REGULAR MEETING
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
HELD ON JUNE 14, 2019, AT 12:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS

On the 14th day of June 2019, the Toll Bridge Board met in a regular Bridge Board Meeting. Following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Edgar Delgadillo, Chairman
Prajeres Gutierrez, Secretary
Artemio Palacios, Member
Tony Martinez, Member

MEMBER ABSENT: Larry Hernandez, Vice-Chairman

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: Patricia Rigney, City Attorney
Karla, Moya, Finance Director
Omar Anzaldua, City Engineering
Veronica Gutierrez, Purchasing Department
Sylvia Briones, CBP
David Gonzalez, CBP
Sgt. Juan Sanchez, Pharr PD
Juan Gonzalez, Asst. Chief
Ezequiel Ordonez, Mexico Liaison
Eddie Gutierrez, Financial Consultant
Eduardo Covarrubias, Apaseo El Grande

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 except Vice-Chairman Hernandez. Secretary Gutierrez made a motion to excuse Vice-Chairman Hernandez for being absent. Member Palacios seconded the motion and was then carried on unanimously. 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)***

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 "3": CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES- MAY 22, 2019.

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Member Martinez 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 "4": CROSSING AND REVENUES COMPARISON FOR MAY 2019.

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Brouwen, Director of Operations stated that for the month of May total crossings were 104,534, which shows a decrease of (-10,165) vehicles or -8.86% compared to last year. Mr. Brouwen stated that total crossing for cars were 51,812 cars, which shows a decrease of (-10,550) cars or -16.94%. 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 May were 52,812, which shows an increase of 385 trucks or 0.73% increase in trucks. Mr. Brouwen then showed a truck crossing compassion from other bridges across the board. Mr. Brouwen reported that northbound crossings for the month of May were 54,588, which shows a decrease of (-3,166) trucks or -5.48% decrease in trucks. Mr. Brouwen stated that for the Agriculture for the month of May they had 16,250 trucks, which represents a 30% of all imports from Mexico to the U.S. Mr. Brouwen stated that total revenue collected for the month of May were $1,214,867, which shows an increase of $24,685 or 2.07% in revenues. Several discussions then took place regarding the crossings. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM "5": EXPENDITURES REPORT FOR MAY 2019.

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they do have Karla Moya, Finance Director if they have any questions. He added that he is happy to say that they went through a budget amendment and this is the city's second budget amendment and they participated in this one and they were authorized an additional five hundred-thousand, so they want to thank the city for that. He added that the need for this money is basically for other operating supplies, which consists of more meetings that they have been having regarding the border issues and for marketing which is very important and in building equipment where they have a lot of deferred maintenance on this bridge as they move forward with plans for new infrastructure they have to also beautify and correct some of the issues that they have with the old infrastructure so that is what some of this money is for as well as for lobbying and contractual agreements. Some discussions then took place regarding the budget. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM "6": PROJECT ENGINEER REPORT.

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they do have Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer there if they have any questions regarding their projects. He stated that they had their pre-bid meeting for DAP15, which is the northbound entry lanes and northbound exit lanes. He added that they had the pre-bid meeting last week with a walk through and there were some ideas that surfaced from there so they are working closely with CBP to finalize that. He stated that when it comes to their building remodeling they are at full speed and they have made a lot of progress in the last couple of weeks and as they know they are now in a mobile office unit and everyone seem to be comfortable there for now.

Mr. Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer stated that one last thing is that on June 27th at 3:00pm is when they open up the bids for the FY15DAP, the northbound lanes and the second BSIF exit, so in about 2 weeks from now they will be able to see who the low bidder is and then they will go through the process of reviewing the bids and then awarding the project. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM "7": DIRECTORS ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT.

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that he would like to move to number two so that it will allow him to talk about this Anti-Wait Time Task Force and then he will invite Ezequiel Ordonez, Liaison in Mexico to give the board a quick update on what has been going on with some of these forums-conferences and things that they have been attending in Mexico.

Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that the on the BridgeConnect Trade Session Anti-Wait Time Task Force, this is something that they decided to do last month and they decided to do it cause they started a group that consisted of basically the bridge, CBP and CAPFUE and they were exploring ideas to solve some of these issues that they know are taking place at the border. He then began to explain in detail about the Anti-Wait Time Task Force Pilot Program and how it is working. He added that they had about 130 people in attendance at the BridgeConnect Trade Session and this was there way of sitting down with all the end user and customers so they can see what they are working on and so they can see that they have their best interest and their business is on our mind and that they want to do the best to facilitate their trade. Some discussions then took place regarding this issue.

Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director then stated that he would like to call Ezequiel Ordonez to give them a quick update on what has been going on with some of these forums-conferences-expos. Mr. Ezequiel Ordonez, Bridge Mexico Liaison then began to give a brief update in Spanish on the Foro Mundial de Ciudaes y Plataformas Logisticas in Monterrey and PMA Fresh Connections Mexico to the board. Several discussions then took place.

Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director that it is not on there, but he went ahead and invited El Grande to be there, Eduardo Covarrubias is there and Edgar and Red are both familiar with him. He added that they were at Apaseo El Grande recently signing an MOU with the City of Apaseo El Grande in Guanajuato and he brought him here so that they can exchange vows if they will cause now it is their turn to come to the City of Pharr and get the grand tour, get to see what they are about. He added that they were there and they treated them like royalty and rolled out the red carpet for them and they got to witness the development of the industrial park particularly Toyota and he invited him because they want to follow thru with this and he is going to give the board a quick update on what they are working on out there, some of the initiative on behalf of there Mayor Guerrero Lara, who is very pleased with the results that were given when they were there but now it is time to put that MOU in action and make it work. He then introduced Mr. Eduardo Covarrubias to the board. Mr. Eduardo Covarrubias introduced himself and began to give the board an update on what is going on in Apaseo El Grande, what they plan on doing and how they plan to work with the City of Pharr. Several discussions then took place. Chairman Delgadillo moved on to the next item.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE:

ITEM "8": DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON PROPOSED TOLL INCREASE AT THE PHARR INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE.

Chairman Delgadillo introduced the next item and stated that they would be going 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 12:26p.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 1:07pm and introduced Item 8. Member Martinez made a motion to approve the item as discussed in executive session, the plan to move forward with toll increase for trucks in October. Member Palacios seconded the motion and was then carried on unanimously. Chairman Delgadillo moved to the next item.

E. ADJOURNMENT:

ITEM "9": ADJOURNMENT

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

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED:

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EDGAR DELGADILLO, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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PRAJERES GUTIERREZ, SECRETARY

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

ON THE 14th DAY OF JUNE 2019, 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.

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VANESSA GUZMAN, BRIDGE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

DATE APPROVED: ________________________

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