President John Ingram called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and asked Mr. Ken Jones to call roll. At the end of roll call it was ascertained that a quorum of both the LRGVDC and the LRGVDC Corporation Boards of Directors were present.

President Ingram then moved to agenda item 2. – Consider Approval RE: March 25, 2010 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Arturo Ramirez made a motion for approval of the minutes as presented. Mayor Orlando Correa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action on the minutes, President Ingram moved to item 3.A. – Public Comment and recognized Mr. Guillermo Alvarez. Mr. Alvarez is a former Regional Police Academy Cadet and made the Board aware of a complaint regarding his dismissal from the Academy and circumstances surrounding an opportunity to retest. Upon conclusion of Mr. Alvarez' comments Mr. Manuel Flores, Director of Regional Transit was recognized and presented Mr. Ruben Ruiz and Mr. Ruben Padilla. Both men are drivers for LRGVDC’s Regional Transit Services and placed in the 3rd Annual Rio Grande Valley Regional Bus Roadeo. Mr. Ruiz won 1st place in the Van Driver competition, and Mr. Padilla won 2nd place in the Para Transit competition. Next President Ingram recognized Ms. Estella DeAnda and Ms. Cecilia Mendoza with Women Together who made the Board aware of their dissatisfaction with the ranking of their application on the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) priority list for the General Victim Assistance Grant. Approval of this priority list is an Action Item under Homeland Security.

Upon conclusion of Public Comments and with the Board’s approval President Ingram moved to item 9.B.1.a. – General Victim Assistance Grant Priority Listing and Resolution and recognized CJAC Chair, Ms. Nancy P. Trevino. Ms. Trevino explained the ranking process and the reasoning behind the priority ranking for these grant funds. Upon conclusion of Ms. Trevino’s explanation, Mr. Jones presented four funding distribution options for the grant applications that could potentially provide full or partial funding to include the Women Together organization. Upon conclusion of discussion Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez made a motion for approval of the third option presented and stipulated that once all applications are funded, any remaining funds should be distributed based on the priority ranking to prevent any potential loss of grant funds to the region. Mayor Leo “Polo” Palacios seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of discussion and action the President moved to item 9.B.1.b. – Violent Crimes Against Women Criminal Justice Training Projects Priority Listing and Resolution and recognized Mr. Manuel Cruz. Mr. Cruz stated that the CJAC recommends Board approval for the FY 2011 Regional Priority Listing for the General Victim Assistance grants. Council Member Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion for approval of the priority list as presented. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action President Ingram moved to item 9.B.1.c. – Nomination for Criminal Justice Advisory
Committee. Mr. Cruz informed the Board that the CJAC nominated Edcouch Police Chief Eloy Cardenas to fill the vacant seat in the Law Enforcement Discipline. **Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez made a motion for approval of Chief Eloy Cardenas’ nomination to the CJAC. Mr. Roberto Loredo seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

Upon conclusion of action on the Criminal Justice items, President Ingram moved to item 3.B. – Consider Ratification of Executive Committee Action RE: Approval of Resolution Regarding Criminal Justice State Planning Grant and recognized Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones noted that this was a continuation resolution that required submittal prior to this meeting date and the Executive Committee gave their unanimous approval so the Criminal Justice Department would receive the $80,000 plus in State funding. **Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion to ratify the Executive Committee Action, Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

President Ingram next moved to item 3.C. – Presentation RE: Support for Law Enforcement Training by the F.B.I. given by Special Agent Carmen Portillo and recognized Mr. Paul Williams. Mr. Williams informed the Board that unfortunately Special Agent Portillo was unable to attend today and hopes to make this presentation at the next Board meeting. Mr. Williams informed the Board that the F.B.I. was offering special training to local law enforcement at no cost and staff will be seeking Board support for this training. At the conclusion of Mr. Williams report **Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to table this item until the next Board meeting. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

The President then moved to item 3.D. – Consider Board Member Appointment as Alternate to Represent LRGVDC on the Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) Board of Directors. Mayor Steve Brewer suggested Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez would be a good candidate to fill the alternate position. **Mayor Pro-tem Lupe Rodriguez made a motion to appoint Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez as the LRGVDC alternate for the TARC Board of Directors. Commissioner Roel Landa seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

