

**REGULAR MEETING
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
HELD ON FEBRUARY 21, 2018, AT 12:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS**

On the 21st day of February 2018, 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: Mayor Pro-Tem Bobby Carrillo

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER ABSENT: Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez

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: Ed Wylie, Deputy City Manager
Patricia Rigney, City Attorney
Karla Moya, Finance Director
Omar Anzalduas, City Engineering
Javier Cantu, CBP
David Moreno, CBP
Carlos Rodriguez, CBP
Hollis Rutledge, Governmental Affairs
Ezequiel Ordonez, Bridge Liaison
Jose Luengo, Police Chief
Miguel Yerenia, Asst. Police Chief
Sgt. Juan Sanchez, Bridge PD
Giovanni Gastelum, Grupo Jugas
Oscar Rodriguez, Grupo Jugas

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-January 17, 2018
5. Discussion and action, if any, on 31st Annual Maquiladora Spring Picnic Sponsorship for \$2,000.
6. Discussion and action, if any, on 4th Annual PSJA ECHS Bear Scholarship Classic Golf Tournament for \$1,000.
7. Discussion and action, if any, on Border Trade Alliance (BTA) 2018 Membership Silver Patron Level for \$10,000.
8. Crossings and revenues comparison for January 2018.
9. Expenditures report for January 2018.
10. Project engineer report.
11. Director's Administrative Report.
12. Discussion on Bridge Security Camera Proposal.
13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
14. **RECONVENE**
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 except Member Martinez who was late. 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-
JANUARY 17, 2018**

**ITEM “5”: DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON 31ST ANNUAL
MAQUILADORA SPRING PICNIC SPONSORSHIP FOR \$2,000.**

**ITEM “6”: DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON 4TH ANNUAL PSJA ECHS
BEAR SCHOLARSHIP CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT FOR \$1,000.**

**ITEM “7”: DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON BORDER TRADE ALLIANCE
(BTA) 2018 MEMBERSHIP SILVER PATRON LEVEL FOR \$10,000.**

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Secretary Gutierrez stated that what does the Border Trade Alliance include. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that when the Border Trade Alliance was renewed last year with new leadership behind it, they addressed the fact that in the past the levels of membership did not meet certain expectations, so what this includes is basically something that they have always wanted with Border Trade Alliance and with any other big trade organization which is a place at the board, being a part of the decision making body. He added that that puts him on the Board of Directors for the Boarder Trade Alliance and that allows him to join them for their Bi-annual meetings, also to be part of the ongoing conversations, the ongoing work that they are doing for trade. Some discussions then took place regarding the BTA. Member Palacios made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Secretary Gutierrez 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 “8”: CROSSING AND REVENUES COMPARISON FOR JANUARY 2018

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Brouwen, Director of Operations stated that for the month of January total crossings were 111,544, which shows a decrease of -6,356 vehicles or -5.39% compared to last year. Mr. Brouwen stated that total crossing for cars were 59,600 cars, which shows a decrease of (-10,640) cars or (-15.15%). 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 January were 51,944, which shows an increase of 4,284 trucks or 8.99% 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 January were 55,097, which shows an increase of 4,357 trucks or 8.59% increase in trucks. He added that for the Agriculture for the month of January they had a total of 17,884 trucks which represents a 32% of all imports from Mexico to the U.S. Mr. Brouwen stated that total revenue collected for the month of January were \$1,126,326, which shows an increase of \$14,310 or 1.29% in revenues. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “9”: EXPENDITURES REPORT FOR JANUARY 2018

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they do have Karla Moya, Finance Director for the City there if they have any questions. He stated that he can report to them at this time that they are at 33.3% of their usage of the overall budget for fiscal year 2017-2018 and things are tracking well. He added that just like with any year especially when they account for so many things the year prior, when they try to budget for the fiscal year for certain items that they do not get the monies allocated that they need, one prime example is advertising/marketing, travel, and dues and things of that nature, which they are going to be doing more of as they continue to push forward with their projects. He added that they are going to have to take a hard look at that for this fiscal year, so they will not have to start making adjustments so early on in the fiscal year to be able to make it through the end of the year, so that was something that he wanted to bring up during the budget preparation and that they will do everything they can to ensure that they do account for everything based on this year's numbers and they will coordinate with Karla and everyone else that they need too in order to make sure that they have the allocated funds for their needs. Several discussions then took place regarding the budget. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “10”: 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 on the Projects. Mr. Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer stated that he would like to give them a brief update on a couple of projects that they have going on. He added that the first project is the bridge building renovation, where they are going to be doing some expansions and renovations of the actual building. He stated that those plans are complete and they anticipate going out for bids in March and going out for actual ground

