President Eddy Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 12:10 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: August 25, 2011 Meeting Minutes. Mayor David Simmons made a motion for approval of the minutes as presented. Mayor Pro-tem Alvin Samano 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; no one had signed up for Public Comment and the President moved to item 3.B. – Consider Executive Committee Recommendation RE: Amendment to LRGVDC Bylaws. Mr. Jones was recognized and stated that as authorized at the last Board meeting the Executive Committee reviewed staff's suggested changes to the bylaws. These changes were necessary to ensure the Board's compliance with HB 2160 which mandated that COG's offer at least one ex-officio (non-voting) seat on the COG Board to an elected member of the State Legislature. This amendment consisted of the addition of Article X.2.i on page 7, "Consistent with HB 2160 as adopted by the Texas Legislature, each elected member of the state legislature who represents a district located wholly or partly in the LRGVDC region shall have an ex officio, non-voting membership on the Board of Directors"; and an additional sentence to Article XI.4 on page 8, "Ex officio members shall not count towards establishment of a quorum". In addition to amendments in compliance with HB 2160 staff recommended two housekeeping revisions on pages 9 and 11. Page 9 omits the responsibility to establish a Pre-Application Review Panel as this requirement has been eliminated by the State. Page 11 revises the date the LRGVDC audits are due to be consistent with current federal guidelines, specifically circular A-133. Once these proposed amendments have been presented to the Board, the next step will be to place this item on the next scheduled Membership Meeting which will occur in January. The Executive Committee unanimously recommended these revisions. Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion to approve the Executive Committee Recommendation on amending the LRGVDC Bylaws as presented in preparation for action at the January Membership meeting. Commissioner Celeste Sanchez seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

President Gonzalez then moved to item 3.C. – Consider Approval RE: Authorizing Staff to Develop RFQ for Auditing Services. Mr. Victor Morales was recognized and informed the Board that in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 staff was requesting authorization to develop a Statement Of Qualifications (SOQ) process from independent certified public accounting firms for the LRGVDC annual audit services. Mayor
Pro-tem Rudy Rodriguez made a motion for approval for staff to develop an RFQ for Auditing Services. Mayor Pro-tem Armando Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 3.D. – Report on Time Warner Cable RE: State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority. No report was available and no action taken.

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: Responding to Affordable Care Act Request for Proposals (RFQ). Mr. Gonzalez stated that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued an RFQ under Section 3026 of the Affordable Care Act for projects that will demonstrate a reduction in the 30 day re-admission rates for Medicare beneficiaries. Current efforts spearheaded by the Texas Medical Foundation (TMF) identified seven (7) local hospitals willing to participate in the project. Loopback Analytics, a research firm in Dallas had been working with TMF and Area Agency on Aging staff to collect the necessary patient discharge information from the hospitals. The estimated amount of the request was $2.6 million depending on the number of monthly discharges and targeted diagnosis addressed by the project. No local match was required for this project. Mayor Leo “Polo” Palacios made a motion to approve staff responding to the Affordable Care Act Request for Proposals. Mayor Steve Brewer seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action President Gonzalez moved to item 4.A.2. – Consider Approval RE: Memorandum Of Understanding with Local Hospitals. Mr. Gonzalez stated that the Advisory Council recommended approval of the MOU with seven (7) hospitals for the implementation of the Care Transition Project mentioned in the previous item. The seven (7) hospitals include: Rio Grande Regional Hospital, Mission Regional Medical Center, Doctors’ Hospital at Renaissance, Knapp Medical Center, Valley Regional Medical Center, and both campuses of Valley Baptist Medical Center. Mayor Pro-tem Armando Garza asked if staff had received a legal opinion on the MOU, Mr. Gonzalez that a legal opinion had not been received; though one could be obtained. Upon conclusion of discussion Mayor Pro-tem Armando Garza made a motion to have a legal review of the MOU and, pending any issues that may or may not arise from the review he motioned to authorize the Executive Committee to approve the MOU. Commissioner Joey Trevino seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action Mr. Gonzalez stated the Status Reports were in the Board folders.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 5. - Report from Economic Development Department and recognized Ms. Terrie Salinas. Regarding item 5.A.1. – Project Status Reports, Ms. Salinas reported on the Strength of the Workforce Conference 2011, the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies Plan and the Rio Grande Valley Partnership Business and Economic Development Project. Regarding item 5.B.1. – Status Report for the Regional Economic Adjustment Plan (EAP) Ms. Salinas reported on Hidalgo County Colonia Public Outreach Meetings for Charro #2, Hidalgo Park #2 and San Carlos; following those reports the S&B Project Status Reports was given.

