Mayor Chris Boswell called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. and asked Mr. Ken Jones to call roll. Upon completion of roll call it was ascertained that a quorum was present. The President then called on Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez for an opening prayer.

President Boswell then moved to agenda item 2. – Consider Approval RE: September 23, 2010 Meeting Minutes. Dr. Cesar Maldonado made a motion for approval of the minutes as presented. Commissioner Victor Perez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action on the minutes, President Boswell moved to item 3.A. – Public Comment and recognized Mr. Robert Jeffrey. Mr. Jeffrey brought to the Board's attention issues regarding bus route availability due to the service changes made to accommodate funding cuts. Next the President recognized Mr. Jesus Vega, Buckner Children & Family Services; Mr. Vega thanked the Board for assistance provided to one of their clients. Lastly President Boswell recognized Ms. Ann Cass, Proyeto Azteca/Equal Voice; Ms. Cass urged the Board to carefully consider awarding the contract to a management firm to implement the Regional Housing Disaster Recovery Program and to consider waiting at least 30 days before making a decision.

President Boswell next asked the Board's permission to take item 8.B1.a. – Consider Approval RE: Recommendation of Selected Management Firm(s) for Second Step of RFP Process out of order and recognized Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez, Chairman of the Housing Advisory Committee (HAC). Mayor Pro-tem Gonzalez introduced the members of the HAC that were present and acknowledged their hard work during this selection process. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez then made a motion to select URS Corporation as the Management Firm for the Regional Housing Disaster Recovery Program. Council Member Norie Gonzalez Garza seconded the motion. Commissioner Tito Palacios asked for a breakdown of the selection process. Mr. Ken Jones gave a summary of the process and stated that Camp Dresser & McKee, Inc. (CDM), URS Corporation (URS), and Beck Disaster Recovery, Inc. (BDR) were selected for the “short list” to provide presentations to the HAC; the interview process was thorough and lengthy, taking an entire afternoon and after business hours. At the conclusion of the scoring process URS was the highest ranked firm by a large margin.

Commissioner Edward Camarillo asked for the matrix used to gauge the ranking results and requested that information be provided in the Board folders. Mr. Don Medina questioned the process and the scoring criteria and suggested tabling this item until the next meeting and asking the three short listed firms to give their presentations to the full Board of Directors. Mr. Medina asked what was the rush to make a decision for a project that is so important to the Region.
Mayor Steve Brewer did not agree with Mr. Medina's recommendation to delay action and stated that the HAC was created in order to provide a non-biased recommendation to the full Board of Directors. Mayor Brewer stated that the presentation given by URS "blew away" the other two firms in regard to presentation and preparedness to begin the project.

Mayor Pro-tem Gonzalez emphasized that in taking action today the Board would not be rushing the decision, but following our schedule for the RFP process and the HAC had taken measures to ensure the process was followed accordingly. Mayor Pro-tem Gonzalez assured the Board that the HAC was fully aware how vital this project is to the Rio Grande Valley.

Mayor Orlando Correa questioned how a presentation can be the bottom line for this decision. Mayor Brewer stated that the physical presentation was the final test and extremely critical. The presentation given by URS demonstrated how the firm was going to handle outreach, how they would represent the COG and handle the whole program. URS by far demonstrated they were ready to hit the ground running in every aspect; one of the other firms did not even have a plan for outreach. Mayor Pro-tem Gonzalez added that URS was ready to start work on the project the day of the presentations and the other two firms were not. Mr. Medina reiterated his suggested that the three firms present to the full Board of Directors. Upon conclusion of discussion President Boswell called for a vote and the motion carried with two votes against.

Upon conclusion of action President Boswell moved to item 3.B. – Presentation RE: Board Recognition. Commissioner Victor Perez was presented a plaque for dedicated service to the LRGVDC Board of Directors.

Upon conclusion of the presentation the President moved to item 3.C. – Presentation of Quarterly Investment Report. Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for approval of the Quarterly Investment Report. Commissioner Edward Camarillo seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

President Boswell next moved to item 3.D. – Schedule Dates RE: November and December Board meetings. Mr. Don Medina made a motion to schedule the November Board Meeting for the 18th and not schedule a meeting in December. Hon. Norma G. Garcia seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action, President Boswell moved to item 4.A. – TRACS Report from Professional Advisory Review Panel (PARP) and recognized Ms. Marcie Oviedo. Mr. Oviedo informed the Board that the PARP met on October 13, 2010 and reviewed the following applications; application 1 was tabled due to no representation at the meeting. The PARP recommended approval of applications 2-6.

