Item #1: Call to Order

A. Roll Call
B. Invocation
C. Pledge of Allegiance

Item #2: Consider Approval of Meeting Minutes (January 31, 2018 Board, General Membership & Corporation)

Item #3: Public Comment and/or Report from Legislative Delegation

Item #4: Administration

A. Consider Approval to Open Checking Account for Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council Corporation with Executive Director, Ron Garza, and Finance Director, Crystal Balboa, as Signatories  ......................................................................................... Ron Garza
B. Executive Director Report

- Introduction of New Staff Members
- LRGVDC Updates & Activities
  - 2018 Program Orientation Schedule
  - BikeShare RGV
  - Explore RGV
    1. Consider Approval to Procure Contractual Services
      - RGV 2020 (CEDS)
      - RGV Fit 5K and Mayors’ Walk for Wellness (It’s Time Texas Community Challenge)

Item #5: Department Reports

A. Economic Development

Economic Development Status Report ................................................................. Terrie G. Salinas, Director

- Regional Small Cities Coalition Meeting
- Kari’s Law Project

B. Community & Environmental Services

Community Development Status Report ............................................................. Marcie Oviedo, Director

- HUD Disaster Recovery Housing Program

Environmental Resources Status Report

- Solid Waste Management Program

- Water Resources
  1. Consider Approval of Resolution 2018–02 in Support of Application to US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) for WaterSmart Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP)
• Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group (Region M)
• Reservoir Levels

C. Health & Human Services

Area Agency on Aging (AAoA) Status Reports ......................................................... Jose L. Gonzalez, Director

1. Consider Approval of Advisory Council Recommendation RE: Housing Bond Request for Proposals

ACTION ITEM

2. Consider Approval of Advisory Council Recommendation RE: Appointment of New Advisory Council Member

ACTION ITEM

• Health and Human Services Office of Area Agencies on Aging

D. Public Safety

Criminal Justice Status Report ..................................................................................... Manuel Cruz, Director

• Criminal Justice Division (CJD) Grant Opportunity FY 2018
• Regional Crime Victim’s Liaison Program
• Office of the Governor’s Criminal Justice Division – Meet Your Grant Coordinator

Emergency Communications Status Report ................................................................. Manuel Cruz, Director

• Location Validation Program
• Database Program
• Mapping Program
• System and Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Operations Program
• Public Education/Training Program

Homeland Security Status Report .............................................................................. Manuel Cruz, Director

1. Consider Approval of FY 2018 Homeland Security Grant Program Resolutions

ACTION ITEM

• Homeland Security Program & Funding Opportunity FY 2018
• Citizen Corps Program (CCP)/Preparedness
• FY 2016 Homeland Security Grant Program
• FY 2017 Homeland Security Grant Program
Regional Police Academy Status Report .......................... Randall Snyder, Training Coordinator

1. Consider Approval of Revised Basic Peace Officer Course Rules Handbook
   
   • In-Service Training Hours Reported
   • Basic Peace Officer Academy Cadets Enrolled
   • March 2018 In-Service Schedule
   • Basic Peace Officer Course Upcoming Academies
   • Academy Graduation Dates

E. Transportation

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization Status Report ........ Andrew Canon, Director

Valley Metro Status Report ............................................................................. Tom Logan, Director

   • Ridership Report
   • Regional Transportation Advisory Panel (RTAP) Activity

Item #7: New or Unfinished Business

Item #8: Adjourn

*REMINDER*

Next Meeting Date:
Wednesday, March 28, 2018

Agenda items may be considered, deliberated and/or acted upon in a different order than numbered above.

The Board of Directors of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council reserves the right to adjourn into Executive (Closed) session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the items listed on this agenda as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapters 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, and 551.075, Texas Government Code. No final action will be taken in Executive Session.

PUBLIC INPUT POLICY:
At the beginning of each LRGVDC meeting, the LRGVDC will allow for an open public forum/comment period. This comment period shall not exceed one-half (1/2) hour in length and each speaker will be allowed a maximum of three (3) minutes to speak. All individuals desiring to address the LRGVDC must be signed up to do so prior to the open comment period. The purpose of this comment period is to provide the public an opportunity to address issues or topics that are under the jurisdiction of the LRGVDC. For issues or topics which are not otherwise part of the posted agenda for the meeting, LRGVDC members may direct staff to investigate the issue or topic further. No action or discussion shall be taken on issues or topics which are not part of the posted agenda for the meeting. Members of the public may be recognized on posted agenda items deemed appropriate by the Chair as these items are considered, and the same 3 minute time limitation applies.
ITEM #2.