Upon conclusion of status reports President Gonzalez moved to item 6. - Report from Transportation Department and recognized Mr. Tom Logan. Regarding item 6.A.1. – Consider Approval RE: New Route in Cameron County, Route 45. Mr. Logan stated that a flexible route from Harlingen and San Benito to Brownsville via Los Fresnos was being proposed via a
community collaborative project initiated by Los Fresnos CISD, United Way of Southern Cameron County and Workforce Solutions, previously identified in the Regional Transit Plan of 2007. The original purpose of this approach was to help graduated seniors and dual enrollment students continue to go to school and build their futures by connecting to universities (TSTC and UTB). The project was being directed as a route system that provided access to jobs, technical/vocational programs, and the universities for residents in underserved areas of central Cameron County into the two larger cities. **Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion to approve Route 45 in Cameron County as presented. Commissioner Celeste Sanchez seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of action Mr. Logan gave the status reports on Ridership and the Regional Transportation Advisory Panel activities.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 7. - Report from Regional Planning & Services and recognized Mr. Jones who noted that Regional Planning Director, Ms. Marcie Oviedo was unable to attend today. Mr. Jones noted that the status reports for item 7.A.1. - Water Resources were in the Board folders as well as item 7.A.2. - Solid Waste Management Status Reports. Regarding item 7.B. – HUD Disaster Recovery Funding; item 1. – Consider Ratification of Executive Committee Action RE: Letter of Engagement – URS. Mr. Jones stated that Executive Committee action had been requested on this item due to the deadline of September 16, 2011. The Executive Committee approved the Letter of Engagement with URS to complete the required Fair Housing Activities Statement (FHAST) form which was a requirement for the LRGVDC to remain eligible as a grant recipient for Phase II of Round 2 Hurricane Dolly Housing Disaster Recovery Funds. **Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion to ratify the Executive Committee action on the URS Letter of Engagement. Commissioner Celeste Sanchez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of action Mr. Jones gave the status report on 2nd Round Disaster Recovery Funding.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 8. – Homeland Security and recognized Mr. Manuel Cruz who gave the status reports on item 8.A.1. for the Homeland Security Department. Upon conclusion of the status reports President Gonzalez moved to item 8.B. – Criminal Justice Program. Regarding item 8.B.1. – Consider Approval RE: The Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council and the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division FY 2012, Mr. Cruz stated that the purpose of this contract was for the CJD to promote and enable intergovernmental communication performed by the LRGVDC specific to grants awarded by the CJD within the LRGVDC’s geographic region. In consideration of the CJD providing the funds, the LRGVDC agreed to perform the duties described by the contract. The total award was $96,329.76 which was a 45%-50% reduction from last year’s award. **Mayor Pro-tem Rudy Rodriguez made a motion for approval of the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the LRGVDC and the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division as presented. Mayor David Simmons seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of action Mr. Cruz gave the status reports on item 8.B.2. - Criminal Justice Program and 8.C. - Metropolitan Medical Response System Program.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 9. - 9-1-1 Department and recognized Mr. Juan Gomez who noted that the status reports were in the Board folders.
There being no questions the President next moved to item 10. - Regional Police Academy and Training Center Status Reports and recognized Mr. Paul Williams who noted that the status reports were in the Board folders.

President Gonzalez next moved to item 11. - Old or New Business; there being none the meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

MAYOR PRO-TEM EDDY GONZALEZ,

PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

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

Deborah Morales, Recording Secretary