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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2014 - 12:00 P.M.
LRGVDC TRANSPORTATION CENTER
510 PLEASANTVIEW DR. - WESLACO, TEXAS

PRESIDING: MAYOR CHRIS BOSWELL, PRESIDENT

President Chris Boswell was unable to attend and Board Secretary Mayor Celeste Sanchez was called to chair the meeting. Chair Sanchez called the meeting to order at 12:13 p.m. and asked for the roll to be called. Upon conclusion of roll call it was ascertained that a quorum of the Board was present. Chair Sanchez then moved to item 2. Consider Approval of May 28, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes. The Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to approve 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 Chair Sanchez moved to item 3.A. - Report from Legislative Delegation; however no reports were given at this time.

Chair Sanchez next moved to item 3.B. - Public Comment and recognized Ms. Ann Cass, Proyeto Azteca who informed the Board that their staff has had issues with mortgage closings due to incorrect addresses. Ms. Cass noted that incorrect addresses also cause problems with census taking and responding to emergencies in the colonias and stated that they have a meeting with the Hidalgo County Tax Assessor next week to discuss this issue. Ms. Cass also recognized the assistance of the LRGVDC 9-1-1 Department in resolving address conflicts. Mr. Don Medina was recognized next and requested that the Board reconsider the Nominating Committee recommendation and keep him on the Board of Directors as a Member-at-Large.

Chair Sanchez then moved to item 3.C. - Board Recognition and presented a plaque to Immediate Past President Norma G. Garcia for her 2013-2014 term as Board President and to Mr. Gale Armstrong for 15 years of service to the Board. Chair Sanchez also had a plaque for Mr. Roberto Loredo in recognition of his six years of service to the Board, and Mr. John Mendoza, Donna ISD, accepted the plaque on Mr. Laredo’s behalf.

Upon conclusion of Board recognitions Chair Sanchez moved to item 3.D. - Act upon Recommendation of Nominating Committee and recognized Hon. Norma G. Garcia, Committee Chair. Regarding item 1. - Selection of five (5) Persons for Election as Members-at-Large to the Membership, Ms. Garcia reminded the Board that at the May Membership meeting the following individuals were elected as Members-at-Large to the Membership:

- Hon. Norma G. Garcia
- Ms. Ann Cass
- Mr. Steve Brewer
- Mr. Salomon Torres
- Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez
- Donna
- McAllen
- La Feria
- San Benito
- Eddouch
The Nominating Committee's recommendations for the remaining five persons to be considered as Members-at-Large to the Membership by the Board of Directors are:

- Mr. Eleazar "Yogi" Garcia, Jr.
- Mr. Leo Munoz
- Ms. Diana Serna
- Mayor Orlando Correa
- Mr. Brian Godinez

Raymondville
Weslaco
Mercedes
Raymondville
McAllen

Ms. Garcia suggested replacing Mr. Eleazar "Yogi" Garcia, Jr. with Mr. Don Medina. **Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez made a motion to approve the following members-at-large:**

- Mr. Don Medina
- Mr. Leo Munoz
- Ms. Diana Serna
- Mayor Orlando Correa
- Mr. Brian Godinez

McAllen
Weslaco
Mercedes
Raymondville
McAllen

**Mayor Pro-tem Armando Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Regarding item 2. - Ms. Garcia stated that the Nominating Committee also recommends, of the ten Members-at-Large identified above, that the following three persons be considered to fill the three at-large seats on the Board of Directors for 2014-2015:

- Hon. Norma G. Garcia
- Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez
- Mr. Steve Brewer

Donna
Edcouch
La Feria

**Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez made a motion to approve the Nominating Committee's recommendation to fill the three at-Large seats on the Board of Directors as presented. Mayor Pro-tem Armando Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** At this time Mr. Don Medina yielded his seat on the Board to Mr. Steve Brewer and thanked the Board for their consideration.

Chair Sanchez then moved to item 4. - Regional Police Academy and recognized Mr. Paul Williams. Mr. Williams noted that the regular status report was in the folders for review and informed the Board that in August the Police Academy will have a class on Autism Awareness for first responders and others who work with autistic children and adults.