MINUTES
President Ambrosio “Amos” Hernandez called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. Roll call was taken for both the Board of Directors and the General Membership and a quorum was declared for both entities.

The President then moved to item 2: Consider Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. September 27, 2017 General Membership Meeting
   Mayor Pro-tem Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion to approve the September 27, 2017 General Membership Meeting Minutes as presented. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

B. December 6, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting
   Arturo Ramirez made a motion to approve the December 6, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Ronald Mills seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

President Hernandez then moved to item 3: Public Comment and/or Report from Legislative Delegation. Mr. Ron Whitlock, Shephard Group, was recognized and shared his successful promotion of the Rio Grande Valley in Washington DC by gifting red grapefruit to points of contact in the Nation’s Capital.

Upon conclusion of Public Comments the President moved to item 4: Administration and recognized Executive Director Ron Garza to address the following items:

A. Act on Recommendations from Annual Work Program and Budget Committee Regarding Adoption of FY 2018 Annual Work Program & Budget
   Mr. Garza stated that the Annual Work Program (AWP) & Budget Committee meeting was held on January 23 with Mayor David Suarez presiding. The Committee reviewed the newly revised and streamlined AWP & Budget document which was posted on lrgvdc.org for review and comment. Mr. Garza stated that the AWP section of the document is the service program that outlines LRGVDC’s goals, objectives, and performance measures and that no substantive comments have been received. He then summarized the changes from the 2017 Budget to the 2018 Budget as presented to the Committee and noted that no revisions were recommended. Committee Chair Suarez stated that the committee unanimously recommends approval of the 2018 AWP & Budget. Mr. Eddy Gonzalez made a motion to adopt the 2018 Annual Work...
Program & Budget as presented. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

B. Consider Approval of Quarterly and Annual Investment Reports
Mayor Chris Boswell made a motion to approve the Quarterly and Annual Investment Reports as presented. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

C. Executive Director Report

- Introduction of New Staff Members
  Mr. Garza stated that this will be a standing agenda item moving forward. He would like to invite and encourage all new staff members, at all levels, during their first month of employment to attend a Board of Directors meeting. He considers it important for staff to have this experience to help them understand the scope of what the LRGVDC does. Mr. Garza announced that the LRGVDC has two new employees: Mr. Jesse Vargas came on board as an Instructor for the Regional Police Academy and has already been sent to training, so he was unable to attend. Next he introduced Mr. Fernando Zapata, Vehicle Technician with Valley Metro who was warmly welcomed by the Board.

- Internet Sales Tax Collection Discussion
  Mr. Garza introduced Draft Resolution 2018-01 Supporting the Ability of Municipalities to Collect Online Sales Tax. He stated that McAllen Mayor Jim Darling brought this to his attention and that it is a critical topic for this region. The City of Harlingen adopted a similar resolution which was used as a template for this draft. Mr. Garza explained that the U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to revisit a 25-year-old ruling; they will review it and consider allowing state and local governments to collect sales tax from online retailers. Mayor Darling added that 25 years ago the internet was less robust and the technology to keep track of where buyers live did not exist, so the original arguments are no longer supported. Upon conclusion of discussion Mr. Troy Allen made a motion to approve Resolution 2018 - 01 as presented. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

- LRGVDC Updates & Activities
  Mr. Garza announced that yesterday the LRGVDC hosted the U.S. Census Bureau for a 2020 Census Workshop and noted that the deadline to submit comments to the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) Program was yesterday, but this region has been allowed a short extension until the end of today to update any entities that are not listed. He stated that the LRGVDC was in the process of creating a network of individuals from Valley municipalities that will be working on census planning to ensure that the best practices from across the region will be used in 2020.

