

**REGULAR MEETING
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
HELD ON AUGUST 16, 2017, AT 12:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS**

On the 16th day of August 2017, the Toll Bridge Board met in a regular Bridge Board Meeting. Following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Edgar Delgadillo, Chairman
Larry Hernandez, Vice-Chairman
Artemio Palacios, Member
Tony Martinez, Member
Prajeres Gutierrez, Member

MEMBER ABSENT: None

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBER
PRESENT:** None

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBER
ABSENT:** Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez
Mayor Pro-Tem Bobby Carrillo

STAFF PRESENT: Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations
Vanessa Guzman, Administrative Assistant
Cleo Salinas, Administrative Assistant
Freddy Flores, Trade Liaison

OTHER PRESENT: Juan G. Guerra, City Manager
Ed Wylie, Asst. City Manager
John Rigney, City Attorney
Karla Moya, Finance Director
Omar Anzalduas, City Engineering
Ezequiel Ordonez, Bridge Liaison
Sgt. Sanchez, Bridge PD
David Moreno, CBP
Lauro Garza, CBP
Hollis Rutledge, Governmental Affairs
Michael Uhrbrock, UTRGV
Sai Mullanpudi, UTRGV

There being a quorum established Chairman Edgar Delgadillo called the meeting to order. Following is the agenda:

1. Roll Call-Excuse absent members

2. Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation
3. Public Comments
4. Consideration and action on approval of minutes-July 25, 2017
5. Crossings and revenues comparison for July 2017.
6. Expenditures report for July 2017.
7. Project engineer report.
8. Director's Administrative Report.
9. Discussion and action, if any, on Proposal for Project Manager Consultant Scope of Work for the Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge Improvements.
10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
11. **RECONVENE**
12. Adjournment

A. CALL TO ORDER:

ITEM "1": ROLL CALL-EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS

Chairman Delgadillo called the meeting to order. All members were present during roll call. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM "2": PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATIONS

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director led them in the Pledge of Allegiance and in prayer. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS: *(The City of Pharr has called this meeting as allowed pursuant to Texas law, city charter, and Ordinance O-2015-28. The governing body may recess from day to day when it does not complete consideration of a particularly long subject as authorized by law. All persons desiring to address the governing body must register with the presiding clerk prior to the scheduled meeting)*

ITEM "3": PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item and stated there was no one registered for public comments. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

C. CONSENT AGENDA: *(All items listed under consent Agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Governing body and will be enacted by one motion. Any Board Member may remove items from the consent agenda by making such request prior to a motion and vote on the Consent Agenda)*

ITEM “4”: **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES-
JULY 25, 2017**

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Secretary Gutierrez made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Member Palacios seconded the motion and was then carried on unanimously. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

D. DIRECTOR’S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: *(Director’s Administrative Reports and discussion, if any, with Bridge Board. The Director may also assign a designated spokesperson for any particular listed topic)*

ITEM “5”: **CROSSING AND REVENUES COMPARISON FOR JULY 2017**

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Brouwen, Director of Operations stated that for the month of July total crossings were 118,087, which shows an increase of 3,015 vehicles or 2.62% compared to last year. Mr. Brouwen stated that total crossing for cars were 71,512 cars, which shows a decrease of (49) cars or (-0.07%). Mr. Brouwen then showed a car crossing compassion from other bridges across the board. Mr. Brouwen reported that total truck crossings for the month of July were 46,575, which shows an increase of 3,064 trucks or 7.04% increase in trucks. Mr. Brouwen then showed a truck crossing compassion from other bridges across the board. Some discussion then took place regarding crossings reports from Anazalduas. Mr. Brouwen reported that northbound crossings for the month of July were 50,002, which shows an increase of 4,350 trucks or 9.53% increase in northbound trucks. Mr. Brouwen stated that on the Ag crossings for the month of July the total crossings were 13,676 trucks, which represents a 27% of all imports from Mexico to the U.S. Some discussions then took place regarding empty trucks. Mr. Brouwen stated that total revenue collected for the month of July were \$1,141,346, which shows an increase of \$94,051 or 8.98% in revenues. Several discussions then took place regarding the crossings. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “6”: **EXPENDITURES REPORT FOR JULY 2017**

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they have Mrs. Karla Moya, Finance Director there if they have any questions. Some discussions then took place regarding the STAC AG budget. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “7”: **PROJECT ENGINEER REPORT**

