

**REGULAR MEETING
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2018, AT 12:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS**

On the 15th day of August 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
Tony Martinez, Member
Artemio Palacios, 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: Ed Wylie, Deputy City Manager
Patricia Rigney, City Attorney
Karla Moya, Finance Director
Edgar Rincon, Finance Department
Omar Anzaldua, City Engineering
David Moreno, CBP
Ezequiel Ordonez, Bridge Liaison
Sgt. Juan Sanchez, Bridge PD
Hollis Rutledge, Governmental Affairs

There being a quorum established Chairman Edgar Delgadillo called the meeting to order.

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.

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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 18, 2018.

ITEM “5”: CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ADVERTISING WITH THE ADVANCE NEWS JOURNAL FOR \$820 PER MONTH.

ITEM “6”: CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ADVERTISING WITH MEXICO INDUSTRY FOR \$685 PER ISSUE (12 ISSUE; 1 INDUSTRIAL MAP FOR \$4,000).

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Some discussions then took place regarding the items. Secretary Gutierrez made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Member Martinez seconded the motion and was then carried on unanimously. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

C. 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 JULY 2018.

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Brouwen, Director of Operations stated that for the month of July total crossings were 112,535, which shows a decrease of -5,552 vehicles or -4.70% compared to last year. Mr. Brouwen stated that total crossing for cars were 64,011 cars, which shows a decrease of -7,501 cars or -10.49%. 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 48,524, which shows an increase of 1,949 trucks or 4.18% increase in trucks. Mr. Brouwen then showed a truck crossing compassion from other bridges across the board. Several discussions then took place regarding crossings. Mr. Brouwen reported that northbound crossings for the month of July were 52,434, which shows an increase of 2,432 trucks or 4.86% increase in trucks. Mr. Brouwen stated that for the Agriculture for the month of July they had a total of 13,929 trucks, which represents a 26% of all imports from Mexico to the U.S. Several discussions then took place regarding crossings. Mr. Brouwen stated that total revenue collected for the month of July were \$1,135,224, which shows a decrease of -\$6,122 or -0.54% in revenues. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “8”: EXPENDITURES REPORT FOR JULY 2018.

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they do have Karla Moya, Finance Director for the city if they have any questions. He added that he can tell them is that they are on track and things are tracking well within the budget, they are within budget. He added that Karla just mentioned it recently that all departments stayed within budget this year but they are looking at a five-year outlook from here on out. He stated that they just recently went through the budget workshop process for those five-years and they still do not know how they are going to turn out, but if they have any questions, Karla is there to answer them. 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 Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer is there if they have any questions regarding their projects. He added that they know the projects; they know that they are working on them and the good news is that on the DAP15, they are getting ready to do the Donations Acceptance Agreement and that is what is needed by GSA in order to proceed forward with donating/gifting the infrastructure. He added that they still have not gone through the bidding process, that is something that Omar and his team are working on but they are already at 100% with the design. He stated that when it comes to the other three projects, the Regional Ag Lab & Training Center, Cold Inspection Facility and Dry Dock, those are about to get to 90% on the design phase and they will soon start talking Donations Acceptance Agreement. Mr. Bazan stated that once they get the first out of the way they should be good with the second one cause it kind of falls in line. He added that he knows that it is also under city legal review right now and their legal department also reviewing it to make sure that they are all in agreement with it in order to move forward. Mr. Anzaldua, City Engineer stated that once they get the

DAA15 projects going the DAA16 will go a lot smoother. He then went in to detail on the DAA. Mr. Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they have talked about contingencies earlier and they must have contingencies in place or Plan B in place when they start construction. He added that they want to make sure that it does not hinder the flow of commercial traffic. He stated that when they started the construction at the aduana in Mexico on March 17, they have had some major contingencies but they still have managed but that is why they see some of the numbers kind of shifting back and forth. Mr. Bazan stated that the other project that they also have is the building expansion, they have been talking about this for a while, and right now, they are going to go out for rebids on that because they have to look at the sustainability aspect of this. He added that as he mentioned last time they have to start looking at how they can sustain these buildings or these infrastructures in the years ahead. He added that they cannot just build something now and not look at the green factor associated with it, so they have gotten some lead components and additional lead requirements the engineer and architect has provided to them and they have to look at that with the city management and decide what it is that they need. Several discussions then took place regarding the building. Mr. Bazan stated that the next item is the toll system and that they had Adrian Rincones from the CCRMA give the board a very comprehension update last time and they are very excited about this. He added that they are looking at the end of the month on the 29th a Wednesday at 10am to do a press conference and a Go Live event. He stated that a pond further review with the folks that are going to help them put this event together, that they might have to push it a little further out, maybe first or second week of September to enrich that all the pieces are in place. He stated that right now the challenge has been to get all the information, all the customer information on the new system because they were not able to successfully migrate the old system to the new system so right now it is taking a lot of leg work. He added that right now their staff is distributing packets with new information and AVI tags to the customers, but they have some ways to go. Mr. Bazan stated that as of this morning he is waiting to hear back from CCRMA because their staff and leadership are helping them push this along so as soon as he has a more definitive date he will get back to them. Several discussions then took place regarding the toll system. 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 as they know they continue to bring there BridgeConnect to the Trade and they have taken BridgeConnect on the road or on tour. He added that they have been very successful in Culiacan and Zacatecas and they are going to Toluca at the end of the month, where the exporters associations personally invited them. He added that when they take a delegation of different local associations with them and different public private partners with them they are able to make a bigger dent and showcase what they are working on. Mr. Bazan stated that when it comes to BridgeConnect ACE is a big deal and it is his understanding that there is a very limited amount of companies that are ACE certified or at that level of ACE certification here locally through our port. He added that this is just another outreach a push on our end with Mr. Pedro Pena our ACE Ambassador for Pharr and the other ports of entry to get these companies certified and

get them to that level where they need to be. He added that the more that they get companies certified the more the process improves for shorter wait times. He stated that one of the things that they need to work on besides this is also getting with importers in Mexico not just the importer but also the transportation companies, so he welcomes the board whoever wants to attend. Several discussions then took place regarding BridgeConnect. Mr. Bazan stated the Start of the Produce Season, as they know they have been having this for several years now and it is a very successful event because they start the produce season in October. He added that this is the Save the Date and they are looking at October 11th of this year for that event and it will take place underneath the canopy before you get to the toll booths. He stated that they are taking it to another level this year; they want to get a bigger presence in the produce. He added that they have been very fortunate to have a lot of these folks attend their customer appreciations when they target only the produce sector, and they come to them at the end of the year for the big party, so they are going to make a bigger presence and they are working with the EDC and the Chamber on this event. Several discussions then took place regarding the events and staff. Chairman Delgadillo moved on to the next item.

D. ADJOURNMENT:

ITEM “11”: ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Vice-Chairman Hernandez 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 AUGUST 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/BoardMtgMinutes8-15-18