

**REGULAR MEETING
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
HELD ON DECEMBER 20, 2017, AT 12:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS**

On the 20th day of December 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
Prajeres Gutierrez, Secretary
Artemio Palacios, Member
Tony Martinez, 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

OTHER PRESENT: Ed Wylie, Asst. City Manager
Patricia Rigney, City Attorney
Carlos Montemayor, Finance Department
Omar Anzalduas, City Engineering
Ricardo Diaz, CBP
Efrain de los Santos, CBP
Hollis Rutledge, Governmental Affairs
Ezequiel Ordonez, Bridge Liaison
Sgt. Sanchez, Bridge PD
Eduardo Bernal Martinez, Consul
Leopoldo Chow, Jr., CANACAR
Armando Zuniga, CANACAR

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-November 15, 2017
5. Discussion and action, if any, on Renewing the Rio Grande Valley Partnership-Chamber of Commerce Membership for \$2,500.
6. Discussion and action, if any, on advertising in the Texas International Produce Association 2018 Membership Directory for \$800.
7. Crossings and revenues comparison for November 2017.
8. Expenditures report for November 2017.
9. Project engineer report.
10. Director's Administrative Report.
11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
12. **RECONVENE**
13. Discussion and action, if any, on World City-Pharr Trade Numbers Book for 2017.
14. Discussion and action, if any, on renewing Camera Services Agreement between the City of Pharr International Bridge and Inmobiliaria Jugas, S.A. de C.V.
15. 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-
NOVEMBER 15, 2017**

**ITEM “5”: DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RENEWING THE RIO
GRANDE VALLEY PARTNERSHIP-CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MEMBERSHIP FOR \$2,500.**

**ITEM “6”: DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ADVERTISING IN THE TEXAS
INTERNATIONAL PRODUCE ASSOCIATION 2018 MEMBERSHIP
DIRECTORY FOR \$800.**

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Secretary Gutierrez made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vice-Chairman Hernandez 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 “7”: CROSSING AND REVENUES COMPARISON FOR NOVEMBER 2017

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Brouwen, Director of Operations stated that for the month of November total crossings were 109,151, which shows an decrease of -5,727 vehicles or -4.99% compared to last year. Mr. Brouwen stated that total crossing for cars were 59,545 cars, which shows a decrease of (-11,150) cars or (-15.77%). 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 November were 49,606, which shows an increase of 5,423 trucks or 12.27% increase in trucks. Mr. Brouwen then showed a truck crossing compassion from other bridges across the board. Several discussions then took place regarding the increase in crossings across the board. Mr. Brouwen reported that northbound crossings for the month of November were 52,586, which shows an increase of 5,728 trucks or 12.22%

increase in trucks that are coming from Mexico to the U.S. He added that on the Ag trucks they had a total of 14,015, which represents a 27% of all imports from Mexico to the U.S. He reported that the Ag truck crossing at the Pharr international Bridge for the month of November compared to 2016 shows an increase of 1,030 more trucks, which represents an 8% increase compared to fiscal year 2016-2017. Mr. Brouwen stated that total revenue collected for the month of November were \$1,158,692, which shows an increase of \$61,296 or 5.59% in revenues. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “8”: EXPENDITURES REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2017

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they do have Carlos Montemayor in representation of Karla Moya, Finance Director if there are any questions in regards to finances or the budget. He added that what he can say is that right now they are at 16% of the usage of this budget and things are tracking well. Some discussions then took place regarding the budget. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “9”: PROJECT ENGINEER REPORT

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they have Mr. Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer there if they have any questions. He added that he is going to give a brief update on where they are with the CIP Projects but mostly he is going to concentrate on the infrastructure projects inside the port because he thinks that what they want to know is when do they go to construction and when do they end these projects. He added that he is happy to say that all projects will start in August 2018 and all projects will go live on April 2020. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that there are different dates for example the DAP15 Projects which are the Northbound entry lanes and the Northbound exit lane for commercial traffic, those have a letting date of August 2018 and they do have coordinated border infrastructure funds through TX-DOT for those two projects and they should complete those two projects by the end of 2019. He added that the DAP16 Projects which consist of the Dock Expansion phase 1 and Dock Expansion phase 2, which is also the Cold Inspection Facility and the Regional Ag Training Center and Laboratory and those by February will be about 30% on the design. He added that he forgot to mention that on the DAP15 they are at about 60% design phase. He stated that on the DAP 16 they will be at 30% by the end of February, 60% design by the end of May, 90% by the end of August and a 100% by the end of September, so again construction on those will be completed by April 2020. He stated that then they have the BSIF Connector, this is a TX-DOT project that they are working on along with TX-DOT, CBP and GSA and there really isn't any updates at this time other than the fact that TX-DOT is waiting response from the state in response to some of the comments that were shared between GSA, CBP and TX-DOT, so the next step is for them to meet or have a conference call to work out any differences within the information and then proceed to the next step. He added that the office will be 100% on the design by the end of December so construction will start next year and they will be done by August 2018 with the expansion of bridge office building, so we are really looking forward to that because

