

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

*Meeting November 10, 2009, 1:00p.m.,
in the Al J. Notzon III Conference Room
of the Alamo Area Council Of Governments,
at 8700 Tesoro Drive.*

Minutes

1. **Call meeting to order.** Chairman Thornton called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. All Board members present with the exception of M.C. Rodriguez and R. Diaz.
2. **Approval of the minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting of October 8, 2009.** *R. Thompson made the motion to approve the minutes as presented to the Board. R. Rodriguez seconded. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.*
3. **Discussion and appropriate action on a resolution approving a Policy for Project Management and Development.** Terry Brechtel introduced the proposed new policy. T. Brechtel stated that there are state and federal guidelines for the RMA to follow including work zone safety and mobility. Pat Irwin made a power point presentation (see attached) summarizing the requirements and that we are proposing to use the guidelines adopted by TxDOT. P. Irwin stated that most of the work would be done during the planning phase to address and implement during construction. P. Irwin summarized the content of the Transportation Management Plan, the plans, review teams, inspections, work zone protections, law enforcement support, safety apparel. Chairman Thornton stated that the safety factor for this policy is important but it also shows there is progress on the RMA projects. *J. Reed made the motion to approve the policy and R. Thompson seconded.* J. Reed asked the question as to who controls the signals and traffic lights and P. Irwin stated that Pape/Dawson will adjust initially and the contractor will handle it during construction. J. Reed stated that the key element in the project is the traffic signals. R. Thompson stated that the process has room for safety issues and there are categories for the RMA to adopt and we should designate a point person to handle all of that. P. Irwin stated that Dale will have oversight and much of the work will be done at night so safety is even more critical. C. Villareal asked how the costs for this were budgeted and T. Brechtel stated for staff it is included in their duties and for Pape Dawson in their contract for design work and the contractor implements it as part of their contract per the bid cost. *Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.*
4. **Discussion and appropriate action on a resolution approving proposed amendments to the personnel policy of the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority.**

T. Brechtel stated that this 3rd revision since its original adoption is to satisfy the requirement recently imposed by TxDOT for entities receiving financial assistance to adopt an ethics and compliance program. T. Brechtel referred to the chart prepared by Locke Lord analyzing the requirements and where each was addressed in the Personnel Policy, Governance Guidelines and Conflict of Interest Policies. She also noted that only minor changes to the Personnel Policy were required, including training, background checks, records retention and adding clarification language for temporary employees. Chairman Thornton stated that we must amend the policy to comply with TxDOT. *J. Reed made the motion to approve the amendments and R. Thompson seconded.* J. Reed stated that so few changes were required because General McBride did such a great job at the inception of the RMA and Chairman Thornton asked Terry to send him a letter thanking him for that effort. R. Thompson noted that the Table of Contents needed to be fixed. *Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.*

5. Discussion and appropriate action on a resolution supporting a non-toll plan for the completion of Wurzbach Parkway, a recommended Proposition 12 funded project of the Texas Department of Transportation. T. Brechtel made a presentation that the action was to request the Texas Transportation Commission to support Proposition 12 for the Wurzbach Parkway project. T. Brechtel described the project and noted that it has been reviewed by the Planning Committee. *R. Thompson made the motion to approve the resolution and J. Reed seconded.* Chairman Thornton stated that project has been in the RMA's scope for 4 years and it is initiated as a non-toll project by the RMA. R. Thompson stated that the County initially wanted the rights of development for this project from TxDOT and mobility is not just about toll projects. R. Rodriguez asked about the availability of the pass-through funds for this project. There was a discussion about the original pass-through application for these funds but they are no longer available but if the Proposition 12 funds, which are 100%, are not awarded to the project, if new pass-through funds become available, the RMA will seek to apply for those funds again. T. Brechtel also noted that pass-through funds require a local match. R. Rodriguez wants to make sure the RMA is in support of both options for the project. J. Reed stated that this project is complicated because of its location next to the airport. Frank Holzmann stated that the environmental work is currently underway but does not include an interchange at 281. J. Reed also stated that SAMCO is going to Austin to provide support for this project. *Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.*