Upon conclusion of action President Ingram moved to item 3.E. – Appointment of 2010-2011 Nominating Committee and recognized Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones stated a list of the 2009-2010 Nominating Committee was provided in the Board folders. Mr. Jones suggested continuing with the same members and added that any other Board Members are welcome to join this committee should they so desire. It was noted that Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez’ name was unintentionally omitted from the list presented and that correction will be made. **Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for approval of the Nominating Committee with correction. Mr. Don Medina seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

President Ingram then moved to item 3.F. - Status of Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Corporation Activities and recognized Mr. Joe Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez informed the Board that the Corporation is required to conduct at least two meetings per year and even though there is no action to consider at this time, Mr. Gonzalez reminded the Board that the LRGVDC has this non-profit organization should there be activities for the Corporation to consider.

The President next moved to item 3.G. – Schedule Meeting Dates and recognized Mr. Jones. Regarding item 3.G.1. - Nominating Committee Date. Mr. Jones stated that as Board President, Commissioner Ingram is the Chairman of the Nominating Committee and as such is able to select the meeting date. President Ingram will consider possible dates and get back to Mr. Jones. No action taken at this time.

Regarding item 3.G.2. – May Membership Meeting for Board Elections, Mr. Jones informed the Board that the Membership meeting usually coincides with the May Board of Directors meeting. **Mr. Don Medina made a motion to schedule the May Membership meeting on May 27, 2010. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

Upon conclusion of action President Ingram moved to item 3.H. – Presentation of Quarterly Investment
Report. Mr. Jones summarized the report and noted that this quarter’s figures were less by approximately $500,000 because of funds paid out from the 9-1-1 Program. **Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez made a motion for approval of the quarterly investment report as presented. Hon. Norma G. Garcia seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Upon conclusion of action President Ingram moved to item 4.A. – TRACS Report from Professional Advisory Review Panel (PARP) and recognized Mr. Oscar Cuellar. Mr. Cuellar informed the Board that PARP met on April 14, 2010, reviewed the following eight funding applications and is recommending favorable comments on all eight. Mr. Cuellar noted that application #8 was tabled at the last Board meeting. **Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to remove application #8 from the table. Mr. Roberto Loredo seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried.**

1. Neighbors in Need of Services Inc. – Head Start Program  
   $21,392,025.00 ...........................................DHHS

2. Neighbors in Need of Services Inc. – Early Head Start Program  
   $1,641,540.00 ...........................................DHHS

3. Brownsville ISD – Good Mental Health Yields Optimum Academic Performance  
   $1,116,000.00 ...........................................DOE

   $295,792.00 ...........................................DOE

5. Region One Education Service Center – Moving beyond Responding Emergencies: To Intentionally Practicing Prevention – Mitigation, Recovery & Preparedness  
   $594,889.00 ...........................................DOE

   $367,500.00 ...........................................DOE

7. University of Texas at Brownville & Texas Southmost College – UTB/TSC HEP Program  
   $363,674.00 ...........................................DOE

8. Town of Combes – Armadillo Road Park  
   $103,335.00 ...................................(Tabled March 25, 2010) ............................................TPWD

Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for approval of applications 1-8. **Mayor David Simmons seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Upon conclusion of action the President moved to item 4.B. – Consider PARP Recommendation RE: Membership Vacancies. Mr. Cuellar informed the Board that PARP nominated Mr. Ron Rogers to fill the existing member vacancy and PARP was recommending approval of this nomination. **Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for approval of Mr. Rogers' nomination. Mayor David Simmons seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of action Mr. Cuellar stated that some members have not attended meetings in a very long time. Mr. Jones will draft a letter to Judge Rene Ramirez notifying him of the Hidalgo County representative that does not attend.

Upon conclusion of action on item 4, President Ingram moved to item 5. - Report from Area Agency on Aging and recognized Mr. Joe Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez addressed item 5.A.1. – Consider Approval RE: Additional Vender to the Direct Purchased Services Vendor Pool and Tomas Curiel of Mercedes, TX was recommended
to provide home modifications. **Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion for approval of the additional vendor as recommended by the Advisory Council. Commissioner Roel Landa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

