President Chris Boswell called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. and asked Mr. Ken Jones to call roll. Mr. Jones called the roll for both the Board and the Membership who were scheduled to meet immediately following the Board meeting. Upon conclusion of roll call it was ascertained that a quorum was present for both the Board and the Membership. Mayor Boswell then moved to item 2. – Consider Approval RE: April 28, 2011 Meeting Minutes. **Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for approval of the minutes as presented. Mayor David Simmons seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Upon conclusion of action on the minutes, President Boswell moved to item 3.A. – Public Comment. There being none the President moved to item 3.B – Presentation RE: Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Alternative. Mr. Gilbert Ortiz was unable to attend and this presentation will be held over until the next meeting.

President Boswell next moved to item 3.C. – Status Reports. Regarding item 1. – Texas Gas Service (TGS) Mr. Ramon Vela, Attorney for the City of Weslaco was recognized. Mr. Vela reported that the draft resolutions had been distributed to the participating cities and four have been received by attorney Geoffrey Gay to date. Mr. Vela then distributed the Model Staff Report in Support of Resolution Authorizing Participation with Other Cities in TGS’ COSA Filing. No action needed.

The President next moved to item 3.C.2. – Update on Lease/Purchase Agreement with Weslaco Economic Development Corporation for Visitor’s Center Site. Mr. Jones was recognized and informed the Board that lease negotiations were going well and he anticipated having a draft lease to present at the next Board meeting. No action needed.

Upon conclusion of Status Reports the President moved to item 4. Report from Area Agency on Aging and recognized Mr. Joe Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez addressed the following items:

- **Item 4.A.1. – Consider Approval RE: Contract with WellMed Medical Foundation for the Stress Buster Evidence Based Demonstration Project.** Mr. Gonzalez stated that the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Advisory Council recommended approval to contract with WellMed for the participation of Administration on Aging’s Alzheimer’s Demonstration project with the University Of Texas Health Science Center (UTHSC) in San Antonio. The project is to implement UTHSC’s “Stress Buster Caregiver Program”. Under the contract the AAA will receive $27,000. The funds will be split with the Senior Community Outreach Program ($10,000) to implement the program. The other $10,000 will be utilized by the AAA to monitor the program and assure that it follows the prescribed agenda. The balance of the funds ($7,000) will provide respite care to the caregivers in order to be able to participate in the “Stress Buster” Program. **Commissioner Edward Camarillo made a motion to approve the contract with WellMed Medical Foundation as presented. Council Member Norie**
Gonzalez Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

• Item 4.A.2. – Consider Approval RE: Texas Medical Foundation (TMF) Diabetes Self Management Training Project. Mr. Gonzalez informed the Board that the AAA Advisory Council recommended approval to accept a funding opportunity offered by the TMF to conduct a Diabetes Self-Management Training program that will utilize the senior centers and senior nutrition sites. The classes would be conducted by *promotoras*. The amount of the funds is $40,000 for a twelve month period; no matching funds are required for this project. **Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for approval of the TMF Diabetes Self Management Training Project as presented. Mr. Arturo Ramirez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

• Item 4.A.3. – Consider Approval RE: Authorizing Staff to Respond to Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (TDADS) Request for Proposal (RFP). Mr. Gonzalez stated that TDADS issued an RFP specifically for Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) only. The purpose of the project is to hire a Housing Navigator to conduct an inventory of all housing for the elderly and disabled. In addition, the Housing Navigator will work with housing authorities, local municipalities and developers regarding housing for the elderly and disabled. TDADS will select only four ADRCs in the State for this project. The AAA Advisory Council recommended approval to authorize staff to respond to this RFP. **Mr. Arturo Ramirez made a motion to approve authorization of staff to respond to TDADS RFPs as recommended by the AAA Advisory Council. Mayor David Simmons seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

• Item 4.A.4. - Consider Approval RE: Authorizing Staff to Issue Request for Proposals (RFP) and Vendor Solicitations for FY 2012. Mr. Gonzalez stated that the AAA Advisory Council recommended approval to issue the RFP and vendor solicitation for FY 2012. The amount of funds is anticipated to be at the 2010 levels, contingent upon final Federal appropriations. The special cash match to be increased to 5% (currently at 4%) level not to exceed $20,000 (currently $17,500). The vendor solicitation will cover such services as, but are 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. **Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for approval to authorize staff to issue RFPs and vendor solicitations for FY 2012 as recommended by the AAA Advisory Council. Commissioner Edward Camarillo seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

• Item 4.A.5. – Consider Approval RE: Appointments to the Texas Silver Haired Legislature (TSHL) for the Rio Grande Valley. Mr. Gonzalez informed the Board that the AAA Advisory Council recommended the following individuals to the TSHL: Mr. Roberto and Ms. Cecilia Gutierrez, McAllen; Mr. Reymundo and Ms. Delia Oropeza, Weslaco; and Mr. Howdy Smith, Weslaco. These five individuals were the only ones to submit intentions to run for the TSHL. The TSHL allotted the Lower Rio Grande Valley five slots; therefore, there was no need to hold an election to appoint these candidates to the TSHL. **Council Member Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion for approval of the appointments to the TSHL as recommended by the AAA Advisory Council. Mayor Steve Brewer seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Upon conclusion of action President Boswell moved to item 4.B. – Program Status Reports; Mr. Gonzalez briefed the Board on the Caregiver SOS Resource Centers.

