

**MINUTES
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023
118 S. CAGE BLVD. 2ND FLOOR**

The Toll Bridge Board met in a regular called meeting on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, and following is the record of attendance.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lazaro Beas, 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, Marketing Coordinator
Cleo Salinas, Administrative Assistant
Freddy Flores, Trade Liaison

OTHERS PRESENT: Anali Alanis, Interim City Manager
Patricia Rigney, City Attorney
Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer
Fabiola Sanchez, Asst. Finance Director
Jose Luengo, Pharr Bridge PD
Eric Garcia, Pharr Bridge PD
Ezequiel Ordonez, Bridge México Liaison
Eddie Gutierrez, Financial Consultant
Hollis Rutledge, Governmental Affairs
Carlos Rodriguez, CBP
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 12:01 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

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, led in the pledge of allegiance and said the invocation.

ITEM 2. DIRECTOR'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

A) CROSSING AND REVENUES REPORT FOR APRIL 2023

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, went over the total crossings and revenues report for the month of April 2023. He reported total crossings for the month of April were 109,333, which was an increase of 19,654 vehicles or 21.92% compared to last year. Mr. Brouwen further reported total car crossings for the month of April were 44,513, which was an increase of 8,173 cars or 22.49% and went over car crossing compassions from other bridges for the month of April 2023.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, reported on the total truck crossings for the month of April 2023. He stated crossings were 64,820, which was an increase of 11,481 trucks or 21.52% increase and went over truck crossings compassions from other bridges for the month of April 2023.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, also reported northbound crossings for the month of April were 58,672, which was an increase of 13,980 trucks or 31.28% increase. Mr. Brouwen stated the agriculture for the month of April had 20,814 trucks, which represents a 35.5% of all imports from Mexico to the U.S. He further reported a combination of northbound and southbound truck crossings for the month of April 2023 were 123,492, which was an increase of 25,461 or 25.97%.

Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, went over the total revenues collected for the month of April 2023. He reported the total revenue collected for the month was \$1,537,725, which showed an increase of \$297,249 or 23.96% in revenues.

Lastly, Fred Brouwen, Director of Operations, reported on crossing comparisons by axle for the month of April 2023. He stated cars and trucks were 44,513, 2X trucks were 2,591, 3X trucks were 3,910, 4X trucks were 1,175, 5X trucks were 44,896, 6X

trucks were 12,115, mobile homes were 1, wide loads were 99 and special crossings were 33 and total combination for the month of April was 109,333.

B) FINANCE REPORT FOR MARCH 2023

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, 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.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, 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 stated installation of the convex observation mirrors, along with the excavation for the installation of the underground conduit for the new fiber optic route and installation of the overhead conduit for the new fiber optic line route were completed as well as pulling of the fiber optic cable through new telecommunications conduit was completed. He further stated Magic Valley was able to complete the installation of the electrical transformer to provide permanent power to the project and the installation of wire for duress buttons was completed. He further reported time to date on the Northbound Lane Expansion was 134% and placed to date was 97.8% of the funds for this project. He stated time to date on the 2nd BSIF Exit was 114% and placed to date was 92% and project completion and expected date for both projects was July 4, 2023.

Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, further reported on DAP FY16 projects. He stated two out of the three AFA amendments with TxDOT have been executed and were waiting on the last amendment from TxDOT. He stated the TIP Revisions were approved by the MPO for the new funds that were allocated to this project, and they were only waiting for FHWA approval for that TIP. He further stated the expected letting date was Fall 2023, but they could accelerate if it approved by FHWA sooner.

Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, reported on the 2nd Span Project. He stated 60% preliminary FONSI was submitted to TxDOT and FHWA on May 12, 2023 and consultant delivered final plans, specifications, and estimates to TxDOT on May 15, 2023 for their review. He explained if everything goes as scheduled, were expecting to

be ready to let on September 2023 and expect environmental clearance on Spring of 2024.

D) DIRECTORS ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on BridgeConnect. He stated they had seen an increase in the calls received when issues arise such as storms. He explained several companies contact them when they have power outages, or something goes wrong due to inclement weather, so they take those calls and then distribute them amongst the different city departments. He further stated BridgeConnect was a platform for all these departments to talk about how to prepare for a storm, what to do during a storm, and what to do after a storm.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, further reported a Bridge Connect session was scheduled for Thursday, May 18, 2023 and the city departments would be in attendance as well as Magic Valley Electric Co-op, U.S. Customs & Border Protection, and a local meteorologist. He added this was a collective effort to bring together and ensure there was continuity of government and continuity of business. He stated it was very important that trade continues to flow on a day-to-day basis without interruption and extended an invitation to everyone to attend the BridgeConnect sessions and learn from the experts in their fields. He stated the next BridgeConnect after the Storm Preparedness was on Level 1 and Hazmat Inspection was scheduled for Thursday, May the 25, 2023 at the Development & Research Center (DRC).

ITEM 3. ADMINISTRATIVE

A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR APRIL 19, 2023

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.

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 12:25 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 12:37 p.m., Chairman Delgadillo stated the Bridge Board would be resuming the open meeting.

ITEM 3. ADMINISTRATIVE

B) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON PROPOSAL FROM XOANA ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY FOR ROAD/TRAFFIC AND PROMOTIONAL COMMERCIAL ROUTE SIGNS IN REYNOSA FOR \$11,000

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

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

C) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON 2023 GLOBAL PRODUCE & FLORALSHOW (FORMERLY PMA) TEXAS TOWN PAVILION FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$27,000.

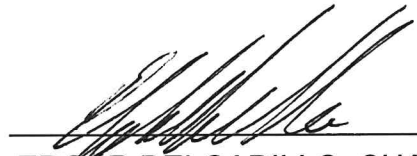
Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

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

ITEM 6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Member Hernandez moved to adjourn. Vice-Chairman Martinez seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED:



EDGAR DELGADILLO, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:



ADALBERTO CAMPERO, SECRETARY

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR

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ON THE 17th DAY OF MAY 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: 10-28-23