MINUTES
MEETING OF THE
LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2012 - 12:00 P.M.
LRGVDC TRANSPORTATION CENTER
510 PLEASANTVIEW DR. - WESLACO, TEXAS
PRESIDING: MAYOR PRO-TEM EDDY GONZALEZ, PRESIDENT

President Eddy Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. and asked Mr. Ken Jones to call roll. Upon conclusion of roll call it was ascertained that a quorum was present. In acknowledgement of the upcoming Memorial Day holiday the Board was honored to have Commander Minnie Whitself and the color guard from Donna VFW post 10802 present the colors and lead the pledge of allegiance; Chaplain Roel Soto lead the invocation.

President Gonzalez moved to item 2. – Consider Approval RE: April 26, 2012 Meeting Minutes. The Honorable Norma G. Garcia made a motion for approval of the minutes as presented; Mayor Steve Brewer seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

With the Board’s permission President Gonzalez took item 8. – Homeland Security out of order and recognized Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr. Senator Lucio spoke of legislative efforts to bring a free-standing medical school to the region and what a benefit that would be to the citizens of the Rio Grande Valley. The senator also spoke of the need for public safety early warning system notifications in Spanish and efforts being made to bring it about, beginning with the action requested by for the LRGVDC to implement this project. At the conclusion of his comments, Senator Lucio presented President Gonzalez with a commemorative gavel in recognition of his many years of service to the Rio Grande Valley.

The President then moved to item 8.A.1. – Consider Approval RE: Spanish Language Public Safety Early Warning System for the Lower Rio Grande Valley and recognized Mr. Steve Drillette, National Weather Service in Brownsville. Mr. Drillette informed the Board of the technology and the funding issues regarding public safety warnings, demonstrated the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio for all hazards and briefly explained the translator software. Mr. Drillette also informed the Board of the Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME) Radios for warnings for specific counties and for specific types of warnings. Upon conclusion of discussion the Honorable Norma G. Garcia made a motion for approval to seek funding for implementation of the Spanish Language Public Safety Early Weather Warning System for the LRGV as recommended by Senator Lucio. Commissioner Gerardo “Jerry” Tafolla seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

The President then moved to item 3.A. - Public Comments and recognized Mr. Martin Reyna with Affordable Homes of South Texas who informed the Board of the 14th Annual Home Buyer’s Fair scheduled for June 9, 2012 at the McAllen Convention Center and asked the Board to take the handouts he distributed back to their communities and help spread word of the Fair.

Upon conclusion of Public Comments the President moved to item 3.B. – Status Report RE: Texas
Gas Service (COSA) Filing and noted that there was no new information to report on this item.

The President next moved to item 4. - Report from Area Agency on Aging and recognized Mr. Joe Gonzalez. Regarding item - 4.A.1. - Consider Approval RE: Community Care Transitions Project Contract Mr. Gonzalez reported that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the Community Care Transitions Project Contract proposal for the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The project will involve nine hospitals in the Lower Rio Grande Valley with the goal of reducing the thirty day re-admission rate by 20% within the next two years. If successful, within the two years, CMS may extend the contract up to three more years. The amount per year is not to exceed $3,839,632 for the two year period. If approved the LRGVDC would become the 32nd project selected from across the country and the 3rd in Texas. **Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for approval of the Community Care Transitions project contract as presented. Commissioner Jerry Tafolla seconded the motion. Commissioner Jim Darling abstained. Upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Upon conclusion of action President Gonzalez moved to item 4.A.2. - Consider Approval RE: Community Care Transitions Program Platform Agreement. Mr. Gonzalez stated that the Advisory Council recommended approval of the Community Care Transitions Program (CCTP) Platform Agreement with LoopBack Analytics. LoopBack would perform the software connectivity with the nine participating hospitals to activate the eligible clients that would participate in the CMS CCTP demonstration project. The project's goal is to reduce by 20% the thirty day re-admission rate of Medicare beneficiaries. Starting in 2013 hospitals with a high re-admission rate would be penalized financially by CMS. LoopBack assisted the LRGVDC by writing the grant and developing the protocols for the program. This platform connectivity is unique to the project as no other exists in any of the other CCTP projects approved by CMS. **Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for approval of the CCTP Platform Agreement as presented. Mayor David Simmons seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

The President next moved to item 4.A.3. - Consider Approval RE: Authorize Staff to Issue Request for Proposals (RFP) and Vendor Solicitations for FY 2013. Mr. Gonzalez stated that the Advisory Council recommended approval to issue the RFP and vendor solicitation for fiscal year 2013. The amount of funds would be at the 2010 levels contingent upon final Federal appropriations. The special cash match would remain at 5% not to exceed $20,000. The vendor solicitation will cover such services as, but not limited to: homemaker, medical transportation, home modifications, medications, medical supplies, dentures, hearing aids, durable medical equipment, adult day care, respite care, and emergency response. **Mayor David Simmons made a motion for approval to authorize staff to issue RFPs and vendor solicitations for FY 2013 as presented. Mr. Arturo Ramirez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Upon conclusion of action Mr. Gonzalez informed the Board that as part of the Community Based Caregiver Program there is a Governance Committee and four members of the Board are required to have seats on this Committee; Mr. Gonzalez asked the Board to consider nominees to be presented at the next Board meeting. Mr. Gonzalez then noted that item 4.B. - Program Status reports were in the Board folders for review.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 5. - Report from Economic Development Department and noted that those reports were in the Board folders for review.

President Gonzalez then moved to item 6. - Report from Transportation Department and recognized Mr. Tom Logan. Regarding 6.A.1. - Consider Approval RE: Amendment to Vehicle Maintenance Plan Mr. Logan informed the Board that the LRGVDC Transit Department was proposing revisions on the Vehicle Maintenance Plan that include the upgrades and additions on the newer fleet vehicles. **Commissioner Gerardo “Jerry” Tafolla made a motion for approval of the amendment to the Vehicle Maintenance Plan as presented. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded**
the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action President Gonzalez noted that the status reports were in the Board folders for review.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 7. - Report from Regional Planning & Services and recognized Ms. Marcie Oviedo. Ms. Oviedo noted that the status reports for 7.A.1. - Water and 7.A.2. - Solid Waste Management were in the Board folders for review.

The President next moved to item 7.B. – HUD Disaster Recovery Funding; item 1. – Consider Approval of GLO Contract for Round 2.2 CDBG Disaster Recovery Funding (Tabled 3/29/2012). Staff had not yet received the GLO contract and requested this item remain on the table. President Gonzalez noted that the status reports were in the Board folders for review.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 8.A.2. - Homeland Security status reports and noted that they were in the Board folders for review along with item 8.B.1. - Criminal Justice Program status reports and item 8.C.1. – Metropolitan Medical Response System Status Reports.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 9. - 9-1-1 Department and noted that there was no action requested and the status reports were in the Board folders for review.

The President next moved to item 10. - Regional Police Academy and Training Center and noted that there was also no action to be taken for this department and those status reports were in the Board folders for review.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 11. - Old or New Business; there being no further business to come before the Board, President Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 12:41 p.m. 39.40

MAYOR/PRO-TEM EDDY GONZALEZ, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

HON. NORMA G. GARCIA, 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

Deborah Morales, Recording Secretary