportation planning and allocation.

Mr. J. Reed asked the board to consider having a general concept of the "Starter System" and that the board members endorse and approve the Starter System by July 26, 2004.

4. Discussion and appropriate action regarding adoption of the following policies of the Bexar County Regional Mobility Authority: i) Conflict of Interest Policy for Consultants; ii) Conflict of Interest Policy for Financial Team Members; iii) Drug and Alcohol Policy. Mr. J. Fuentes, chair, Procedures Committee, informed the board that his committee had prepared three (3) policies for consideration. Mr. E. Schwenger, DA-Civil Section Chief, reviewed the policies with the board. He explained the purpose of having two separate Conflict of Interest statements, but the board may still choose to combine the two. In discussion, the board was advised that a list needed to be maintained by the RMA regarding individuals who are desire to do business with the RMA. The board considered adding "directors" to the list of those individuals having to make disclosure. General McBride made the motion to accept the Conflict of Interest Policy for Financial Team Members and the Conflict of Interest Policy for Consultants with the addition "directors" (board members). Mr. R. Thompson seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. E. Schwenger proceeded to review the Drug and Alcohol Policy. Mr. J. Fuentes made the motion to accept the Drug and Alcohol Policy as presented. Mr. R. Thompson seconded. Motion passed.

5. Discussion and appropriate action concerning the submission of comments to the Texas Department of Transportation on the potential alignment of the Trans-Texas Corridor segment to be built east of Interstate 35. This item was discussed in item 3, above.

6. Discussion and appropriate action concerning identification of planning process steps necessary to initiate a transportation infrastructure project. This item was discussed in item 3, above.

7. Discussion and appropriate action regarding of an interlocal agreement between the Bexar County Regional Mobility Authority and Bexar County to establish the terms under which Bexar County will provide funding to the BCRMA. Mr. S. Mitchell, Chief of Staff for the County Judge, said he and Mr. E. Schweninger have met with the Executive Committee, County Auditor, and Commissioners Court and a final draft of the interlocal agreement will be presented to all parties for review and signing. Mr. E. Schweninger added that although the agreement has not been signed, the board may proceed with item 8 of the agenda. The only issue is the timing of the release of the funds by Commissioners Court.

8. Discussion and appropriate action concerning the selection of an Executive Director for the Bexar County Regional Mobility Authority. General McBride, member of the Executive Committee, presented background information on this item in preparation for consideration in Executive Session.

9. Selection of date and time for the next BCRMA meeting. In view of the Fourth of July holiday and the courthouse being closed on Monday, July 5, Chairman Thornton set the next meeting date of the BCRMA for Tuesday, July 6, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. in the Bexar County Commissioners Court courtroom.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

At approximately 11:45 a.m. the BCRMA board met in Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, to discuss item 8 of the agenda, concerning the selection of an Executive Director for the Bexar County Regional Mobility Authority.

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Chairman Thornton returned the BCRMA meeting of June 7, 2004, to Open Session at 12:15 p.m.

8. Discussion and appropriate action concerning the selection of an Executive Director for the Bexar County Regional Mobility Authority. General McBride made

a motion that the BCRMA board select Mr. Tom Griebel as the Executive Director of the Bexar County Regional Mobility Authority effective July 1, 2004, with a total salary and benefit package in the amount of \$160,000 annually. Mr. J. Reed seconded. Motion passed.

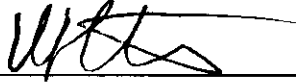
Mr. T. Griebel was present and was asked to make comments regarding his appointment.

Chairman Thornton requested that Mr. Griebel meet with county staff and committee chairmen to begin developing a work plan for the RMA.

In closing, Mr. R. Thompson commented on the concern he has for the RMA to look for offices and meeting rooms away from the TxDOT offices. This would insure the independence of the RMA board.

There being no further business to come before the BCRMA, Chairman Thornton adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

APPROVED:



**BILL THORNTON, CHAIRMAN
ALAMO REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY**

DATE ADOPTED: July 6, 2004

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing pages constitute the full, true and correct minutes of all the proceeding and official records of the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority at its regular meeting on June 7, 2004.

ATTEST:



**M. CRISTINA RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY/TREASURER**