

**MINUTES
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023
118 S. CAGE BLVD. 2ND FLOOR**

The Toll Bridge Board met in a regular called meeting on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, and following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Edgar Delgadillo, Chairman
Tony Martinez, Vice-Chairman
Larry Hernandez, Member
Lazaro Beas, Member

MEMBERS ABSENT: Adalberto Campero, Secretary

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
PRESENT:** Mayor Pro-Tem Daniel Chavez

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
ABSENT:** Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez

STAFF PRESENT: Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations
Vanessa Guzman, Marketing Coordinator
Cleo Salinas, Administrative Assistant
Freddy Flores, Trade Liaison

OTHERS PRESENT: Anali Alanis, Interim City Manager
Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Ezequiel Ordonez, Bridge México Liaison
Eddie Gutierrez, Financial Consultant
Hollis Rutledge, Governmental Affairs
Andy Vega, CBP
Elmer Martinez, CBP

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER

A) ROLL CALL AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXUSING OF ANY ABSENT MEMBER

Chairman Delgadillo called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Roll call established a quorum.

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

B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, led in the pledge of allegiance and said the invocation.

ITEM 2. DIRECTOR'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

A) CROSSING AND REVENUES REPORT FOR MARCH 2023

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, went over the total crossings and revenues report for the month of March 2023. He reported total crossings for the month of March were 121,692, which was an increase of 13,146 vehicles or 12.11% compared to last year. Mr. Brouwen further reported total car crossings for the month of March were 53,570, which was an increase of 12,098 cars or 29.17% and went over car crossing compassions from other bridges for the month of March 2023.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, reported on the total truck crossings for the month of March 2023. He stated crossings were 68,122, which was an increase of 1,048 trucks or 1.56% increase and went over truck crossings compassions from other bridges for the month of March 2023.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, also reported northbound crossings for the month of March were 65,349, which was an increase of 5,212 trucks or 8.67% increase. Mr. Brouwen further stated the agriculture for the month of March had 22,590 trucks, which represents a 35% of all imports from Mexico to the U.S. He also reported a combination of northbound and southbound truck crossings for the month of March 2023 were 133,471, which was an increase of 6,260 or 4.92%.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, went over the total revenues collected for the month of March 2023. He reported the total revenue collected for the month was \$1,649,118, which showed an increase of \$87,608 or 5.61% in revenues.

Lastly, Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, reported on crossing comparisons by axle for the month of March 2023. He stated cars and trucks were 53,570, 2X trucks were 3,245, 3X trucks were 4,685, 4X trucks were 1,235, 5X trucks were 51,452, 6X trucks were 7,225, mobile homes were 2, wide loads were 226 and special crossings were 52 and total combination for the month of March was 121,692.

B) FINANCE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2023

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, called upon Eddie Gutierrez, Bridge Financial Consultant, for the finance report for the Bridge.

Eddie Gutierrez, Bridge Financial Consultant with Blue Stone Capital Solutions, briefly reported on the expenditures and revenues year to date for the bridge.

Discussion ensued on the finance report.

C) ENGINEER'S REPORT

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, stated Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, was present and questions on projects could be entertained at this time.

Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, reported on the recent activity for DAP FY15 Projects. He went over the Northbound Lanes Expansion project and stated installation of the flashing and TPO membrane was in progress for the A/C fresh air curbs and installation of flashing and termination bars at the existing parapet wall on the roof were also in progress as well as the installation and re-alignment of metal stud framing above the inspection booths. He further stated preparation and installation of plywood were in progress for the installation of metal panels on top of the inspection booths for both the Northbound Lanes project and the 2nd BSIF Exit project. He reported they received an updated schedule from the contractor and stated project completion expected was May 8, 2023 and time to date on the Northbound Lane Expansion was 134% and placed to date was 97.8% of the funds for this project. Time to date on the 2nd BSIF Exit was 114% and placed to date was 92%.

Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, further reported on DAP FY16 projects. He stated they were waiting for the TIP Revisions and the approval from FHWA and the project would be at a standstill until August 2023. Once approval is received, they would work on the AFA amendments with TXDOT.

Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, also reported on the 2nd Span Project. He stated the consultants received 100% Plans, Specifications and Estimates comments and final Plans, Specifications and Estimates scheduled for submittal on May 15, 2023. He added they were keeping up with the schedule and expect the Environmental Clearance in Spring 2024 and construction completion in Fall 2025. He further reported Raba-Kistner submitted a draft Environmental Assessment to TXDOT and FHWA on April 6, 2023 and on April 12, 2023 the design team from SEA visited with the Bridge and IT staff to finalize some decisions on IT/DMS. Lastly, the stated by the end of the month SEA would transmit a draft application to the US Coast Guard for review and approval.

D) DIRECTORS ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, reported they would be hosting the first ever Industrial Warehouse Summit at the Development & Research Center (DRC) on Thursday, April 20, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. followed by a tour of the available properties and warehouses in Pharr by the Pharr EDC. He further stated the event would close with a mixer at Top Golf and extended an invitation to the board to attend.

ITEM 3. ADMINISTRATIVE

A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MARCH 15, 2023

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

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

At this time, Chairman Delgadillo stated they would deviate from the agenda and go into closed session. There was no objection.

ITEM 4. CLOSED SESSION: IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 551 OF THE TEXAS GOV'T. CODE, THE PHARR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HEREBY GIVES NOTICE THAT IT MAY MEET IN A CLOSED (NON-PUBLIC) EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING AGENDA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING BELOW

The time being 12:29 p.m., Chairman Delgadillo stated the Bridge Board would be entering into closed session in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Govt. Code to discuss agenda items listed in the public portion of the agenda and Pursuant to Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.084 and 551.087.

ITEM 5. RECONVENE

The time being 12:47 p.m., Chairman Delgadillo stated the Bridge Board would be resuming the open meeting.

ITEM 3. ADMINISTRATIVE

B) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON SOUTHEAST PRODUCE COUNCIL (SEPC) MEMBERSHIP FOR \$750.

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Member Hernandez moved to approve. Member Beas seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

C) DISCUSSION ON RENEWAL PROPOSALS FROM XOANA ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY FOR ROAD/TRAFFIC AND PROMOTIONAL COMMERCIAL ROUTE SIGNS IN REYNOSA.

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item and stated no action was necessary.

ITEM 6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Vice-Chairman Martinez **moved** to adjourn. Member Hernandez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED:

EDGAR DELGADILLO, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

ADALBERTO CAMPERO, SECRETARY

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

ON THE 19th DAY OF APRIL 2023, 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 MARKETING COORDINATOR**, of the City of Pharr, Texas, certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes.

VANESSA GUZMAN, BRIDGE
MARKETING COORDINATOR

DATE APPROVED: _____