

**REGULAR MEETING
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
HELD ON JANUARY 15, 2020, AT 12:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS**

On the 15th day of January 2020, the Toll Bridge Board met in a regular Bridge Board Meeting. Following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Edgar Delgadillo, Chairman
Tony Martinez, Vice-Chairman
Adalberto Campero, Secretary
Luis Flores, Member
Larry Hernandez, 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

OTHERS PRESENT: Ed Wylie, Interim City Manager
Anali Alanis, Assistant City Manager
Patricia Rigney, City Attorney
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Omar Anzaldua, City Engineering
Veronica Gutierrez, Purchasing Department
Juan Sanchez, Pharr PD
Carlos Rodriguez, CBP
David Moreno, CBP
Ezequiel Ordonez, Mexico Liaison
Eddie Gutierrez, Financial Consultant
Mari Alba Acevedo, Grupo Jugas
Julio Ramirez, Grupo Jugas
Juan Gastelum, Grupo Jugas
Leticia Santos, Grupo Jugas

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

ITEM “2”: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATIONS.

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

B. 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- DECEMBER 18, 2019.

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the next item. Vice-Chairman Martinez made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Member Hernandez seconded the motion and was then carried on unanimously. Chairman Edgar 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 “4”: CROSSING AND REVENUES COMPARISON FOR DECEMBER 2019.

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Brouwen, Director of Operations stated that for the month of December total crossings were 94,623, which shows a decrease of (-20,007) vehicles or -17.45% compared to last year. Mr. Brouwen stated that total crossing for cars were 48,405 cars, which shows a decrease of (-20,883) cars or -30.14%. 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 December were 46,218, which shows an increase of 876 trucks or 1.93% 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 December were 48,976, which shows an increase of 817 trucks or 1.70% increase in trucks. Mr. Brouwen stated that for the Agriculture for the month of December they had 14,627 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 December

were \$1,159,871, which shows an increase of \$6,225 or 0.54% in revenues. Several discussions then took place regarding the crossings. Chairman Edgar Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “5”: EXPENDITURES REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2019.

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they do have Karla Saavedra, Finance Director if they have any questions. Chairman Edgar Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “6”: PROJECT ENGINEER REPORT.

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they do have Omar Anzaldúa, City Engineer there if they have any questions regarding their projects. He stated that the thing that they have been working on this the DAP Projects and those projects are moving right along and they have a bid opening this month and are hoping they are going to get a bigger draw this time around comparing it to last time that they went out for bids. He added that they are hoping to award a contract sometime in April or May and hopefully start construction by the beginning of the summer 2020.

Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that on DAP16 they are working with the finance director to ensure that they give them the exhibit that they require for the Donations Acceptance Agreement through GSA and CBP. He added that he is happy to report that they did secure additional funding for the Ag lab as well and they will present that when the time comes. He stated that on DAP19, he is happy to report that that is the Unified Cargo Processing Project that they have been working on and they finally got the GSA license agreement with the contractor and ran everything through CBP to ensure the vetting process was complete for the folks that are going to be doing the work.

Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that on the office administration building the drywall is almost done, the roof is in place and they are very excited for what the future holds for the bridge administrative building. He added that once they get that situated and once they are ready to allow the board to visit they will do that with the contractor and do a walk through and see what they are building out there and they are about 80-85% complete on the construction.

Mr. Omar Anzaldúa, City Engineer stated that on the FY15, which is the northbound lanes and the second BSIF exist that will be advertised on Wednesday of next week and bids will open February 27th, so they are hoping that they get a good turn out this time. Some discussion then took place regarding the bid process. Chairman Edgar Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM “7”: DIRECTORS ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT.

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the next item. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that he has some key dates that he would like to share with the board. He then began to give the board several important dates regarding trade. Mr. Luis

Bazan, Bridge Director stated that at this time he would like to invite Grupo Jugas to give them a presentation. He added that every quarter they try to bring them on board to let them know where they stand as far as the agreement that they have with them for crossing of products southbound and the southbound and northbound services that they have next door to the aduana in Mexico, so at this time he would like to call Julio to give them a presentation. Mr. Julio Ramirez of Grupo Jugas then introduced himself and began to give his presentation to the board in Spanish. Several discussions took place regarding the presentation of Grupo Jugas.

Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that he is happy to announce that after about three months of construction they finally have the entire leg that runs across Pharr through Military Highway and the entry to the bridge is finally done as the beginning of this year. He added that if anyone goes out there now and is familiar with the territory, they are going to see that it is all concrete now and there is still another leg out there in the Hidalgo area that needs to be constructed but our part is 100% complete. Some discussion then took place regarding the overweight corridor. Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that they had an underwater inspection done yesterday by TX-DOT which is part of their two-year inspection that they do. He added that they were out there two months ago but the weather wasn't that good so they had to come back to do the underwater inspection, so they are hoping to get that report soon to see if there is any damage or structural integrity that might need to be fixed.

Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that he wants to make a quick announce on their produce sponsors because every year they go out and have donations from their major importers of produce here in Pharr. He added that they donate to the State of the City and our State of the City as they are aware is tomorrow at the event center from 11am to 1pm and all the produce that you see there, all the fresh produce is basically what they saw at the Start of the Produce Season. He stated that these are all our shippers, all our main importers of all the finest products in Mexico that are being shipped here, as they know it's about 70% of the nations produce that crosses through this port of entry and they are excited about having them year after year, so again just a big congratulations and a thank you to all our produce sponsors.

Mr. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director stated that on hours of operation as they are aware that as of April of this year 2019, they had to make adjustments due to the immigration crisis. He added that they continue to work with CBP, CAPUFE and our federal dependences in Mexico to ensure that they open up the hours that are necessary. He then went into detail on how the hours are currently helping with off loading trucks from the bridge. He stated that the current hours of operations for cars from Mexico to the US is Monday-Sunday 6:00-8:00am in the morning, Monday-Friday from 4:00-6:00pm and on Saturday and Sundays from 4:00-11:59pm. He added that for trucks from Mexico to the US its Monday-Friday 7:00am-10:00pm and Saturday and Sunday 8:00am-4:00pm, which stays the same, the only ones they made changes too were the cars or light passenger vehicles and again those are prone to change. Several discussions then took place regarding the hours of operations. Chairman Edgar Delgadillo moved to the next item.

D. ADJOURNMENT:

ITEM “8”: ADJOURNMENT

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

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED:

EDGAR DELGADILLO, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

ADALBERTO CAMPERO, SECRETARY

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

ON THE 15th DAY OF JANUARY 2020, 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/BoardMtgMinutes1-15-20