MINUTES

MEETING OF THE
LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2019
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ANNUAL ELECTIONS MEETING SCHEDULED AT 12:00 PM
LRGVDC MAIN CAMPUS - 301 W. RAILROAD ST., WESLACO, TEXAS
BUILDING B, KEN JONES EXECUTIVE BOARD ROOM

PRESIDING: HON. NORMA G. GARCIA, PRESIDENT

President Norma G. Garcia called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. Roll call was taken prior at the Annual Election meeting and a quorum was declared.

The President then moved to item 2: Consider Approval of Meeting Minutes (April 24, 2019 Board Meeting). *Mayor Jim Darling made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mayor Cyndie Rathbun seconded and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

President Garcia then moved to item 3: Public Comment and/or Report from Legislative Delegation and recognized Commissioner David Garza. He informed the Board that there is a Restore Act Council Meeting for Coastal Cities in Corpus Christi on May 30 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the Texas A&M University Hart Building to discuss the oil spill money from the BP settlement and encouraged those involved in coastal communities to attend.

President Garcia then moved to item 4: Administration and addressed the following:

A. Act on Recommendations from Nominating Committee

1. Selection of Five (5) Persons for Election as Members-at-Large to the General Membership
   As the current Board President, Ms. Garcia is Chair of the Nominating Committee and gave this report. She stated that the Nominating Committee recommends the following five (5) persons for election as Members-at-Large to the General Membership:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Diana Serna</td>
<td>Mercedes</td>
<td>Hidalgo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Eleazar “Yogi” Garcia, Jr.</td>
<td>Raymondville</td>
<td>Willacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Sergio Contreras</td>
<td>Mission</td>
<td>Hidalgo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Noel Bernal</td>
<td>Brownsville</td>
<td>Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Chris Gonzalez</td>
<td>Mission</td>
<td>Hidalgo</td>
</tr>
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</table>

   *Commissioner David Fuentes made a motion to approve the Members-at-Large to the General Membership as presented. Commissioner David Garza seconded, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*
2. Selection of Three (3) Members-at-Large to be Elected to the 2019-2020 Board of Directors

President Garcia stated that the Nominating Committee recommends the following individuals to fill the three (3) at-large seats on the Board of Directors for 2019-2020:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CITY</th>
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<th>SELECTED BY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hon. Norma G. Garcia</td>
<td>Donna</td>
<td>Hidalgo</td>
<td>General Membership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner Ben Neece</td>
<td>Brownsville</td>
<td>Cameron</td>
<td>General Membership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Celeste Sanchez</td>
<td>San Benito</td>
<td>Cameron</td>
<td>General Membership</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

However, at the Annual Elections meeting held before this one, Commissioner Neece was replaced on the slate of Members-at-Large with Commissioner Jesse Zuniga from La Feria. **Upon conclusion of discussion Mayor David Suarez nominated the following Members-at-Large as members of the Board of Directors:**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>NAME</th>
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<th>SELECTED BY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Hon. Norma G. Garcia</td>
<td>Donna</td>
<td>Hidalgo</td>
<td>General Membership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner Jesse Zuniga</td>
<td>La Feria</td>
<td>Cameron</td>
<td>General Membership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Celeste Sanchez</td>
<td>San Benito</td>
<td>Cameron</td>
<td>General membership</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commissioner David Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

President Garcia next moved to the Executive Director Report and recognized Mr. Ron Garza to address the following:

**LRGVDC Updates & Activities**

1. Introduction of New Staff Members
   
   Mr. Garza announced that Mr. Mark Anthony Grimaldo, and Mr. Daniel Dimas have joined Valley Metro, and Ms. Linda Navarro is now a Research Intern with Community & Environmental Services. The Board warmly welcomed them to the LRGVDC.

2. 86th Legislative Session
   
   Mr. Garza noted that the 86th Legislative Session has come to an end and Sunday, June 16 is the last day for Governor Abbott to veto any bills. Mr. Garza gave a brief report on the most notable bills: HB 1090, SB 2, and SB 7, and stated he will keep the Board informed on their progress through the legislature.

