

**MINUTES
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024
118 S. CAGE BLVD. 2ND FLOOR**

The Toll Bridge Board met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, and following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Edgar Delgadillo, Chairman
Tony Martinez, Vice-Chairman
Adalberto Campero, Secretary
Lazaro Beas, Member
Ilse Vidaurri, Member

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
PRESENT:** None

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

STAFF PRESENT: Luis Bazan, Bridge Director
Vanessa Guzman, Marketing Coordinator
Cleo Salinas, Administrative Assistant
Freddy Flores, Trade Liaison

OTHERS PRESENT: Jonathan Flores, City Manager
Ricardo Rodriguez III, City Attorney
Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer
Karla Saavedra, Finance Director
Cynthia Garza, Director of External Relations
Michael Rodriguez, Deputy Chief
Hollis Rutledge, Governmental Affairs
Ezequiel Ordonez, Bridge México Liaison
Eddie Gutierrez, Financial Consultant
Carlos Rodriguez, Port Director
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.

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 DECEMBER 2023

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, went over the total crossings and revenues report for the month of December 2023. He reported total crossings for the month of December were 104,961, which was a decrease of -6,017 vehicles or -5.42% compared to last year. Mr. Bazan further reported total car crossings for the month of December were 53,253, which was an increase of 1,601 cars or 3.10% and went over car crossing compassions from other bridges for the month of December 2023.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on the total truck crossings for the month of December 2023. He stated crossings were 51,708, which was a decrease of -7,618 trucks or -12.84% decrease and went over truck crossings compassions from other bridges for the month of December 2023.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, also reported northbound crossings for the month of December 2023 were 53,437, which was a decrease of -1,667 trucks or -3.03% increase. Mr. Bazan stated the agriculture for the month of December 2023 had 17,225 trucks, which represents 32% of all imports from Mexico to the U.S. He further reported a combination of northbound and southbound truck crossings for the month of December 2023 were 105,145, which was a decrease of -9,285 or -8.11%.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, went over the crossing comparisons by axle for the month of December 2023. He stated cars were 53,253, 2X trucks were 2,538, 3X trucks were 4,645, 4X trucks were 889, 5X trucks were 41,734, 6X trucks were 1,673, mobile homes were 12, and wide loads were 196. He stated special crossings were 21 and the total combination for the month of December was 104,961.

Lastly, Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on total revenues collected for the month of December 2023. He reported total revenues collected for the month were \$1,545,696, which showed a decrease of -\$10,578 or -0.68% in revenues.

B) FINANCE REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2023

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, called upon Eddie Gutierrez, Bridge Financial Consultant, for the finance report for November 2023.

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 DAP15 was about to be finished and GSA and CBP requested access panels for the inspection booths which were being installed. He stated the DO-N4 Request for the Automatic Transfer Switch had been submitted but had not received a response from the vendor. He added they requested availability for a manual transfer switch and the wait time was twelve weeks and for the automatic transfer switch was sixteen weeks, so they decided to stay with the automatic transfer switch. He further stated the delivery for the automatic transfer switch would be March 18, 2024 and expected project closeout date was April 24, 2024.

Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, further reported on DAP FY16 projects. He stated plans were 100% and the final Donations Acceptance Agreement Amendment # 1 was executed on the 28th of November, 2023 and the AFA Amendment was executed on January 8, 2024 and was ready to go. He added TxDOT received all the plans and documents and were currently under review. He further stated they should be receiving the authority to advertise this project soon and expect a letting date of March 2024.

Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, also reported on the 2nd Span Project. He stated the environmental clearance had been received and the right-of-way acquisition was in progress. He further stated offer letters for the overhead sign bridges would be sent out in the upcoming days and TxDOT was currently reviewing the 100% submittal. Once authority to advertise is received, they would advertise in January 2024. Lastly, he reported additional final permits from the Army Corps of Engineers, US Coast Guard, and Hidalgo County Irrigation District No. 2 were still needed. Once permits and

authority to advertise are received, they would be ready to move with the project and construction would probably begin in July 2024.

D) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reminded the board about the State of the City Address on Thursday, January 18, 2024 and stated they were excited to hear the Mayor talk about the city's major accomplishments.

ITEM 3. ADMINISTRATIVE

A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 15, 2023

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, 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 BOARD 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 12:19 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 2024 INDEX REYNOSA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR \$1,905.12

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, introduced the item.

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

C) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RENEWAL OF COMCE NORESTE MEMBERSHIP FOR \$2,235

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, introduced the item.

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

D) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON COMCE NORESTE INSTITUTIONAL SPONSORSHIP 2024 FOR \$2,800

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, introduced the item.

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

E) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON VIVA FRESH SUMMIT PLATINUM LEVEL SPONSORSHIP AND BOOTH FOR \$20,000

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, introduced the item.

Vice-Chairman Martinez **moved** to approve as discussed in executive session. Chairman Delgadillo 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, Vice-Chairman Martinez **moved** to adjourn. Secretary Campero seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED:

EDGAR DELGADILLO, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

ADALBERTO CAMPERO, SECRETARY

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

ON THE 17th DAY OF JANUARY 2024, 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: _____