1. Raymondville I.S.D. – Library Initiative Grant $100,000.00..................................................DOE
2. The Pharr Literacy Project, Incorporated – The Pharr Literacy IGNITE Project $99,500.00..........................................................USDA
3. Lower Rio Grande Valley Community Health Management Corporation, Inc. dba El Milagro Clinic – Primary Health Care $1,199,719.00..........................................................DSHS
4. Willacy County – Willacy County Fire Equipment Project $94,000.00..........................................................USDA
5. Willacy County – S&W Colonia Street Drainage Improvements Project  
$1,187,655.00 ................................................................. USDA

6. Willacy County – S&W Colonia Street Improvements Project  
$1,825,432.00 ................................................................. USDA

Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to approve applications 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 and to table application 1 as recommended by PARP. Mayor Joel Quintanilla seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of action on item 4, President Boswell moved to item 5. - Report from Area Agency on Aging and asked for a motion on items 5.A.1. – Consider Approval RE: Adding Vendors to the Direct Purchased Services Pool; 5.A.2. Consider Approval to Close Solicitation for Vendors RE: Direct Purchased Services; 5.A.3. – Consider Approval to Authorize Staff to Respond to National Council on Aging (NCoA) Requests for Proposals RE: Establishing a Benefit Enrollment Center; 5.A.4. – Consider Approval of Proposal RE: Aging and Disability Resource Center for the Lower Rio Grande Valley; and 5.A.5. – Consider Approval of Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) Advisory Council. Mayor Joel Quintanilla made a motion to approve all the above items as recommended by the Advisory Council. Mr. Don Medina seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

President Boswell next moved to item 6. – Report from Economic Development and recognized Ms. Terrie Salinas. Ms. Salinas gave status reports on the Business Hurricane Information & Training Project (B-HIT); and LRGVDC’s Workshop – “Regional Flood Control: Its Impact on Our Economy and Quality of Life”. The Status Report on the Regional Economic Adjustment Plan was provided by Ms. Sharlotte Teague of S&B Infrastructure. Regarding item 6.A.3.a. – Nomination Recommendation for Technical Committee Member Vacancy, Ms. Teague informed the Board that Mr. Mike Wilson recently resigned his position on the Technical Committee and the Committee is seeking recommendations for his replacement. Mr. Don Medina suggested Willacy County Judge-Elect John Gonzalez; this item will be on the next agenda for action.

Upon conclusion of the EDA status reports President Boswell moved to item 7. – Report from Transportation Department and asked for a motion on items 7.A.1. – Consider Approval RE: Drug & Alcohol Policy Amendment; 7.A.2. – Discussion and Possible Action RE: Regional Transit Authority Workgroup; 7.A.3. – Consider Approval RE: Request to Begin Bid Process for All Season Tires. Mayor Leo “Polo” Palacios made a motion for approval of all the above items as presented. Mayor Joel Quintanilla seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

President Boswell then moved to item 8. - Reports from Regional Planning & Services and noted that items 8.A.1. & 2. - Natural Resources Status Reports were in the Board folders, then asked for a motion on items 8.B.1.b. – Consider Approval RE: Adding Ex-Officio Members to Regional Housing Advisory Committee and item 8.B.2. – Consider Approval RE: Submittal of LRGVDC Housing Application to TDHCA. Mr. Roberto Loredo made a motion for approval of all the above items as presented. Commissioner Edward Camarillo seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action the President noted that the HUD Disaster Recovery Funding Program Status Report was in the Board folders for review.

Approval RE: Increase LRGVDC Regional Communications Preventative Maintenance Contribution Amount for NPSPAC Sites & Adoption as Local Eligibility Requirements for Future Homeland Security Funding; and 9.A.4. – Consider Approval RE: De-obligation of City of Weslaco FY 2008 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Allocation of $182,200 and Allocate Funding to LRGVDC for Interoperable Communication Equipment. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez made a motion for approval of all the above mentioned items as presented. Mayor Joel Quintanilla seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action President Boswell stated that the HSAC Status Reports were in the Board folders for review.

The President then moved to item 9.B. – Criminal Justice Program and asked for a motion on items 9.B.1. – Consider Approval RE: Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Revised Policy Manual; 9.B.2. – Consider Approval RE: Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Revised By-Laws; 9.B.3. – Consider Approval RE: Nomination for Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC); and 9.B.4. – Consider Approval RE: Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Membership List for the Office of the Governor’s Criminal Justice Division. Mayor Joel Quintanilla made a motion for approval of all the above noted items. Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action President Boswell stated that the Criminal Justice Program Status Reports were in the Board folders for review.

President Boswell next moved to item 9.C. – Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) and asked for a motion on items 9.C.1. – Consider Approval RE: MMRS Steering Committee Recommendation of the MMRS By-Law Changes of Incorporation of the Immediate Past Chair; 9.C.2. – Consider Approval RE: The MMRS Steering Committee Recommendations for the FY 2010 Budget for Purchasing Equipment and Planning; and 9.C.3. – Consider Authorization to Initiate Purchase RE: Mortuary Trailer(s). Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion for approval of the above noted items. Commissioner Edward Camarillo seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action the President stated that the MMRS Status Reports and the Status Reports for the 9-1-1 Department and the Regional Police Academy and Training Center were in the Board folders for review.

There being no further action to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

MAYOR CHRIS BOSWELL, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

MAYOR PRO-TEM ALVIN SAMANO, 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

Deborah Morales, Recording Secretary