

**MINUTES
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2024
118 S. CAGE BLVD. 2ND FLOOR**

The Toll Bridge Board met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, and following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Edgar Delgadillo, Chairman
Tony Martinez, Vice-Chairman
Adalberto Campero, Secretary
Lazaro Beas, Member
Roberto Garza, 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
George Selvera, Assistant Bridge Director
Vanessa Guzman, Marketing Coordinator
Cleo Salinas, Office Manager
Oscar Duenas, Int'l Business Development Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: David Friedlein, Asst. City Manager
Ricardo Rodriguez, City Attorney
Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer
Jamison Merrick, Interim Finance Director
Victoria Brewster, Public Affairs Liaison
Ezequiel Ordonez, Bridge México Liaison
Eddie Gutierrez, Financial Consultant
Andy Vega, CBP
Jose Luis Garcia, Presidente de Agentes Aduanales
Jesus Barrera, Director de Agentes Aduanales

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER

A) ROLL CALL AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXCUSING 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 MAY 2024

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, went over the total crossings and revenues report for the month of May 2024. He reported total crossings for the month of May were 107,554, which was a decrease of -4,298 vehicles or -3.84% compared to last year. Mr. Bazan further reported total car crossings for the month of May were 47,229, which was an increase of 6,198 cars or 15.11% and went over car crossing comparisons from other bridges for the month of May 2024.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on the total truck crossings for the month of May 2024. He stated crossings were 60,325, which was a decrease of -10,496 trucks or -14.82% decrease and went over truck crossings comparisons from other bridges for the month of May 2024.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, also reported northbound crossings for the month of May 2024 were 62,212, which was a decrease of -4,140 trucks or -6.24% decrease and stated the agriculture for the month of May 2024 had 19,031 trucks, which represented 31% of all imports from Mexico to the U.S. He further reported a combination of northbound and southbound truck crossings for the month of May 2024 were 122,537, which was a decrease of -14,636 or -10.67%.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, went over the crossing comparisons by axle for the month of May 2024. He stated cars were 47,229, 2X trucks were 2,923, 3X trucks were 4,877, 4X trucks were 995, 5X trucks were 42,529, 6X trucks were 534, mobile homes were 1, and wide loads were 154. He stated special crossings were 8,312 and the total combination for the month of March was 107,554.

Lastly, Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on total revenues collected for the month of May 2024. He reported total revenues collected for the month were \$2,016,523, which showed an increase of \$350,580 or 21.04% in revenues.

B) FINANCE REPORT FOR MAY 2024

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, called upon Eddie Gutierrez, Bridge Financial Consultant, for May 2024 finance report.

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

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 DAP FY15 Projects were complete and stated the prime contractor would submit all closeout documents for upcoming city commission meeting.

Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, further reported on DAP FY16 projects and stated original bid had been rejected and stated bid opening for re-bid was tomorrow Thursday, June 20, 2024 and were hoping to get at least 3 bids. He added that once those were received, they would perform a bid analysis on the re-bids and submit a Letter of Recommendation to Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT). He further stated construction would start in late September or October 2024.

Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, also reported on the 2nd Span Project. He stated the bid opening date was April 30, 2024 and stated they had received a total of 5 bids. Mr. Alfaro stated a bid analysis was completed and a letter of recommendation was submitted to Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) for their concurrence to award the project to IOC Company in the amount of \$47 million. He further stated they would start with the pre-construction phase and get them the notice to proceed so that they could start to build the bridge. He further stated they were in the final process of obtaining the permits from U.S. Coast Guard and the Irrigation District as well as the easements that are required for the overhead sign bridge and everything was looking clear and ready to go for this project to start.

Lastly, Ruben Alfaro, City Engineer, reported on the Commercial Vehicle Parking area. He stated this would bring 277 parking spots for trucks and hopefully get them off the streets and to a place where they could safely park. He further reported they had a bid opening on May 30, 2024, and received a total of six bids for this project. He further stated they had completed a bid analysis and would be submitting the letter of recommendation to award project today to Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) and once they concurred with the recommendation they would take it to City Commission to get awarded.

Discussion ensued on the engineer's report.

D) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, shared great news and reported the DAP15 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was scheduled for Tuesday, July 9th, 2024. He stated it was not a grand opening because Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) was not ready, but the Border Safety Inspection Facility (BSIF) was still being phased out and could take several months. He further stated that the next one was the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Bridge Expansion and the DAP16 Projects and will take place on Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 11:00 am.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, further reported on BridgeConnect Trade Session. He stated this session would be on Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE) and Foreign Supplier Verification Program (FSVP) and those would take place on Thursday, June 20, 2024 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

ITEM 3. ADMINISTRATIVE

A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MAY 15, 2024 – REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

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

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

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Vice-Chair 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 INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE, TUNNEL & TURNPIKE ASSOCIATION (IBTTA) MEMBERSHIP FOR \$8,127

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Vice-Chair 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 ASOCIACION DE AGENTES ADUANALES DE REYNOSA "SACOS SPORT" SPONSORSHIP FOR \$8,000

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

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

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

None.

ITEM 5. RECONVENE

None.

ITEM 6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the board, Vice-Chairman Martinez **moved** to adjourn. Member Beas seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

TOLL BRIDGE BOARD

EDGAR DELGADILLO, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

ADALBERTO CAMPERO, SECRETARY

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

ON THE 19th DAY OF JUNE 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: _____