3. 2019 RGV to DC Trip
   
   On behalf of Sergio Contreras, CEO of the RGV Partnership, Mr. Garza reminded the Board that the 3rd Annual RGV to DC trip is scheduled for June 18–21. There are approximately 35 individuals who plan to attend. They will use many of the same priorities that were developed for the state legislative session because these priorities are pertinent on the national level as well as the state level.

4. Large Cities Coalition
   
   Mr. Garza stated that the Large Cities Coalition met on May 14 and discussed a regional marketing campaign for Explore RGV and it was the consensus of the coalition to target a budget of $100,000 as a platform for this campaign. A contribution structure was developed that includes funds from the LRGVDC and a contribution structure for municipalities, invoices will be sent to municipalities...
over the summer. Mr. Garza stated that airports are key locations to place advertisements for Rio Grande Valley attractions. The target demographic for these locations would be South Texans and Central Texans to capture day visitors from Austin, San Antonio, Houston, and Laredo. In addition to the marketing campaign, staff is developing “Welcome to the Rio Grande Valley” signage with funding dedicated to the Explore RGV program. “Welcome” signs would promote that this region is a positive, safe location to visit.

5. Regional Marketing Campaign (Explore RGV)
   This topic was covered under the Large Cities Coalition report.

6. RGV B-Cycle (BikeShare Program)
   Mr. Garza announced that a Program Coordinator has been hired for the RGV B-Cycle Program and he is scheduled to start in June. The next B-Cycle Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 10.

7. Road to Recycling
   The 3rd Annual Road-to-Recycling Tire Collection event took place on Saturday, April 27. Mr. Garza stated that in 2017 there were three separate events and a total of 42,000 tires were collected. In 2018 there was one event where 16,800 tires were collected across 42 collection sites across the three-counties. This year almost 25,000 tires were collected in a single day at 52 sites located across the three-county region. What’s more is that every year our staff and RGV communities become more efficient in terms of cost and methods of advertising the event; for this year’s event there was a lot of social media activity to promote the collection day.

   Mr. Garza informed the Board that earlier this month he was able to travel to Arkansas where there is a state mandated tire recycling operation that is run by the local council of governments. He shared with the Board many of the take-aways from this trip and is excited to pursue a true tire recycling effort here on a regional level. He feels that the model they created can be replicated in the Rio Grande Valley and is excited to take the Road-to-Recycling from a collection project to a true recycling program.

Upon conclusion of the Executive Director Report, President Garcia moved to item 5: Department Reports.

A. Economic Development

   Economic Development Status Reports
   President Garcia asked the Board’s permission, in the interest of saving time, to move directly to Action Items. She stated that the Economic Development program status reports were provided in the meeting packet for review.

B. Community & Environmental Services

   Community Development Status Report
   The Community Development status reports were available in the meeting packet for review.

   Environmental Resources Status Report
   The status reports were available in the meeting packet for review.

   Under Water Resources, The Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee had the following Action Items:
1. Consider Approval of Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee Bylaws
Ms. Oviedo informed the Board that the Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee has developed and is submitting for Board approval their draft bylaws.

2. Consider Approval of Membership to Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee
Ms. Oviedo stated that the Regional Water Resource Advisory Committee met on May 1 and recommends the following committee members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County / District</th>
<th>Member Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cameron County</td>
<td>David A. Garza, County Commissioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidalgo County</td>
<td>David Fuentes, County Commissioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willacy County</td>
<td>Eduardo Gonzales, Commissioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large City (&gt;25K Pop.)</td>
<td>Tomas Reyna, City of Edinburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small City (&lt;25K Pop.)</td>
<td>Melissa Gonzales, City of Alamo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Purpose District – Drainage</td>
<td>Albert Barreda, Cameron Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Cameron)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Purpose District – Drainage (Hidalgo)</td>
<td>Ellie Torres, Hidalgo Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Purpose District – Drainage (Willacy)</td>
<td>Open, Willacy Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Purpose District – Irrigation</td>
<td>Jose Hinojosa, SCID #15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Purpose District – General</td>
<td>Joey Trevino, EEDC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LRGV Storm Water Task-Force</td>
<td>Jose Figueroa, City of Mercedes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region M Water Planning Group</td>
<td>Open (Pending Request to Region M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas – RGV</td>
<td>Javier Guerrero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas – RGV</td>
<td>Andrew Ernest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commissioner David Garza made a motion to approve items 5. B. 1. and 2. as presented.
Mayor David Suarez seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

