President Eddy Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. and asked Mr. Ken Jones to call roll. Upon conclusion of roll call it was ascertained that a quorum was present. President Gonzalez then moved to item 2. – Consider Approval RE: May 26, 2011 Meeting Minutes. Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion for approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Arturo Ramirez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action on the minutes, President Gonzalez moved to item 3.A. – Public Comment and recognized Ms. Amanda Hernandez, Planner for the Hidalgo County MPO, who informed the Board about recently announced funding opportunities and events connected with HUD’s Sustainable Communities Initiative. President Gonzalez next recognized Mr. Don Medina who informed the Board of Operation Care Drop that provided books for soldiers serving overseas.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 3.B. – Board Recognitions and presented a plaque to Mayor Chris Boswell in recognition of his service to the Board as President from 2010-2011. Plaques were also prepared for Commissioner John Ingram, Mayor Pro-tem Lupe Rodriguez and Commissioner Edward Camarillo for their years of service to the Board of Directors.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 3.C. – Act Upon Recommendation of Nominating Committee and recognized Mayor Chris Boswell, Committee Chair. Regarding item 3.C.1. – Selection of Five (5) Persons for Election as Members-at-Large to the Membership, Mayor Boswell stated that the Nominating Committee’s recommendation for the remaining five (5) persons to be considered is:

Mr. Eleazar “Yogi” Garcia – Raymondville
Dr. Andrew Lavine – Weslaco
Commissioner Leonard Garcia – Mercedes
Mr. Guillermo Ramirez – Hidalgo
Mr. Don Medina – McAllen

Mayor Chris Boswell made a motion for approval of the Nominating Committee’s recommendation as presented. Commissioner Hector “Tito” Palacios seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

The President next moved to item 3.C.2. – Selection of Three (3) At-Large Members to be Elected to the 2011-2012 Board of Directors. Mayor Boswell stated that the Nominating Committee also recommended, of the ten (10) at-large members selected by the Board and the Membership, that the following three (3) persons be considered to fill the three (3) At-Large seats on the Board of Directors for 2011-2012:

Hon. Norma G. Garcia
Mayor Pro-tem Alvin Samano
Mr. Don Medina
Mayor Chris Boswell made a motion to approve the three (3) Members-at-Large to serve on the Board of Directors for 2011-2012. Mr. Arturo Ramirez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action President Gonzalez moved to item 3.D. – Discussion and Possible Action RE: Limiting Trucks in Left Lanes Initiative and recognized Ms. Maria Champine, Hidalgo County MPO Assistant Director. Ms. Champine informed the Board that TxDOT commissioned a study by the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) in 2008 to determine the effects of prohibiting trucks from using the leftmost lanes on the US 83 and US 281 Expressways. As a result of the study, TTI found that prohibiting trucks from using the leftmost lanes had little to no negative impact upon expressway operations but does provide safety benefits. TxDOT and the HCMPO were pursuing this initiative mindful that as this region continues to grow, and freight movement becomes even more demanding, truck traffic will increase. This initiative provides an opportunity to prepare and provide for the safest, most efficient movement of goods and people that can be offered. Ms. Champine stated that this initiative will need to be adopted by TxDOT and public meetings will need to be held prior to adoption. Once adopted, HCMPO plans to submit requests that local communities consider adopting resolutions of support for this initiative. Upon conclusion of discussion Mayor Orlando Correa made a motion to endorse and encourage support from the LRGVDC Membership for the Left Lanes initiative as requested by the HCMPO. Mr. Don Medina seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 3.E. – Consider Lease/Purchase Agreement with Weslaco EDC. Mr. Jones was recognized and thanked Mr. Hernan Gonzalez and the Weslaco EDC Board of Directors for their cooperation with the LRGVDC to develop the agreement being presented for consideration and noted that this agreement contained all of the commitments the Weslaco EDC and the City of Weslaco had made along with the proposal for the initial five year term of the lease that includes options to purchase. Mr. Jones mentioned that there was one minor addition Mr. Gonzalez would like to bring forth for consideration and turned the floor over to Mr. Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez stated that the minor addition was to include a move-in date of no later than August 15, 2011 at no charge for occupancy in the month of August; the monthly rent charges will begin on September 1, 2011. Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion for approval of the Lease/Purchase Agreement with Weslaco EDC with the addition of a move in date of no later than August 15, 2011 and no rental charge for the month of August. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action President Gonzalez moved to item 3.F. - Status Reports; item 1. - Texas Gas Service. Mr. Ramon Vela provided a written statement that Mr. Jones summarized for the Board. Mr. Geoffrey Gay, Attorney for TGS, continued work on receiving approved resolutions from the cities involved and has scheduled July 8, 2011 as the date to reach a compromise. No action needed.

