

**REGULAR MEETING
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
HELD ON DECEMBER 16, 2020, AT 12:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS**

On the 16th day of December 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 MEMBERS
PRESENT:** None

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
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 Alaniz, Assistant City Manager
Hilda Pedraza, Asst. City Manager/City Clerk
Patricia Rigney, City Attorney
Daniel Gonzalez, Asst. City Attorney
Omar Anzaldua, Engineering Department
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Andy Harvey, Police Chief
Joel Robles, Asst. Police Chief
Ignacio Amezcua, Purchasing Director
Lucio Villagomez, Contract Compliance Officer
David John Gonzalez, CBP
Ezequiel Ordonez, Mexico Liaison

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 Martinez who arrived at 12:06pm.

ITEM 2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATIONS

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, led in the Pledge of Allegiance and said the prayer.

B. 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 3 CROSSING AND REVENUES COMPARISON FOR NOVEMBER 2020

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, went over the total crossing and revenues report for the month of November 2020. He reported total crossings were 92,617, which was a decrease of (-5,449) vehicles or -5.56% compared to last year. Mr. Brouwen stated that total crossing for cars were 35,957, which was a decrease of (-11,444) cars or -24.14% and showed a car crossing compassion from other bridges across the board. Mr. Brouwen further reported the total truck crossings were 56,660, which was an increase of 5,995 trucks or 11.83% increase. Mr. Brouwen then showed a truck crossing compassion from other bridges across the board. Mr. Brouwen further reported northbound crossings were 57,904, which was an increase of 4,838 trucks or 9.12% increase. Mr. Brouwen further stated for the Agriculture for the month of November they had 16,522 trucks, which represents a 28% of all imports from Mexico to the U.S. Lastly, Mr. Brouwen stated total revenue collected for the month of November was \$1,290,701, which shows an increase of \$44,499 or 3.57% in revenues.

Discussion ensued on the crossings.

ITEM 4 EXPENDITURES REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2020

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, stated Karla Saavedra, Finance Director, was in the audience and questions could be entertained at this time.

After a brief discussion, Chairman Edgar Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM 5 PROJECT ENGINEER REPORT

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, stated Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer, was present and questions on projects could be entertained at this time.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on the DAP15 projects. He stated things continue to track well and progress continues. He added that he sends a weekly report and there have not been any changes. Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer, then reported more in detail on the DAP15 Project and future plans.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on the DAP16 projects. He stated that they need an Advance Funding Agreement for the Ag Lab, everything else is fully funded but that is a process that is in motion right now.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on the Office Expansion project. He stated that the contractors are revising the contract for approval which will then go to legal for final review and then engineering will give the notice to proceed. He added that that is where they are at with the Phase II Office Expansion project.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on the Bridge Expansion project. He stated it is being fast-tracked and he has very encouraging news but will not go over that right now till they get further word from Washington, D.C., but he will be happy to report on that next month.

After a brief discussion, Chairman Edgar Delgadillo moved to the next item.

ITEM 6 DIRECTORS ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on Trade. He stated that when you look at the overall value of produce trade coming in through Pharr, out of the \$36 billion dollars in trade that they do with all their sectors, about 65% of that currently is produce from the entire year. He added once it is all calculated and they get the trade numbers for next years, which is going to 2020 numbers, they should be probably trending at about 65%-70% of the nation's produce crossing through the Pharr Bridge.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on Pilot Program. He stated that on Secretary Campero question, they have looked at what Laredo is doing on Pilot Programs. He then began to explain how Laredo is doing the Pilot Program. He added that he always likes to back track and show them what they have done in the past to high light some of the Pilot Programs that they have started. He reported that last year they did the Empties Pilot Program. He then began to explain in detail the Empties Pilot Program. He also reported that the next potential program that they are looking at is an Inbond Certified Lane. He stated that there are two different sets of projects, one that is already in the works and is about 75% and has been submitted to GSA for further

review. He added that there is another one that they have been talking about for the last couple of weeks and this is something that came about from discussions with CBP and their stakeholder, and they also met with their contractor for the DAP15 Project. He reported that one of the things that they were looking at is that they have the CT-PAT Lane at the bridge which is Lane I at the primaries, and only have two lanes coming off of the bridge. He added that there is an area there where they can do a quick curve to make it three lanes instead of two coming off of the bridge. He stated that would help alleviate about 95-100 trucks per lane. He then explained where this idea came from due to the DAP15 Project, as well as other solutions. Several discussions then took place regarding the trucks on the bridge. At this time, Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, called upon Edgar Zamorano, from CANACAR, to give a brief presentation on solutions to get trucks through and off the bridge.

Edgar Zamorano, from CANACAR, gave an update to the board on solutions to get trucks through and off the bridge.

After a brief discussion, Chairman Edgar Delgadillo moved to the next item.

C. ADMINISTRATIVE:

ITEM 7 CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES- NOVEMBER 18, 2020.

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the items.

Member Hernandez **moved** to approve the minutes as presented. Vice-Chairman Martinez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

ITEM 8 DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RENEWING COMCE NORESTE MEMBERSHIP FOR \$1,490.

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the items.

Member Flores **moved** to approve. Vice-Chairman Martinez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

ITEM 9 DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON 2021 NATIONAL CUSTOMS BROKERS & FORWARDERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA MEMBERSHIP FOR \$810.

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the items.

Vice-Chairman Martinez **moved** to approve. Member Hernandez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

ITEM 10 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 Edgar Delgadillo introduced the items.

Member Flores **moved** to approve. Vice-Chairman Martinez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**ITEM 11 DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ADVERTISING IN THE 2021
NCBFAA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY FOR \$2,679.**

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the items.

Vice-Chairman Martinez **moved** to approve. Secretary Campero seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

F. ADJOURNMENT:

ITEM 10 ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chairman Martinez **moved** to adjourn the meeting at 1:00pm. Member Flores seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED:

EDGAR DELGADILLO, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

ADALBERTO CAMPERO, SECRETARY

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

ON THE 16th DAY OF DECEMBER 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/BoardMtgMinutes12-16-20