C. Health & Human Services

Area Agency on Aging Status Reports
Program Director Joe Gonzalez was recognized to address the following:

1. Consider Approval of Appointment to Texas Silver-Haired Legislature
Mr. Gonzalez informed the Board that the Advisory Council recommends the appointment of Ms. Rose Timmer from Brownsville to the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature as the representative for the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Mrs. Timmer will, along with other seniors across Texas, discuss and address issues affecting seniors. They will develop recommendations this September and present those to the members of the Texas legislature for possible action.
Commissioner David Fuentes made a motion to approve Mrs. Rose Timmer from Brownsville as the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature Representative for the Lower Rio Grande Valley.
Commissioner David Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

D. Public Safety
President Garcia noted that there were no action items under Public Safety and that the status reports were in the meeting packet for review
E. Transportation

Valley Metro Status Report
President Garcia recognized Valley Metro Director Tom Logan to address the following:

1. Consider Approval to Purchase Motorola 2-Way Radios and Service
   Motorola equipment and service are necessary for transit operations, maintenance personnel, and administrative staff to communicate through a 2-way radio system. The 2-way radio network is available throughout Hidalgo, Cameron, Willacy, Starr and Zapata Counties.

   Purchase of this budgeted equipment and service will be made using FTA grant funds and TxDOT Transportation Development Credits. Motorola Solutions was selected through the Buy Board Purchasing Cooperative (TX DIR Contract # TSO-4101) at the cost of $193,373.87 for a total of 69 2-way radios and system integration.

2. Consider Approval to Enter into Interlocal Agreement for Radio Service with Rio Grande Valley Communication Group (RGVCG)
   Staff requests Board approval to enter into an interlocal agreement for radio service with Rio Grande Valley Communication Group. This service will allow the LRGVDC- Valley Metro transportation operators to utilize the RGVC-700/800-megahertz radio system to communicate through 2-way radio system within Hidalgo, Cameron, Willacy, Starr, and Zapata Counties. The radio system has a recurring cost that includes annual radio maintenance fees, T-1 communication lines, and infrastructure up-grades.

3. Consider Approval to Enter into Contract for Bulk Diesel for Transit Fleet
   Staff requests Board approval to enter into a contract with Petroleum Traders Corporation for bulk diesel for the Valley Metro transit fleet. As per the LRGVDC Procurement Policy, a competitive procurement process was conducted for this purchase. Petroleum Traders Corporation was selected from the eligible bidders as the most responsive bidder exhibiting the best value. This contract agreement will allow Valley Metro to order diesel fuel at bulk rates resulting in significant cost savings.

4. Consider Approval to Enter into Contract for Tires for Transit Fleet
   Staff requests approval to enter into a contract with Goodyear Corporation as the provider for tires for Valley Metro. As per LRGVDC’s Procurement Policy, a competitive procurement process was conducted for this purchase. Goodyear Corporation was selected from the eligible bidders as the most responsive bidder exhibiting the best value. This contract will allow Valley Metro to purchase tires at bulk rates resulting in significant cost savings.

5. Consider Approval to Enter into Contract for Bus Wrap Services
   Staff requests approval to enter into a contract with Brands Imaging for bust wrap services. A competitive procurement process was conducted, as per LRGVDC Procurement Policy, and Brands Imaging was selected from the eligible bidders as the most responsive bidder exhibiting the best value. This agreement will allow Valley Metro to acquire bus wrapping services from a designated provider resulting in cost savings and greater efficiency to advertising entities.

Commissioner David Fuentes made a motion to approve items 5. E. 1. – 5. As presented. Commissioner Edward Gonzales seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.
President García next moved to item 6. — New or Unfinished Business. There being none, she called for a motion to adjourn. *Mayor Cyndie Rathbun made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Jesse Zuniga seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:06 pm.*

\[Signature\]
Hon. Norma G. García, President

ATTEST:

\[Signature\]
Deborah Morales, Recording Secretary