Upon conclusion of the status report the President moved to item 4. - Report from Area Agency on Aging and recognized Mr. Joe Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez stated he had no action items and summarized his status reports highlighting and inviting the Board to the 1st Annual Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention Workshop.

President Gonzalez next 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 stated that this event was a success and presented a slide show of event highlights. Upon conclusion of this status report President Gonzalez moved to item 5.B.1. – Economic Adjustment Plan (EAP) Update and recognized Mr. Bo Blackman who informed the Board on the progress of this project. No action needed.

Upon conclusion of the Status Reports President Gonzalez moved to item 6. - Report from Transportation Department and recognized Mr. Tom Logan. Regarding item 6.A.1. – Consider Approval to Authorize

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Executive Director to Enter Interlocal Agreement with City of Harlingen RE: Transit Fleet Storage Facility Mr. Logan stated that Valley Metro Staff had been working with the City of Harlingen to plan for a transit fleet storage facility, and this Interlocal Agreement would be for the construction of this facility. **Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion for approval for the Executive Director to enter into an Interlocal agreement with the City of Harlingen for the transit fleet storage facility as presented. Hon. Norma G. Garcia seconded the motion; Mayor Chris Boswell abstained, and upon a vote the motion carried.** Upon conclusion of action Mr. Logan summarized the status reports and added that the HCMPO funded the Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) application which will provide $1.8 MM to address the need for additional service noted during public comments at previous meetings.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 7. - Report from Regional Planning & Services and recognized Ms. Marcie Oviedo. Regarding item 7.A.2. – Solid Waste Management Ms. Oviedo noted there were three action items:

- **Item 7.A.2.a. – Consider Approval RE: Hidalgo County Precinct 3/Penitas Landfill MSW 1727 Type I-AE Permit Application.** Ms. Oviedo stated that Hidalgo County Pct. 3 applied for a permit expansion on their Penitas Landfill. The application was for a 9 foot vertical and 150 foot lateral expansion which would also add about 4-5 years of life to their landfill. The SWAC approved the permit application as it meets the goals and objectives of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan. **Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion for approval of the Hidalgo County Precinct 3/Penitas Landfill MSW 1727 Type I-AE Permit as recommended by the SWAC. Mayor David Simmons seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

- **Item 7.A.2.b. – Consider Approval RE: FY 2010-2011 SWAC Contract Amendment for Extension.** Ms. Oviedo noted that SWAC recommends approval of this contract extension, which would be in effect until February 28, 2013. **Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion for approval of the FY 2010-2011 SWAC Contract Amendment for Extension as recommended by SWAC. Mayor Orlando Correa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

- **Item 7.A.2.c. – Consider Approval RE: Expenditures of 2011 De-obligated Unexpended Implementation Project Funds.** Ms. Oviedo stated that the SWAC recommended all FY 2011 de-obligated funds from implementation projects would be distributed as follows: 1) $5,000 for printing recycling guides; 2) $5,000 to purchase reusable bags; 3) remaining funds ($17,796) to be transferred to the administration budget of the LRGVDC. **Mayor Pro-tem Armando Garza made a motion for approval of the expenditures of 2011 de-obligated unexpended implementation project funds as recommended by the SWAC. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of action Ms. Oviedo noted that the Status Reports for SWAC and HUD Disaster Recovery Funding were in the Board folders for review.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 8.A. – Homeland Security and recognized Mr. Manuel Cruz. Regarding item 8.A.1. – Consider Approval RE: Homeland Security Advisory Committee FY 2011 Homeland Security Grant Program Allocation Recommendation and Regional Radio System Presentation. Mr. Cruz informed the Board that staff received correspondence from the State Administrative Agency related to the FY 2011 Homeland Security Grant Program Regional Allocation stating that the region received a total of $808,145 for the State Homeland Security Program and Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities, a reduction of approximately 54% from last year's allocation. These funds were provided to assist this region to address the identified gaps in the responder capabilities to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from all incidents, "including catastrophic events, provided these activities also build capabilities that relate to terrorism". Mr. Cruz then gave a presentation to better explain this reduction and the affect it will have on the LRGVDC region. Upon conclusion of the presentation Mayor David Simmons commented on the rationalization of a large entity like the City of McAllen being awarded $260,000 and Weslaco's request of $43,601 for radios for Weslaco, Donna and Mercedes (three smaller cities) being denied.