again it will give them ample room for more offices and more conference space and they will do a modernization of the toll booth area as well so it is going to look really nice. Mr. Bazan stated that on the toll system, Toll Plus is working on the back office this is the latest update from CCRMA and then Texadel is the company from Spain and these folks have already been at the bridge on two or three occasions taking measurement and have been working behind the scene, they are the line integrators so they are bringing in all the new equipment, so they are just trying to make sure that what they currently have will be able to facilitate the new infrastructure that is coming in to place. He stated that Lexsign is the local contractors who are doing all the electrical work so they are working very closely with them, as well as looking in to the weight in motion feature if they decide to go in that direction. He stated that that was all he had unless Omar wants to add anything else specific. Mr. Omar Anzaldúa, City Engineer stated that he just wants to echo that Luis covered all the milestones and that they have been working very closely with CBP and GSA and have a good working relationship and making sure that they are on the same page to keep these projects moving forward. He added that their goal is to get these to construction. Several discussion then took place regarding the projects. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “10”: DIRECTORS ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that before they go in to executive session there are a couple of reports that they have there and first he would like to introduce everyone that is there today and that they have been meeting with the new Consulado de Mexico who is based out of McAllen Mr. Eduardo Bernal Martinez and he was there for their Customer Appreciation two Fridays ago, so they would like to welcome him. He added that he would be representing the region and they have already had a couple of meeting with him and he is on board, he is there to help out the region and he understands the needs of this bridge. Mr. Eduardo Bernal Martinez, Consul de Mexico in McAllen than begin to give a brief presentation in Spanish to the board. Several discussion then took place. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that he would also like to present a couple of individuals that are there with them today, recently CANACAR which is the transportation association in Reynosa went through some changes in their lineup, the new President of CANACAR Mr. Leopoldo Chow who is with Transborder Logistics. He added that he could not be with them today because he had a business trip to Mexico City but they do have his son Leopoldo Chow Jr, they also have Edgar Zamorano who is with Autofletes Halcon and also he was not able to accompany them there today but he also understands the needs of this bridge and they are going to be working very closely with him. He added that the other person that they have there is Armando Zuniga who is an advisor or a counselor for CANACAR and he is from Transportes Suiza, they also have another person who is named Leonardo Varela who is one of their biggest crossers who is also on the CANACAR new board and they will be working very closely with him as well. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that at this time he would like to call Mr. Ezequiel Ordonez their Liaison in Mexico to go up and give an update on what's going on at the state level with the Gobierno de Estado Tamaulipas, and as they know they recently were approved to continue their efforts in Mexico to make sure that not only are they

getting a modernized Aduana, but that they also have that access road to the aduana, which will eliminate the bottlenecking. He added that with this project it will have complete access and a complete expansion of that access to the aduana with complete separation and dedicated lanes for commercial cargo trucks, full cargo trucks, empties and certified, and at this time Ezequiel will give them an update. Mr. Ezequiel Ordonez, Liaison in Mexico then began his update on the State of Tamaulipas in Spanish. Some discussions then took place regarding the projects in Mexico. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that the next thing he has on there is the 2018 Produce Trade Shows and he would like to go to executive session for that. Chairman Delgadillo stated that they would be going in to executive session at this time.

E. 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 12:28 p.m., the Bridge Board would be going in to executive session in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Govt.

F. 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 stated that there is no action on the item. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

G. ADMINISTRATIVE:

ITEM "11": DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON WORLD CITY PHARR TRADE NUMBERS BOOK FOR 2017.

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that this is a chance for them to continue and that he knows that last year they went in to an agreement with UTRGV to develop their Trade Dashboard and a trade Number publication at the end of the year, which is costing them roughly about ten-dollars a year, but he thinks that with UTRGV it is going to go further with that and allows them to do some surveying and not so much create the book that was created a couple of years ago where they did both in English and Spanish. He added that back when our city manager was bridge director he commissioned the first study with World City to conduct the first trade number study, which is basically their rankings, how they rate amongst other land ports of entries, other sea ports and air ports and who are their major importers and exporters are through this bridge. He added that recently when they were at PMA he spoke to someone from Laredo and that they had just put out their new book and these guys are getting a lot of help also from the bank industry distributing these books to the trade to potential investors so they can understand that land port of entry, that border crossing. He stated that in the essence of being competitive and staying on top of things he wants to push to get this book done and

what he discussed with World City was that if they commit to the next three years for them to give them a discount because it is a fairly expensive publication, particularly because they are doing it in both English and Spanish and they are the first bridge to ever do that so they want to continue on that trend, so the cost as they can see in there to get things started is \$35,000. Several discussions then took place regarding the book. Vice-Chairman Hernandez made a motion to approve the World City-Pharr trade Numbers book. Member Palacios seconded the motion and was then carried on unanimously. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM "12": DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RENEWING CAMERA SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PHARR INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE AND INMOBILIARIA JUGAS, S.A. DE C.V.

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that this is a renewal of a contract that they currently have with Grupo Jugas where they are leasing an office from them right outside the perimeters of the aduana and also they have some cameras installed at their location that allows them to keep visibility, a close eye on trucks as they are going in and out of the aduana. He added that last time they were doing it once a year and now they want to go in to a three year agreement based on what's here on this contract and it has already been revised by legal. Several discussions then took place regarding this item. Secretary Gutierrez made a motion to approve the renewal of camera services with Grupo Jugas. Member Palacios seconded the motion and was then carried on unanimously. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

H. ADJOURNMENT:

ITEM "16": ADJOURNMENT

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

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED:

EDGAR DELGADILLO, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

PRAJERES GUTIERREZ, SECRETARY

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF HIDALGO §
CITY OF PHARR §

ON THE 15th DAY OF NOVEMBER 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/BoardMtgMinutes12-20-17