

**REGULAR MEETING
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2021, AT 12:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS**

On the 15th day of September 2021, 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

MEMBER ABSENT: Larry Hernandez, Member

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
PRESENT:** None

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
ABSENT:** Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez
Mayor Pro-Tem Daniel Chavez

STAFF PRESENT: Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations
Vanessa Guzman, Administrative Assistant
Cleo Salinas, Administrative Assistant
Freddy Flores, Trade Liaison

OTHERS PRESENT: Anali Alanis, Assistant City Manager
Kris Hinojosa, Asst. City Attorney
Omar Anzaldúa, Engineering Department
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Andy Harvey, Police Chief
Joel Robles, Asst. Police Chief
Eddie Gutierrez, Financial Consultant
Ezequiel Ordonez, Mexico Liaison
Sylvia Briones, CBP
Andy Vega, CBP
Hector Garza, TIPA

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

A. CALL TO ORDER:

ITEM 1 ROLL CALL-EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS

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

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 AUGUST 2021

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, went over the total crossing and revenues report for the month of August 2021. He reported total crossings were 87,118, which was a decrease of -11,784 vehicles or -11.91% compared to last year. Mr. Brouwen stated that total crossing for cars were 23,104, which was a decrease of -16,306 cars or -41.38% and showed a car crossing compassion from other bridges across the board. Mr. Brouwen further reported the total truck crossings were 64,014, which was an increase of 4,522 trucks or 7.60% increase. Mr. Brouwen then showed a truck crossing compassion from other bridges across the board. Mr. Brouwen further reported northbound crossings were 55,594, which was a decrease of -4,093 trucks or -6.86% increase. Mr. Brouwen further stated for the agriculture for the month of August they had 15,786 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 August was \$1,408,338, which shows an increase of \$ 91,252 or 6.93% in revenues.

Discussions ensued on the crossings.

ITEM 4 FINANCE REPORT FOR AUGUST 2021

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, stated Karla Saavedra, Finance Director, was in the audience and would give the board a quick report on the finances for the bridge.

Karla Saavedra, Finance Director, then began to give a quick report on the expenditures and revenues year to date for the bridge.

After several 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.

Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer, reported on the Bridge Facility Expansion Phase II. He stated the project was basically completed but did have a few change orders for items that the bridge needed. He added they did a final walk through and should be wrapping up with the project and believes that next year they will be adding another phase for other improvements.

Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer, reported on FY15 DAP Project. He stated they are about 50% complete from a monetary standpoint, time wise they are about 65% and is still on schedule for March or April of next year.

Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer, reported on projects that are currently under design. He stated the Bridge Facility Expansion Phase III are improvements that will be coming up in the next fiscal year and that the Commercial Vehicle Staging Area is the parking off Hi-Line that they are working on and right now they are just waiting on approval from TX-DOT. He added that the FY16 DAP Project is almost 100% complete, but they cannot go out for bids until the FY15 is complete. Omar Anzaldua, City Engineer, reported that on the Second Span they should be receiving an AFA, Advance Funding Agreement from TX-DOT, which will allow them to finish up the environmental clearance process. He added that they are on schedule and their goal is to have it completed by 2023.

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 the Start of the Produce Season Celebration event. He stated they do this event every year on the first week of October, which they consider to be the produce kick-off. He added that he would like to invite the trade, importers, customers, the board and everyone who is here and everybody that can see this on their television right now because it is a very important event and this year, they are celebrating The International Year of Fruits and Vegetables. He added that they are very excited about this event and had some cutting boards made with the established date on them. He also added that they established this event back in 2013 and are very proud of this event, so it will take place on October 7th at the Pharr International Bridge. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, stated that he has Hector Garza from TIPA, Texas International Produce Association there to talk about the PMA, Produce Marketing Association. He added that PMA is another show that they participate in every year and TIPA sponsors Texas Town inside of the PMA and the Pharr Bridge is a part of Texas Town. He also reported that PMA is suppose to take place in New Orleans but as they saw last week or the week prior, New Orleans got hit again with a

hurricane so Hector Garza is there to let them know what is going on with PMA. Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, then introduced Hector Garza from TIPA.

Hector Garza from the Texas International Produce Association then began his presentation regarding PMA in New Orleans.

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo moved to the next item.

C. ADMINISTRATIVE:

**ITEM 7 CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES-
AUGUST 18, 2021.**

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

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

**ITEM 8 DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RENEWAL OF TEXAS
INTERNATIONAL PRODUCE ASSOCIATION (TIPA) ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR \$2,000.**

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

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

F. ADJOURNMENT:

ITEM 11 ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chairman Martinez **moved** to adjourn the meeting at 12:39pm. 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 15th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021, 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/BoardMtgMinutes9-15-21