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Mr. Randy Ashley was recognized and gave a presentation that explained from a technical aspect how funds had been distributed to date and what will be required to complete communications across the region. Upon conclusion of the presentation Mayor Simmons stated that Weslaco, Donna and Mercedes had a system in place and required the $43,601 for these three cities to patch in on the 800 MHz Regional Radio System (RRS) used by the other cities in the region. Mayor Simmons stated that these three cities operated on a VHF system and cannot afford to replace it with an 800 MHz system, but $43,601 will purchase the technology to allow those cities to communicate with the 800 MHz system. Mayor Simmons stated that he felt they were being dictated to as to what type of equipment they had to purchase, that the City of Donna was not going to purchase an 800 MHz system because, these are very expensive systems and the City cannot afford it. President Gonzalez asked who determined that this region would use the 800 MHz system.

Mr. Pilar Rodriguez was recognized and introduced himself as the Assistant City Manager for the City of McAllen and the Chair for the Rio Grande Valley Communications Group (RGVCG). Mr. Rodriguez explained that the Federal Government decided this region would use a P25 system with either a VHF system like Weslaco, Donna and Mercedes or an 800 MHz system like the remainder of the region's cities. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the City of McAllen applied for these grant funds on behalf of the region and that there was enough room in the budget that the $43,601 request made by Weslaco, Donna and Mercedes for their equipment needs could be accommodated within their $260,000 grant allocation. The recommendation from both the HSAC and the RGVCG would be to reallocate one IP based console per county on a first come first served basis and for the fourth console to go, also on a first come first served basis, to any jurisdiction that required it. President Gonzalez asked by when this $43,601 allocation would be distributed to the Weslaco, Donna, Mercedes project. Mr. Cruz stated it should be distributed by September 2011.

Upon conclusion of discussion it was the consensus of the Board to act on the HSAC FY 2011 HLSGP Allocation Recommendation and Regional Radio System Presentation in phases broken down by grant category:

Phase I, Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion to revise the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities Interoperable Communications allocations with $43,601.25 from the SHSP Interoperable Communications Project for the Weslaco, Donna and Mercedes Project for VHF repeater, to upgrade existing repeater and for five (5) 4.9 microwave links. Hon. Norma G. Garcia seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Phase II, Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion for approval of the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities Regional Response Team allocation as recommended by the HSAC. Commissioner Roel Landa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Phase III, Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion for approval of the State Homeland Security Program Regional Response Team Rio Grande Regional Response Association Hazmat & Decontamination Team allocation as recommended by the HSAC. Mayor Orlando Correa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Phase IV, Mayor Pro-tem Armando Garza made a motion for approval of the State Homeland Security Program Critical Infrastructure Program as recommended by the HSAC. Commissioner Roel Landa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action Mr. Cruz noted that the HLS, Criminal Justice Advisory Committee and Metropolitan Medical Response System Program Steering Committee Status Reports were in the Board folders for review.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 9. - 9-1-1 Department and noted that those Status Reports as well as item 10. - Regional Police Academy and Training Center Status Reports were in the Board folders for review.
President Gonzalez next moved to item 11. - Old or New Business; and noted that item 11.A. - Reservoir Levels Status Report was in the Board folders for review and moved to item 11.B. - Schedule Date for Transit Facility Ribbon Cutting. **Mr. Don Medina made a motion to hold the Transit Facility Ribbon Cutting right before the July Board meeting at 10:30 a.m. on July 28, 2011. Mayor Pro-tem Armando Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of action Mr. Arturo Ramirez requested that during the ribbon-cutting ceremony the Board recognize Mr. J. D. Salinas, Regional Administrator for the Great Southwest Region of the U.S. General Service Administration and Mr. Paco Valentin, USDA State Director who have brought much in the way of federal resources to the region. Additionally Mr. Ramirez stated that the Administration has asked Federal agencies to perform outreach to inform the public of resources available through the Federal Government. A conference was held in San Antonio and there are plans to hold another conference in the City of Pharr. **Mr. Ramirez stated that Mayor Palacios, City of Pharr, has agreed to be a co-sponsor of this event by providing the Pharr Convention Center as the location, and made a motion to request that the Board of Directors authorize the LRGVDC to also be a co-sponsor with the City of Pharr for this event as it meets the criteria of bringing more grant resources to the area. Mayor Steve Brewer seconded the motion** and stated that the LRGVDC should be more involved because Mr. Salinas and Mr. Valentin control a large amount of funds that can assist the region tremendously. **Upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of action, Hon. Norma G. Garcia requested that the Board consider discussing a change to the Board Meeting start time and requested this item be added to the next agenda. There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

![Signature]

MAYOR PRO-TEM EDDY GONZALEZ, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

![Signature]

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

![Signature]

Deborah Morales, Recording Secretary