The President then moved to item 5.A.2. – Consider Approval RE: Authorizing Staff to Issue Requests for Proposals and Vendor Solicitations for Older American Act Services for Fiscal Year 2011. Mr. Gonzalez informed the Board that the amount of funds will be at the 2010 levels excluding any carryover funds and the special cash match will remain at the current 4% level not to exceed $17,500. The vendor solicitation will be for services not limited to: homemaker, transportation to medical facilities, home modifications, medications, medical supplies, durable medical equipment, adult day care, emergency response and respite care. **Mayor Pro-tem Lupe Rodriguez made a motion for approval as recommended by the Advisory Council. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

President Ingram moved to item 5.A.3. – Consider Approval RE: City of Los Fresnos Request for Social Service Block Grant (SSBG) Funds for Senior Center Repairs. Mr. Gonzalez stated that the Advisory Council recommends approval to award the City of Los Fresnos $25,000 in SSBG funds to repair the Senior Center, and the source is the de-obligation of SSBG administrative funds. **Commissioner Sofia Benavides made a motion for approval; Council Member Norie Gonzalez Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

The president then moved to item 5.A.4. – Consider Approval RE: Additional SSBG Funds for Rio Transit. Mr. Gonzalez reported that the Advisory Council recommends approval to award an additional $150,000 of SSBG funds to Rio Transit to continue the expanded routes up to September 30, 2010. **Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion for approval. Commissioner Sofia Benavides seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** At the conclusion of action Mr. Gonzalez informed the Board that the Status reports were in the Board folders.

President Ingram next moved to item 6. – Report from Economic Development Department. Ms. Terrie Salinas was finalizing the Economic Development & Emergency Management Conference and Mr. Jones was recognized in her stead. Regarding item 6.A.1. – LRGV Economic Development District (EDD) Hosts Regional EDA Training for South Texas (EDD’s) May 21, 2010. Mr. Jones opened the floor to Board members who had attended the Emergency Management Conference and all had positive comments on the event.

Regarding item 6.A.2. – Consider Approval RE: Consultant’s Recommendation for Creation of Steering and Technical Committees for the Regional Economic Adjustment Plan for BDRC, Mr. Dan Rios was recognized and summarized the responsibilities, the committee make-up and the proposed meeting schedule for both the committees. At the conclusion of the summary, Mr. Rios asked the Board to consider nominations to present for approval by the next Board meeting. Upon conclusion of Mr. Rios’ summary **Commissioner Celeste Sanchez made a motion for approval of the creation of a Steering Committee and a Technical Committee for the Regional Economic Adjustment Plan for BDRC. Mr. Mike Wilson seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

Upon conclusion of action President Ingram moved to item 6.B. – Lower Rio Grande Valley Regional Strategic Plan. Mr. Jones reported that staff was scheduling work sessions and have a tentative agenda prepared.

President Ingram then moved to item 7. – Report from Transportation Department and recognized Mr. Manuel Flores. Regarding item 7.A.1. – Consider Approval RE: Bylaws for Citizens Transit Advisory Committee (CTAC) Mr. Flores stated that the LRGVDC Transit department is creating a CTAC to increase public participation in transit and provide an advisory capacity to Rio Metro/Rio Transit. This Committee will foster residents from Hidalgo, Cameron, and Willacy Counties with eleven members that will be nominated by the Director of Transit and presented to the Board for approval. **Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for**
approval of the bylaws for the CTAC as presented. Mayor Steve Brewer seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

The President then moved to item 7.A.2. – Presentation RE: Status of Bus Shelter Installation and recognized Mr. Victor Morales. Mr. Morales distributed a handout with photographs of bus shelters being installed in La Feria, San Benito and Harlingen and reported the status of shelters in Santa Rosa, Primera, Weslaco, San Juan, Mercedes, Mission, Edinburg, Alamo and Pharr.

President Ingram then moved to item 7.A.3. – Program Status Reports and turned the floor over to Mr. Luis Guajardo. Mr. Guajardo brought the Board’s attention to item c. – Report on UTPA Summer Class Project and was excited to inform the Board that Transit staff is working with UTPA’s College of Communication to have senior level Public Relations/Advertising majors develop projects for Rio Metro/Rio Transit’s “rebranding”. This project will include the proposal of one name, logo, color scheme, slogans, mascot, etc. This partnership parallels the efforts to increase awareness of our services and at the same time taps into our local university for resources.