breaking, construction maybe April/May, once they get the bids and present them to the board and all that. Mr. Anzaldua stated that they also have the FY15 Donations Acceptance Program, which is the northbound lanes and the second BSIF exit and those plans are about 60%-90% complete. He added that they have been working with their partners here at CBP doing some modifications that they have requested and they are incorporating those modifications and they anticipate that that projects as far as the engineer's plans should be complete in April or May and they have been working with TX-DOT to make their letting date of August 2018 going out for construction. He stated that lastly they have the FY16, which is composition of the AG Lab, the cold inspection and dry dock expansion, they should be getting a 30% plans next week from their consultants and they will be reviewing those with their partners at CBP and GSA. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that things are moving right along and there has been some conversations going on stating that they are at 0% design, but they are not at 0% design as Omar just stated the FY15 projects or the DAP15 Projects they are about to get to 90% by March 22, so those are moving right along. He added that it just took a little bit of extra work, they added two more weeks to the deadline because they needed to add a command center for CBP that is much needed and it will be the first international bridge that will have this type of facility and also a northbound lane that will be a bypass for the wide load capabilities for caterpillar. He stated that they worked out all those kinks and they are all on the same page, they have it in writing from CBP and GSA is aware of these changes and they are moving forward. Mr. Luis Bazan stated that the other one that they are working with on is the toll collection system and that should be going live sometime in May of 2018. He added that they are going to start having by weekly meetings now with CCRMA who is helping them implement it, and one of the things that they will be doing is going to Mexico City on the week of March 12-16 to knock out three birds with one stone. He stated that one of the visits is to go see this company in action Tecsidel, which is a European company that is putting the software and hardware together for them and the equipment for this toll system and has a similar if not the same type of system in Mexico City, so they want to go and take advantage of that and go see how it works for themselves and as well taking advantage of some other visits that they have that week. He stated that things are moving right along and they have been building the back office, the software part for a number of months now and they should start receiving equipment here in the next few weeks so hopefully by the middle of March they will start to see some equipment and will have to start storing this equipment and then they will start putting it together. He added that they are working side by side with the Warren Group because they are the architects and engineers behind the expansion of the bridge offices, so a lot of that has to be coordinated in order to get it right because they are going to be doing some modification and modernization to the toll plaza. Several discussions then took place regarding the toll system and the building expansion. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM "11": DIRECTORS ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they have a couple of things there, they do have an update from Grupo Jugas so he will have Ezequiel go up there and introduce them by in the meantime he

would like to update them on what is happening at the Bi-National level. He added that when they attend the Bi-National Bridges and Border Crossings Group it gives them an opportunity to sit in front of this committee with both state and federal officials with US and Mexico to give them authorization to keep moving forward with our projects, so that is why they see so much movement because this is the committee that allows them to do this. He added that the next BBBXG or Bi-national Bridges and Borders Crossing Group meeting will be in McAllen and it will be taking place in McAllen on March 2nd. He stated that they will be presenting and they have been lining up a good program with their local engineers that they have on board for all projects. Also, with the State Government of Tamaulipas so they can talk about their projects and the Aduana so they can give a complete update on how things are going on their end. Mr. Bazan stated that the Aduana right now is almost at 50% if not more on the completion of the project and they should be done with that construction by October 2018. Mr. Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they are planning a follow up to their Culiacan MOU. He added that the City of Culiacan was there back in October and that was a start to their ceremony, the strategic partnership that they have because a major part of the product that comes through their bridge is being grown in the State of Sinaloa. He stated that the next step is to go to them and have a ceremony of sorts and talk about the future and continue to talk about their strategic partnership to see what else they can do to benefit both entities and this will also take place the week of Sinaloa Encanta. He added that Sinaloa Ecanta is an event that he had the pleasure of going himself last year and these are all the VIP's in Mexico, when it comes to the products that are being grown over there, so it gives them a chance to go see where these products are actually being planted and harvested and see a lot of the green housing. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that he will now bring up Mr. Ezequiel Ordonez their Liaison in Mexico to introduce Grupo Jugas.

Mr. Ezequiel Ordonez, Liaison in Mexico then began to give a brief report in Spanish to the board of what they have been doing before he introduces Grupo Jugas. Mr. Ezequiel Ordonez then introduced Grupo Jugas to the board. Mr. Oscar Rodriguez, Grupo Jugas then began his update in Spanish to the board and also presented a video to them. Chairman Delgadillo moved on to the next item.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE:

ITEM "12": DISCUSSION ON BRIDGE SECURITY CAMERA PROPOSAL.

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 12:50 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 at 1:10 and stated that for Mr. Bazan to please proceed with what was discussed in executive session. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

H. ADJOURNMENT:

ITEM "13": ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Secretary Gutierrez 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:

PRAJERES GUTIERREZ, SECRETARY

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

ON THE 21th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2018, 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/BoardMtgMinutes2-21-18