6. **Discussion and appropriate action on the financial statements for the period ending September 30, 2009 and October 31, 2009.** Chairman Thornton asked Ms. Brechtel to introduce Item 8 for Board consideration. Ms. Brechtel introduced Carrie Conner, Comptroller, of the Alamo RMA who presented the financial statements for period ending September 30, 2009 and October 31, 2009. Ms. Conner reviewed the balance sheets and highlights. Ms. Conner then reviewed the statements of capitalized costs and income statements. Ms. Conner then reviewed the statements of cash flows and asked for questions. She also noted that there will be a future budget change to reflect the temporary employee. Chairman Thornton thanked R. Rodriguez for serving on the Finance Committee. *R. Rodriguez made the motion to accept the Financial Statements as presented to the Board. R. Thompson seconded. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.*

7. **Presentation/briefing - Executive Director's Report.**

T. Brechtel discussed the calendar and events scheduled. T. Brechtel stated that for the 1604 EIS there is a change in the project manager to Tim Smith and for the 281 EIS there is a peer technical review committee that has been added. T. Brechtel asked Jim Robertson to make a power point presentation updating the Board on the status and what will be presented at the November 17th second scoping meeting (see attached). J. Robertson stated that the power point being presented is an abbreviated version of the one that will be presented at the public meeting scheduled for November 17, 2009. He then discussed the need and purpose and noted that US 281 has two functions – to provide north/south movements as well as providing local access for businesses and the proposed need/purpose are to address growth, improve safety, improve functionality, enhance the quality of life with a list of objectives that includes enhancing water quality, consistency with local and regional plans and policies, reduction of travel time, increase in travel speeds. R. Rodriguez asked where the financial analysis comes in and J. Robertson stated that the financial analysis/cost must be included in the MPO long range plan and as we move into

Minutes of the Alamo Regional Mobility Board of Directors November 10, 2009 Regular Meeting

the draft EIS we will analyze available funding options and include tolled/non-tolled analysis of all alternatives. J. Robertson stated that there is not a quantitative calculation at this point but there will be cost estimates for all alternatives included in the draft EIS. T. Brechtel stated that we don't eliminate alternatives based upon the financial feasibility until later in the process and in the final EIS the preferred alternative must include the financial analysis and be consistent with the long range plan. R. Thompson stated that we will need to look at environmental justice and J. Robertson confirmed that it will be part of the analysis and that the record of decision must be consistent with the MPO identified funding source for the project. J. Robertson explained that with respect to the consideration of local and regional plans and policies, the current MPO policy after 2015 assumes no growth outside of Loop 1604 and that the long range plan assumptions must be followed for the EIS process. There was concern expressed by board members regarding this assumption and J. Reed stated that this seems to present a disconnect and Chairman Thornton expressed concern on conducting an EIS based upon an assumption for no growth that can't be implemented by the city, county, etc and he asked that a letter be sent to the MPO concerning this issue. J. Robertson also stated that several reasonable alternatives will be included in the Draft EIS for a detailed analysis that will include both tolled and non-tolled options.

8. **Citizens to be heard.** There were no citizens signed up to speak on this item.
9. **Executive Session.** There was no Executive Session.
10. **Adjournment.** There being no further actions for the Board, Chairman Thornton called the meeting to adjournment at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVED:

DR. WILLIAM E. THORNTON, CHAIRMAN

DATE ADOPTED: 1/14/2010

I hereby certify that the above foregoing pages constitute the full, true, and correct minutes of all the proceedings and official records of the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority at its meeting on November 10, 2009.

ATTEST: _____

**REYNALDO L. DIAZ, JR
SECRETARY/TREASURER**