Chair Sanchez next moved to item 5. - Report from Area Agency on Aging and recognized Mr. Joe Gonzalez. Regarding item 5.A.1. - Consider Approval to Reinstatement of the 5% Reduction of Funding

RE: Contracts for Support Services and Caregiver Services, Mr. Gonzalez stated that the Advisory Council recommends approval to reinstate the 5% reduction of funding to all contractors for support services and caregiver services that was implemented at the beginning of the fiscal year in October. Services affected were the senior center operations, transportation services, and caregiver education and training. The Area Agency on Aging has received all of its Title III funding for the year and proposed cuts were not as severe as anticipated. There are enough funds in the budget to cover these increases. **Mayor Pro-tem Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion to approve reinstatement of the 5% reduction of funding for contractors for support services and caregiver services as recommended by the Advisory Council. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of
action Mr. Gonzalez noted that the status reports were in the Board folders for review.

Chair Sanchez next moved to item 6. - Report from Economic Development Department and recognized Ms. Terrie Salinas. Regarding item 6.A.1. – Ms. Salinas gave a status report on the Regional Economic Development Meeting and provided remarks regarding the Groundbreaking ceremony for the Center for International Economic Development Opportunities (CIEDO).

Chair Sanchez then moved to item 7. - Report from Valley Metro Program and recognized Mr. Tom Logan. Regarding item 7.A.1. – Consider Approval RE: Changes to the LRGVDC Drug & Alcohol Policy. Mr. Logan stated that staff recommends approval of a change to the LRGVDC Drug & Alcohol Policy that reflects the new Program Administrator for Operations, Ms. Maribel Contreras, as the Drug & Alcohol Program Manager. **Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez made a motion to approve the changes to the LRGVDC Drug & Alcohol Policy as presented. Commissioner Jerry Tafolla seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Regarding item 7.A. 2. – Consider Approval RE: Changes to the LRGVDC Driver Physical Exam Policy. Mr. Logan stated that staff recommends approval of changes to the Driver Physical Exam Policy to clarify language and improve organization of text. **Mayor Pro-tem Esmeralda Lozano made a motion to approve the changes to the LRGVDC Driver Physical Exam Policy as presented. Mayor David Simmons seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of action Mr. Logan stated that the status reports were in the Board folders for review.

Chair Sanchez next moved to item 8. - Report from Regional Planning & Services and recognized Ms. Marcie Oviedo. Regarding item 8.A. – Environmental Resources Ms. Oviedo noted that the Solid Waste Management program status report was in the Board folders for review. Regarding item 8.B.1. – HUD Disaster Recovery Funding Program Status Reports Ms. Oviedo noted that that status report was also in the Board folders for review and announced that the Multi-Family project for the City of Pharr had been approved. Ms. Oviedo also acknowledged the presence of Ms. Kristina Loera, Texas General Land Office (GLO).

Chair Sanchez then moved to item 9. – Report from Homeland Security and recognized Mr. Manuel Cruz. Regarding Item 1. – Consider Approval RE: Memorandum of Understanding for a CERT Explorer Club & Explorer Post Mr. Cruz stated that the LRGVDC has been asked to serve as a sponsoring agency for a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Explorer Club & Post. The Explorer Programs are under the guidance of the Boy Scouts of America Rio Grande Council. The CERT Explorer Club & Post programs will be the first in the Rio Grande Valley. **Mayor Pro-tem Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion for approval of the Memorandum of Understanding for a CERT Explorer Club & Explorer Post as presented. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Regarding item 9.A.2. – Consider Approval RE: FY 2015 Homeland Security Grant Program Projects, Mr. Cruz stated that at a recent HSAC meeting the committee reviewed and selected projects for the upcoming FY 2015 Homeland Security Grant Program. The HSAC recommends approval to continue with the previous year’s approved regional investment justifications which are: 1) Interoperable Communications, 2) Regional Response Teams, and 3) Critical Infrastructure. **Commissioner Jerry Tafolla made a motion to approve the FY 2016 Homeland Security Grant Program Projects as presented. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of action Mr. Cruz noted that the status reports were in the Board folders for review.

Chair Sanchez next moved to item 10. – Report from 9-1-1 Department and recognized Mr. Juan Gomez. Mr. Gomez noted that the regular status reports were in the folders and stated the 9-1-1 Department is available to help cities and counties as well as Proyecto Azteca with their addressing needs.
Chair Sanchez next moved to item 11. -- Old or New Business; there being no business to come before the Board Mayor Pro-tem Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion to adjourn; Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Mayor Chris Boswell, President

ATTEST:

Mayor Tony Martinez, 1st Vice-President

Deborah Morales, Recording Secretary