

**MINUTES
TOLL BRIDGE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024
118 S. CAGE BLVD. 2ND FLOOR**

The Toll Bridge Board met in a regular meeting on Friday, October 25, 2024, and following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Edgar Delgadillo, Chairman
Adalberto Campero, Secretary
Lazaro Beas, Member
Roberto Garza, Member

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tony Martinez, Vice-Chairman

**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, Office Manager
Freddy Flores, Trade Liaison
Oscar Duenas, Intl' Business Development Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: Hilda Pedraza, Asst. City Manager
Ricardo Rodriguez, Jr., City Attorney
Ezequiel Ordonez, Bridge México Liaison
Eddie Gutierrez, Financial Consultant
Andy Vega, CBP
Crispin Flores, Mid-Valley Customs Brokers Association

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.

Member Beas **moved** to excuse absent members. Secretary Campero 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 SEPTEMBER 2024

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, went over the total crossings and revenues report for the month of September 2024. He reported total crossings for the month of September were 101,107, which was an increase of 4,773 vehicles or 4.95% compared to last year. Mr. Bazan further reported total car crossings for the month of September were 47,861, which was an increase of 4,496 cars or 10.37% and went over car crossing comparisons from other bridges for the month of September 2024.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on the total truck crossings for the month of September 2024. He stated crossings were 53,246, which was an increase of 277 trucks or 0.52% increase and went over truck crossings comparisons from other bridges for the month of September 2024.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, also reported northbound crossings for the month of September 2024 were 58,907, which was an increase of 4,647 trucks or 8.56% increase and stated the agriculture for the month of September 2024 had 15,123 trucks, which represents 26% of all imports from Mexico to the U.S. He further reported a combination of northbound and southbound truck crossings for the month of September 2024 were 112,153, which was an increase of 4,924 or 4.59%.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, went over the crossing comparisons by axle for the month of September 2024. He stated cars were 47,861, 2X trucks were 2,614, 3X trucks were 6,584, 4X trucks were 840, 5X trucks were 37,700, 6X trucks were 239, mobile homes were 1, and wide loads were 97. He stated special crossings were 5,171 and the total combination for the month of September was 101,107.

Lastly, Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on total revenues collected for the month of September 2024. He reported total revenues collected for the month were \$1,682,709, which showed an increase of \$388,791 or 30.05% in revenues.

B) FINANCE REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 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 Maria Rangel, City Engineer, was present and questions on projects could be entertained at this time.

Maria Rangel, City Engineer, reported on DAP FY16 project. She stated they had the pre-construction meeting on October 23, 2024 at the Pharr International Bridge Conference room and would start construction on November 4, 2024, and reported it would last 425 standard workweek days to equal approximately 22 months and project would end in July of 2026.

Maria Rangel, City Engineer, also reported on the 2nd Span Project. She stated construction started on August 5, 2024, and reported it would last 81 calendar days which was approximately 16.9% and/or 6.2% of the contract in dollar amount.

Lastly, Maria Rangel, City Engineer, reported on the Commercial Vehicle Parking area. She stated they were having discussions with TxDOT about the project and expected start date would be either December 2024 or January 2025.

Discussion ensued on the engineer's report.

D) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chairman Edgar Delgadillo introduced the item.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on 1st Annual Drive for Trade Golf Tournament. He stated they finalized details during Fresh on the Border Week. He added they had about forty (40) teams and everyone enjoyed themselves and was glad they were able to get this achievement done.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, showed the video recap of the 11th Annual Start of the Produce Season. He added the special guest for the event was Evan Elhers founder of Sharing Excess. He stated when Evan was in college he had many left over meal swipes that were going to go to waste so he started cashing out the swipes and giving the food to the homeless in his hometown and that inspired him to create Sharing Excess. He added that all the excess food that Evan collects goes back to the community and Sharing Excess is growing and may be expanding to the South Texas

area, hopefully to the Pharr region so it was important to have him there and share his story.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on Trade Talks. He stated this was the second annual Trade Talks and was also a part of Fresh on the Border week where they invited the associations they are members of to highlight the benefits offered to the trade community. He then showed pictures of the event.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on BridgeConnect Trade Session. He stated they joined efforts with Mid Valley Customs Brokers Association for this session on ACE Portal Training for U.S. Customs Brokers Only. He added it would take place on Thursday, November 14, 2024 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Pharr International Bridge conference room. He then called upon Crispin Flores, President for the Mid Valley Customs Brokers Association to give a brief explanation on why they are doing this specifically with custom brokers. Mr. Flores also gave a brief explanation to the board on the BridgeConnect: ACE Portal Training.

Lastly, Luis Bazan, Bridge Director, reported on Trucksgiving Luncheon. He stated this would be the 3rd Annual Trucksgiving Luncheon but it would be done a little different because it would be held outside. He added this would take place on Thursday, November 14, 2024 from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm right outside the Pharr Bridge and they invite the trade community to join and come have Thanksgiving with them.

ITEM 3. ADMINISTRATIVE

A) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 25, 2024 – REGULAR MEETING

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director introduced the item.

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

B) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RENEWAL OF TRANSPORTATION INTERMEDIARIES ASSOCIATION (TIA) MEMBERSHIP DUES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$715.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director introduced the item.

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

C) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RENEWAL OS SAN ANTONIO MOBILITY COALITION, INC. (SAMCo) MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,575.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director introduced the item.

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

D) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RENEWING RIO GRANDE VALLEY PARTNERSHIP-CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director introduced the item.

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

E) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON 2025 INTERNATIONAL FRESH PRODUCE ASSOCIATION CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,595.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director introduced the item.

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

F) DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON RENEWAL OF NASCO ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.

Luis Bazan, Bridge Director introduced the item.

Secretary Campero **moved** to approve. Member Beas 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 Beas **moved** to adjourn. Chairman Delgadillo seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED:

EDGAR DELGADILLO, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

ADALBERTO CAMPERO, SECRETARY

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

ON THE 25TH DAY OF OCTOBER 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: _____