  Ms. Erica Reyna from the Hidalgo County Judge’s Office was recognized and expressed appreciation for the LUCA training received yesterday. She stated that the 2020 Census will be conducted differently than in the past in that online responses will be available and encouraged; and she expressed concern that with this new technology, underserved populations may not be properly counted. She stated that Hidalgo County has started a committee and they will strive for a regional approach in order to send a unified message. She stated that Hidalgo County seeks a partnership with the LRGVDC to utilize resources
the COG specializes in, such as the 9-1-1 Program, to help with address locations.

Ms. Reyna informed the Board that for the 2020 Census, the Valley will have its first local area Census Office, which is a major milestone. The County is being asked by the U.S. Census Bureau to create a complete Census Committee. This committee will have sub-committees in categories such as: Business, Education, Local Leadership, and Non-Profit Organizations to name a few. The first meeting of the Census Committee is scheduled for March 8 and staff from the Regional Office in Denver will be in the Valley to assist in its establishment and explain what is expected.

- **Road-to-Recycling**
  Mr. Garza announced that the Tire Recycling Tour to Arkansas has been rescheduled to March due to an unexpected medical situation in Arkansas.

- **2018 Program Orientations**
  Mr. Garza suggested continuing LRGVDC Program Orientations each quarter in 2018. *Mayor Henry Hinojosa made a motion to continue having Program Orientations once a quarter in 2018 at 11:00 am prior to the Board Meetings. Mr. Ron Mills seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

- **BikeShare RGV**
  Mr. Garza informed the Board that this committee has great regional participation, and that each month a different bike rental company is invited to present their bicycles and rental systems. He anticipates a recommendation will be made in the late spring for a seamless bike share system across the Valley.

- **Explore RGV**
  Mr. Garza reminded the Board that this is a regional tourism project funded by a grant through the EDA. The first stakeholder forum is scheduled for February 8, and that this project will be a compilation of all fixed assets in the Valley. He informed the Board that the RGV Partnership has agreed to contribute resources to this project and will publish a hard copy when the project is finalized. He then presented the logo for the project which is very colorful and has a retro look. The project’s website is [www.goexplorergv.com](http://www.goexplorergv.com); the twitter page is #ExploreRGV; and the Facebook and Instagram pages are GoexploreRGV. Staff is working to attain the uniform handle of “goexplorergv” and have had difficulty with this due to domain rights issues.

- **RGV 2020 (CEDS)**
  Mr. Garza encouraged the Board to share information on the RGV 2020 project which is a special edition of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Public input is needed to complete this regional plan and can be given via an online survey and/or at three different forums scheduled in the middle of February at different locations throughout the Valley.

- **It’s Time Texas Community Challenge**
  Mr. Garza stated that he brought this before the Board because of the amazing results achieved so far by Valley cities on a statewide level through this wonderful initiative. He thanked the cities that are participating in the challenge, and turned the floor over to Ms. Cindy Salazar-Collier, It’s Time Texas Regional Coordinator.
Ms. Salazar-Collier gave a brief summary of the organization and stated that the It’s Time Texas Community Challenge will run from January 8 – March 4, 2018. This is a one-of-a-kind statewide competition that challenges communities of all sizes to demonstrate their commitment to healthy living.

Mr. Garza asked the Board if they would like to consider hosting a “Mayors’ March” event that could include a 1-mile Fun Run and a 5K Race that would serve as a demonstration of wellness across the region. He suggested holding the event during the last weekend of the challenge at a central location such as Weslaco. Should this become an annual event, the location could move around to other cities each year. Mr. Arturo Ramirez made a motion to approve holding a Mayors’ March in Weslaco on March 3 as suggested by Mr. Garza. Mayor Pro-tem Norie Gonzalez Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Upon conclusion of Administration items, President Hernandez moved to item 5: Department Reports.

A. Economic Development

1. Consider Approval of Regional Small Cities Coalition (RSCC) Officers
Ms. Terrie Salinas was recognized and informed the Board that the RSCC nominated the following officers:
   - Chairman - Rolando Vela, Laguna Vista City Manager
   - Secretary/Treasurer - Lydia Moreno, Lyford City Secretary
   - Member-at-Large 2 - Pete de la Cruz, Edcouch Planning Director

Mr. Arturo Ramirez made a motion to approve the RSCC officers as presented. Mr. Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action Ms. Salinas gave the status report on the December 2017 RSCC meeting.