President Boswell moved to item 5. Report from Economic Development Department and recognized Ms. Terrie Salinas. Regarding item 5.A.1.a.1. – 2nd Annual Premier Training Conference: “Rebuild, Restore, and Regionalize - The 3 R’s for Post-Disaster and Economic Recovery, Ms. Salinas brought the Board’s attention to a flyer for this event and gave a brief summary of the conference expectations. Upon conclusion of this status report President Boswell moved to item 5.B.1. – Economic Adjustment Plan (EAP) Update and recognized Ms. Sharlotte Teague who updated the Board on the progress of this project. No action needed.
Upon conclusion of the Status Reports President Boswell moved to item 6. Report from Transportation Department and recognized Mr. Tom Logan. Mr. Logan noted that there has been a 3% increase in ridership even with the current decreases in service and informed the Board that a ribbon cutting for new busses purchased with ARRA grant funds was scheduled for June 15th at the Weslaco Chamber of Commerce at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Logan then turned the floor over to Mr. Luis Guajardo, Regional Transit Services Planner, who gave the status report on the Regional Transportation Advisory Panel’s Regional Coordination Plan.

President Boswell next moved to item 7. - Report from Regional Planning & Services and recognized Ms. Marcie Oviedo. Regarding item 7.A.1.a.1.a. – Consider Approval RE: Resolution Authorizing LRGVDC to Serve as Political Subdivision for Region M (Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group). Mr. Arturo Ramirez made a motion for approval of the Resolution as presented. Hon. Norma G. Garcia seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action Ms. Oviedo briefed the Board on the Regional Planning status reports.

President Boswell next moved to item 8.A. – Homeland Security and recognized Mr. Manuel Cruz. Regarding item 1. – Consider Approval RE: Regional Interoperable Communications Plan (RICP) Developed under the Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) Round 2 Mr. Cruz informed the Board that the RICP was developed by Mr. L. R. Kimball under the guidance from the HSAC and authorized by the LRGVDC Board of Directors. The RICP plan addressed and provided future guidance and tools necessary for the LRGV region to reach full interoperable capabilities for first responders. This plan is also a part of the IECGP that has provided governance, planning, training and exercise, and equipment funding to our local governments to carry out initiatives to improve interoperable emergency communications. Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to approve the RICP as recommended by the HSAC. Mr. Don Medina seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action Mr. Cruz briefly went over the program status reports.

President Boswell next moved to item 8.B.1. – Consider Approval RE: General Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Program Priority Listing and Resolution. Mr. Cruz stated that the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) recommended approval of the General Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Program grant priority listing and that applications were submitted to the Office of the Governor’s Criminal Justice Division; the total request from this region was $1,029,864.72. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez asked if there will be sufficient funding for all the applications. Mr. Cruz stated that this was a State funded program and staff will not be notified ahead of time the amount of funding that will be available. The funding noted on the priority listing was projected using last year’s budget. Last year’s budget was $388,277.65 and the requests staff received were for total of $1,029,864.72. The State has a funding cap for each region, with twelve applications, depending on the available funding and gauging that against last year’s funding, Mr. Cruz estimated that maybe the top five applications will be funded. Mayor Pro-tem Gonzalez suggested reducing the recommended allocation for each application by 50% in order to provide at least some funds to most of the applicants. Commissioner Edward Camarillo suggested dividing the funding equally among all applicants. Upon conclusion of discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Edward Camarillo to split the allocation so all 12 applicants receive funding. The motion was seconded by Council Member Norie Gonzalez Garza. Upon a vote the motion was defeated by 7 votes for and 11 against. After further discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Ruben Guajardo to accept the committee recommendation as presented. Judge John Gonzales seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried by 13 votes for and 7 votes against.