President Ingram then moved to item 8. - Reports from Regional Planning & Services and recognized Ms. Marcie Oviedo. Ms. Oviedo addressed item 9.A.2.a. – Solid Waste Management, Consider SWAC Recommendation RE: Membership Committee Appointments. SWAC recommends appoint Mr. Jimbo Bitner, Education; Ms. Grace Segovia, Medium City; Ms. Darla Jones, Small City; and Ms. Ann Rainwater, Private Citizen to serve on the committee. Mayor Steve Brewer made a motion for approval of the committee appointments as recommended by SWAC. Mr. Mike Wilson seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Regarding item 9.A.2.b. – Consider SWAC Recommendation RE: Consider Letter of Support for Allied Waste Transfer Station in La Feria. Ms. Oviedo informed the Board that a 30 acre parcel owned by Allied Waste and located in La Feria has recently been annexed and zoned as a classification “B” industrial district. This will allow Allied Waste to locate their Rio Grande Valley area operations center, which will consist of an administrative office, shop building, parking area and a transfer facility. Allied Waste is in the process of applying for a transfer station permit through the TCEQ and is seeking support from the LRGVDC. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez made a motion for approval of the letter of support for the Allied Waste Transfer Station in La Feria. Mayor Steve Brewer seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

The President then moved to item 8.B. – HUD Disaster Recovery Funding. Regarding item 1. – Consider Approval RE: Resolution for Timeliness of Urgent Need National Objective Documentation. Ms. Oviedo informed the Board that TDRA requires this resolution to accompany the Urgent Need National Object Form. According to the HUD regulations related to the urgent need national objective: in the absence of substantial evidence to the contrary, an activity will be considered to address this objective if the unit of general local government certifies and the state determines, that the activity is designed to alleviate existing conditions which pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community. The regulation for the use of the urgent need national objective says that the threat to health or welfare should be of recent origin and should generally be certified by the recipient within 18 months of the condition developing. Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion for approval of the resolution as presented. Mayor Steve Brewer seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action Mr. Jones provided the status of rounds 1 and 2 Disaster Recovery funding.

President Ingram then moved to item 9. - Homeland Security and recognized Mr. Manuel Cruz. Mr. Cruz address item 9.A.1. – Consider Approval RE: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) and the LRGVDC for the Loan of Citizen Corps Trailer. Mr. Cruz informed the Board that the Texas Citizen Corps Program announced that TARC was accepting competitive applications for a chance to win a Citizen Corps Trailer. The Texas Citizen Corps Program would award this trailer to the jurisdiction whose competitive application demonstrated the best plan for using the trailer to
promote the Citizen Corps Program as well as the Texas Homeland Security Strategy; emphasis on regional impact and use of the trailer were very important factors. Mr. Cruz announced that during the Texas Homeland Security Conference held in San Antonio this February the LRGVDC’s application was chosen. In order to take possession of the trailer a fully executed MOU must be submitted. Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for approval of the MOU as presented. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action Mr. Cruz stated that the Homeland Security Status reports were in the Board folders. Action was taken on the Criminal Justice Program items earlier, and Mr. Cruz stated that the Metropolitan Medical Response System Steering Committee status reports were in the Board folders.

President Ingram then moved to item 10. – 9-1-1 Department and recognized Mr. Steven Tice. Mr. Tice informed the Board that in addition to the regular status reports included in the Board packets, that April was National Telecommunicators Awareness Month and the LRGVDC 9-1-1 Department hosted an awards banquet for our region’s Telecommunicators who man the 9-1-1 phone lines and assist the our police and fire departments. Mr. Tice also informed the Board that the 9-1-1 Department has recently experienced a 5% budget reduction. This reduction was implemented by the State; Mr. Tice stated that local entities are fighting to have these dedicated funds, that are garnered from the .50¢ charge paid on each phone line, reinstated.

President Ingram next moved to item 11. - Regional Police Academy and recognized Mr. Paul Williams. Regarding item 11.A. – Consider Approval RE: LRGVDC Board Appointee to Police Advisory Committee Mr. Williams stated that per the newly amended bylaws of the Police Advisory Committee, one member of that committee is to be selected by and from the LRGVDC Board of Directors. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez made a motion to appoint Mayor Steve Brewer to the Police Advisory Committee. Commissioner Celeste Sanchez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action, and there being no other matters to come before the Board, Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned 3:49.

COMMISSIONER JOHN INGRAM, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

MAYOR CHRIS BOSWELL, 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

Deborah Morales, Recording Secretary

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