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they have Mr. Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer there if they have any questions on the engineer report. Mr. Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer stated that he has three projects that he is going to update them on FY15 DAP which is the northbound lanes and booth expansion, the FY16 projects which is the dock expansion, the Ag facility and the cold inspection, and the bridge building expansion. He stated that on the FY15 that one is already in full design and right now the consultant is working on the environmental clearance, so they have been on site doing the surveying and what not and meeting with TX-DOT to get the environmental clearance and they expect that to be a three to four month process. He added that the preliminary schedule for that is August 2018, to let, to put it out for bids, so they are working with that preliminary schedule right now. Mr. Anzaldua stated that on the FY16 Ag building, dock expansion and the cold inspection facility they met last week with CBP and GSA to do the finish technical handout where they give them the document that says that this is what they expect the facilities to be, all the technical requirements. He added that it is still in draft form because their consultants are reviewing the final layout to make sure that that is what they want as far as the city to see how many docks they are going to get, what can be accommodated, so they are just crossing their T's dotting their I's and then they will present that back to CBP for final concurrence and then they will sign off on that and then they can move on to final design. Mr. Anzaldua stated that finally the bridge expansion facility they have the architects on board and they are expecting to meet with them shortly and they expect that to be about a two to three month design process and then go out for bids and then go out for bids for renovations and expansions, so that is where they are at on those three projects if anyone has a question. Several discussions then took place regarding the projects inside the port and staging area. Mr. Guerra, City Manager stated that since they are on the engineering side if they can talk a little about the improvements on the access to the Pharr Bridge, for example Cabeza de Vaca, we were very strongly encouraged and happy by the comments the fact that they are actually going to do the improvements, the additional lanes, improve the access to the Pharr International Bridge. Mr. Bazan, Bridge Director stated that it was great news that it was finally out in the press and that is was not just them talking about it and it is not just them going to the Bi-national meetings and bringing it up, but now they have the official giving them that word. He added that what they are working on now is securing the funding for that, the funding is not yet in place, and what the State Government of Tamaulipas has had to do in the last few months since the new Governor came on board, re-visit the entire plans, the entire layouts because costs have gone up and now they are reconsidering certain aspects of that construction or certain aspects of that project that they thought were going to be phased out, phase I, phase II maybe a few years afterward, now it looks like they want to do the whole thing and they even want to make improvements as he has mentioned before to what they have come to know as the caracol or the interchange leading in to the access. He added that it is going to be a much bigger project and he believes that it is going to range about thirteen million dollars but it is a project that they need because right now they do have the aduana being modernized and that is an eighty million dollar project that Mexico is working on and they are on a very strict timeline to finish by October 2018, so it is very aggressive but they also need to start constructing this access road. He stated that he was very

excited that the governor has come out and talked about this and has mentioned it and it looks like they are just going to continue pushing and moving forward to try and get that funding to put down that first rock. Several discussions then took place regarding this issue. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “8”: DIRECTORS ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that he covered the 559 project in the engineer's report. Mr. Guerra asked if there was a timing on things. Mr. Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer stated that for the FY15, the northbound lanes and toll booth expansion they are looking to go out for bids August 2018, the environment study process with TX-Dot takes a couple of months and then they have the schematic designs and then the final design so that is the anticipated schedule that has been proposed but it can always speed up if the environmental process gets done faster. Several discussions then took place regarding that item. Mr. Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer added that as far the FY16, right now they are in the conceptual phase and are just trying to get all the final acceptance from CBP and GSA on the final lay out and on all the technical requirements so they will get a little more firm schedule once they get that delivered to them. Discussions then took place regarding the BSIF Connector.

Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that as everyone knows BridgeConnect is their monthly trade session, which is a value added service resource to the trade community and this month they are proud to offer something for Food Safety but from Mexico's perspective. He added that they have actually bought in a guest speaker from SCS Global Services and they specialize also in Primus Labs certification and Primus GSS, but what they are trying to achieve here is provide the other side of the token. He added that he hears about it every week and gets emails about it every week the Food Safety Modernization Act, FSMA but they haven't really done anything from Mexico's perspective, so this will be a first time that they do something like this. He added that they have been meeting with the folks since yesterday, they met with them during tour with the folks from TIPA, SENASICA, SAGARPA and these guys have a lot of knowledge, they have a lot of new information that they might have not heard before, so they encourage the trade community particularly those that are shipping produce products to attend this session, it is free of charge and it is tomorrow from 9:00am to 11:00am and it will take place at 700 E. Hall Acres which is Tierra Del Sol also if some of the board members would like to attend to see what there are talking about here if their schedule permits. He added that this is something that they are trying to do on a monthly basis, and that they had kicked it back to every two-months but there is a big demand to continue offering these type of trainings and conferences to the trade community. Several discussions then took place regarding certain sectors of the trade community for trainings and about a DPS training.

Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that the next thing that he has is the UTRGV update from Michael Uhrbrock and Sai Mullapudi from UTRGV Data Information System Center to give them a quick update on where they are on the trade dashboard and the annual trade numbers report. Mr. Michael Uhrbrock, UTRGV Data Information System Center then began to give a brief presentation on the trade

dashboard and trade numbers. Some discussions then took place regarding the trade numbers. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE:

**ITEM “9”: DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON PROPOSAL FOR PROJECT
MANAGER CONSULTANT SCOPE OF WORK FOR THE PHARR-
REYNOSA INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS.**

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item and stated that they would take this item in to executive session.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION: In accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Gov’t. Code, the International Toll Bridge Board hereby gives notice that it may meet in Executive session to discuss and deliberate any items listed on the public portion of the meeting agenda including items C-E.

Chairman Delgadillo stated the time being 12:48 p.m., the Bridge Board would be going in to executive session in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Govt.

G. RECONVENE: into regular session, and consider action, if any, on item(s) discussed in executive session.

Chairman Delgadillo reconvened the meeting to regular session and introduced Item 9. Vice-Chairman Hernandez made a motion to table Item 9 as discussed in executive session. Secretary Gutierrez seconded the motion and was then carried on unanimously. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

H. ADJOURNMENT:

ITEM “10”: ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Member Palacios made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Chairman Hernandez seconded the motion and was then carried on unanimously.

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED:

EDGAR DELGADILLO, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

STATE OF TEXAS

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COUNTY OF HIDALGO §
CITY OF PHARR §

ON THE 16th DAY OF AUGUST 2017, the Toll Bridge Board convened in a Regular Meeting at the Pharr International Bridge, the meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting, giving the date, place and subject thereof, having been posted to the public and notice of said meeting, given in accordance to Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code, (Open Meetings Act) and their being present a quorum, **I, VANESSA GUZMAN, BRIDGE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**, of the City of Pharr, Texas, certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes.

VANESSA GUZMAN, BRIDGE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

DATE APPROVED: _____
Word/C:BoardMeetings/BoardMtgMinutes8-16-17