MINUTES

JOINT MEETING OF THE
LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS & MEMBERSHIP

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2013 - 12:00 P.M.
LRGVDC TRANSPORTATION CENTER
510 PLEASANTVIEW DR. - WESLACO, TEXAS
PRESIDING: HON. NORMA G. GARCIA, PRESIDENT

President Norma G. Garcia called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. and asked Mr. Ken Jones to call roll for the Board of Directors and Membership. Upon conclusion of roll call it was ascertained that a quorum of both the Board and Membership were present. President Garcia then moved to item 2. – Consider Approval RE: June 26, 2013 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Hector “Tito” Palacios made a motion for approval of the minutes as presented. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action on the minutes President Garcia moved to item 3.A. - Public Comments; no one signed up for public comments and the President moved to item 3.B. – Update from Legislative Delegation, however no representatives were present at this meeting.

President Garcia then moved to item 3.C. – Amendment to Bylaws. Mr. Jones was recognized and reminded the Board of the request from City of San Benito to amend the bylaws for the Board composition to include cities designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as entitlement cities. Mayor Pro-tem. Eddy Gonzalez made a motion to approve the amendment to the bylaws as presented. Mr. John Mendoza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. At the conclusion of action San Benito Mayor Pro-tem Tony Gonzalez took his seat at the Board table and was counted present on the roll.

President Garcia then moved to item 3.D. – Consider Approval RE: Annual Adoption of Investment Policy. Commissioner Jerry Tafolla made a motion for approval to adopt the Investment Policy as presented. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action President Garcia moved to item 3.E. – Consider Approval RE: Quarterly Investment Report. Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion to approve the quarterly investment report as presented. Commissioner Jerry Tafolla seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

President Garcia next moved to item 3.F. – Board Recognition. A plaque had been prepared for Mayor Orlando Correa of Raymondville in recognition of the years he has served the Board, however Mayor Correa was unable to attend.

Upon conclusion of Administration items President Garcia moved to item 4. – Regional Police Academy and Training Center Report and recognized Mr. Paul Williams. Mr. Williams noted that the statistical report was in the Board folders and added that August 31, 2013 was the end of the training cycle and all peace officers were required to have their certification up-to-date by that time.
President Garcia next moved to item 5. - Report from Area Agency on Aging and recognized Mr. Joe Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez gave status reports for the Caregiver SOS Grand Opening and Bid Conferences.


President Garcia then moved to item 7. - Report from Transportation Department and recognized Mr. Tom Logan. Mr. Logan gave the status reports on Ridership and the Regional Transportation Advisory Panel.

President Garcia next moved to item 8. - Report from Regional Planning & Services and recognized Ms. Marcie Oviedo. Regarding item 8.A.1.a.2. – Rio Grande Regional Water Authority Activities, item a. – Consider Approval RE: Local Match Formula to Support 2011 Regional Water Plan Amendment, Ms. Oviedo turned the floor over to Mr. Joe Barrera, RGRWA Executive Director. Mr. Barrera informed the Board that if approved, this assessment would be used to fund an amendment to the Rio Grande Regional Water Plan that would designate the RGRWA as a Wholesale Water Provider. This designation would be essential in terms of utilizing the RGRWA as a potential funding mechanism for infrastructure and improvements. **Mayor Henry Hinojosa made a motion for approval of the Local Match Formula to Support the 2011 Regional Water Plan amendment as presented. Mr. Don Medina seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

President Garcia next moved to item 9.A.2. - Solid Waste Management Program Status Report and Ms. Oviedo summarized that report. President Garcia next moved to item 7.B. - HUD Disaster Recovery Funding, Item 1. – Consider Approval of Housing Advisory Committee Recommendations and recognized Mr. Victor Morales to present the following items:

Item a. – Proposal Selection for Rapid Housing Recovery Program. Mr. Morales stated that the LRGVDC received two proposals for the Rapid Housing Recovery Program. Staff reviewed the proposals using the appropriate scoring criteria. The Housing Advisory Committee (HAC) recommends that Community Development Corporation of Brownsville receive funding. **Commissioner Jerry Tafolla made a motion to approve the proposed selection for the Rapid Housing Recovery Program as recommended by the HAC. Mayor Pro-tem Armando Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Item b. – Selection of Single Family Rental Program Proposals and Budget Amendment Request to GLO. Mr. Morales stated that three proposals were received. The proposals are from: South Texas Collaborative for Housing Development, La Feria Economic Development Corporation and Willacy County Housing Authority for the Single Family Program for a total of $1,500,000 for 12 units with $2,034,505.37 remaining. The Housing Advisory Committee recommended that these three proposals be funded and that the remaining funds be transferred to the Multi-Family Rental Program. **Commissioner Jerry Tafolla made a motion to approve the selection of Single Family Rental Program proposals and the budget amendment request to GLO as recommended by the HAC. Mayor David Simmons seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Item c. – Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Remaining Funds in Multi-Family Rental Program. Mr. Morales brought the Board’s attention to the 2nd NOFA for Multi-Family Rental Program to fund projects using the remaining Multi-Family and Single Family Rental funds as recommended by the Housing Advisory Committee at their last meeting and stated that staff was seeking Board approval for this item. **Mr. Don Medina made a motion for approval of the NOFA for remaining funds in the Multi-Family Rental Program. Commissioner Jerry Tafolla seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**
Item d. – Issue of “Call for Interest” (CFI) for Real Estate Professionals, Title Companies, Inspectors and Non-profits for the Homeowner Opportunity Program (HOP). Mr. Morales stated that the purpose of the request is that staff is calling for interest from title companies that desire to participate in the HOP as part of the CDBG Disaster Recovery program funded by HUD and GLO. **Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion for approval to issue the CFI for real estate professionals, title companies, inspectors and non-profit organizations for the HOP as recommended by the HAC. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Item e. – Program Status Report on 2nd Round Disaster Recovery Funding. Mr. Morales then turned the floor back over to Ms. Oviedo. Ms. Oviedo noted that the LRGVDC Disaster Recovery Housing Program has achieved several firsts in the State of Texas: the first awarded Round 2.2 funds, the first to submit five Round 2.2 Set ups, the first Round 2.2 home completion, and the first nine HOP eligible program options sessions. Ms. Oviedo also noted several key milestones and gave the status of ongoing tasks and construction.

President Garcia next moved to item 9. - Report from Homeland Security and recognized Mr. Manuel Cruz. Mr. Cruz gave status reports on Emergency Management Plans, Homeland Security Advisory Grant Programs, the Citizen Corps Program and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

President Garcia next moved to item 10. - 9-1-1 Program and recognized Mr. Juan Gomez. Regarding item 10.A. – Consider Approval RE: Request for Executive Director to Sign Inter-local Cooperation Act Agreement for Regional Emergency Service IP Network (ESInet) Mr. Gomez informed the Board that this is an agreement with AACOG, City of Laredo, CBCOG, H-GAC, MRGDC and GCRPC for initial state efforts to implement a Regional Emergency Service IP Network (ESInet) needed for next Generation 9-1-1 technology. As the 9-1-1 program moves forward with Next Generation preparedness, the IP network is needed to help route the 9-1-1 traffic. Additionally, interconnection with other COGs and eventually with the State ESInet is needed. **Mayor Chris Boswell made a motion for approval of the request for the Executive Director to Sign the Inter-local Cooperation Act Agreement for Regional ESInet as presented. Council Member Homer Jasso seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

President Garcia next moved to item 11. - Old or New Business; there being none **Commissioner Jerry Tafolla made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Steve Brewer seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 1.01 p.m.**

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ATTEST:

Mayor Tony Martinez, 1st Vice-President

Deborah Morales, Recording Secretary

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