The President next moved to item 8.B.2. – Consider Approval RE: Criminal Justice Program Priority Listing and Resolution. Mr. Cruz informed the Board that the CJAC recommended approval of the Criminal Justice Program grant priority listing and applications were submitted to the Office of the
Governor’s Criminal Justice Division with a total request from the region of $1,662,040.28. Mr. Jones was recognized and stated that as the Board will recall through previous years our LRGVDC Regional Police Academy Training Program (Police Academy) has been considered the top priority for Criminal Justice funding by the LRGVDC Board of Directors. The LRGVDC has earned this consideration by providing quality law enforcement training to all of the region’s local government members regardless of city or county size. This year, unfortunately, CJAC chose not to continue this priority consideration and ranked the Police Academy as #6 out of the 13 project applications submitted. If this ranking is maintained, the Police Academy would likely receive zero ($0) funding for 2012 resulting in severely reduced training to our local government members and the loss of 2.5 FTE’s.

Last year’s regional funding allocated by the State for this funding category was $376,293. From information available from the State, Mr. Jones was advised by staff that this funding allocation could be cut between 30-50% leaving very little funds to support the requests submitted. Mr. Jones encouraged the Board’s continued support of the Police Academy as a top priority for Criminal Justice funding and recommended that the Board reprioritize the Police Academy as the #1 priority for 2012 funding. Mr. Jones acknowledged that if the Police Academy was funded for the full $215,939 originally requested in the application, little funds would be left for the other prioritized projects. To remedy this situation, Mr. Jones recommended that the Police Academy application amount be reduced by approximately 65% to $75,000. With this grant amount plus increasing tuition fees from $1,200 to $2,200 the Police Academy projections indicate that staff could continue the current level of training and maintain current staff levels. Additionally, due to the reduction in availability of Criminal Justice funds, Mr. Jones recommended that the balance of applications submitted be reduced by 50% of the 2012 request or last year’s funded amount, whichever is the lesser of the two. In response to the lean times of grant fund availability Mr. Jones also recommended that the Board direct the CJAC to revisit the current prioritization policy for these funding categories to consider much needed revisions for future funding cycles. At a minimum the CJAC should be directed to include exempting the Police Academy from CJAC review and prioritization, but reviewed by the LRGVDC Board of Directors and not be subject to any decreasing funding ratio rule, make equipment requests a one-time submittal only, place a cap on funding applicants, and consider a three year funding maximum subject to availability of funding. In the last recommendation the third year available if the amount did not fall below $10,000. This three year funding could be at a decreasing ratio i.e. 100% first year, 80% second year, and 60% third year, if not below $10,000. Upon conclusion of discussion Mr. Arturo Ramirez made a motion to approve the priority listing and resolution with the staff recommendation to place the Regional Police Academy in the first priority and reduce their grant request by 50%. Council Member Norie Gonzalez Garza seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion was defeated by 7 vote for and 10 against. Upon further discussion Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion to rank the Regional Police Academy in the first priority, reduce the Regional Police Academy funding to $75,000 (65%) and fund the balance of applications as ranked by the CJAC. Mr. Arturo Ramirez seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried.

The President next moved to item 8.B.3. – Consider Approval RE: Change in Current Committee Member Representative Category. Mr. Cruz stated that the CJAC recommended changing Ms. Patricia Bader from the drug abuse prevention discipline to the citizen discipline. Mayor Leo “Polo” Palacios made a motion to approve the change in member representative category as recommended by the CJAC. Commissioner Edward Camarillo seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action Mr. Cruz noted that CJAC Program Status Reports were in the Board folders for review.

President Boswell next moved to item 8.C. – Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS). Regarding item 1. – Consider Approval RE: MMRS Steering Committee’s Recommendation on Capability Focus Area’s (CFA’s) for FY 2011 MMRS Grant Program Mr. Cruz stated that the MMRSSC
recommended the following CFA’s for FY 2011 MMRS Application: Strengthen Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) Detection, Response and Decontamination Capabilities and strengthen Medical Surge and Mass Prophylaxis Capabilities. **Mayor Leo “Polo” Palacios made a motion for approval of the MMRSSC's recommendation on CFA's for FY 2011 as presented. Commissioner Edward Camarillo seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

President Boswell next moved to item 9. - 9-1-1 Department and noted that the status reports were in the folders for review and moved to item 10 – Regional Police Academy and Training Center Report. Regarding item A. - Consider Approval RE: Police Academy Advisory Board Bylaws Biennial Review and Revision Mr. Paul Williams was recognized and informed the Board that as required by the Committee’s bylaws, the Committee voted to amend the bylaws by adding the Program Administrator as an ex-officio non-voting member of the Advisory Committee. **Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez made a motion to approve the Police Academy Advisory Board Bylaws Biennial Review and Revision as recommended. Hon. Norma G. Garcia seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Upon conclusion of business President Boswell moved to item 11. - Old or New Business; there being none, the President adjourned the meeting at 1:47 p.m.

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**ATTEST:**

**MAYOR PRO-TEM ALVIN SAMANO, 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT**

**Deborah Morales, Recording Secretary**