Mr. Matt Ruszcak, Rio South Texas Economic Council Executive Director, was recognized and announced that the next session in the Building Blocks series will be held on February 7 from 8:00 am to 11:30 am at LRGVDC’s Ken Jones Executive Board Room. He encouraged the Board Members to come and hear the main speaker, Ms. Jordan Robinson, Strategic Business Development Manager of the Office of Governor Greg Abbot, Economic Development & Tourism.

B. Community & Environmental Services
Director Marcie Oviedo was recognized and stated that the status reports on the HUD Disaster Recovery Housing Program, Solid Waste Management, and Water Resources were available for review in the meeting packet.

C. Health & Human Services
Area Agency on Aging Assistant Director Richard Flores was recognized and stated that the status reports on Age Well Live Well VISTA Project and the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) were in meeting packet for review.

D. Public Safety
President Hernandez next recognized Public Safety Director Manuel Cruz to address the following:
Criminal Justice Program Status Reports

1. Consider Approval of FY 2018 Criminal Justice Division – Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Project Resolution
   Mr. Cruz stated that in accordance with the Office of the Governor’s – Criminal Justice Division, grant applications must include a resolution that contains specific information relevant to the FY 2018 CJD grant funding cycle. Upon approval, the resolution will be uploaded and included with the application on e-Grants. Staff requested support and approval to apply for a two year VOCA grant to continue with the Regional Crime Victim Liaison Project. If approved, this project will continue to benefit the region by providing assistance directly to victims of crime in order to speed their recovery and aid them through the criminal justice process. **Mr. Arturo Ramirez made a motion to approve the VOCA Grant Project Resolution as presented. Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

2. Emergency Communications Status Report

   1. Consider Approval to Purchase KV Switches for 9-1-1 PSAP Workstations
      Mr. Cruz informed the Board that due to the increase in 9-1-1 calls, there is a need for additional technology such as computers and monitors at each workstation. Instead of having three or four separate keyboard and mouse combinations at each workstation, a KV switch gives the Telecommunicator the ability to have a single keyboard and mouse for up to four different computers and monitors. This will assist call takers by increasing response time during emergencies. Staff requested Board approval to begin the procurement process to purchase KV switches for 48 workstations for a total cost of $33,360.00. **Commissioner Danny Guzman made a motion to approve the purchase of KV switches for 9-1-1 PSAP Workstations as requested. Mayor Pro-tem Pete Garcia seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of action Mr. Cruz gave the program departmental status updates highlighting the efforts the 9-1-1 Department staff is making to assist in the 2020 Census.

Homeland Security Program Status Report

1. Consider Approval of Homeland Security Advisory Committee Recommendations for FY 2018 Chair and Vice Chair
   Mr. Cruz reported that in accordance with the HSAC bylaws the committee held elections for officers on January 4 for FY 2018 and elected the following:
   - Chair - Ms. Odee Leal, City of Brownsville Emergency Management Coordinator
   - Vice Chair - Mr. Tony Lopez, City of Weslaco Fire Chief/Emergency Management Coordinator
   **Mr. Ron Mills made a motion to approve the Homeland Security Advisory Committee’s recommendations for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair as presented. Commissioner David Fuentes seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

2. Consider Approval of Homeland Security Advisory Committee Scoring Instruments
   Mr. Cruz reported that in accordance with the FY 2017/2018 LRGVDC Intercooperative
Agreement with the Office of the Governor’s Homeland Security Grant Division (HSGD), staff recommends Board review and approval of the Homeland Security Advisory Committee’s Scoring Instruments for the FY 2018 HSGD Grant funding cycle. The two scoring instruments for the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA) funding categories are to be used for the HSAC’s application review and prioritization process. Scoring instruments are reviewed annually to align with regional and state guidelines and priorities. Mr. Arturo Ramirez made a motion to approve the HSAC Scoring Instruments as presented. Mayor Pro-tem Pete Garcia seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

3. Consider Approval of FY 2018 Homeland Security Grant Program Resolutions
Mr. Cruz reported that in accordance with the Office of the Governor’s Homeland Security Grant Division, grant applications must include a resolution that contains specific information relevant to the FY 2018 HSGP grant funding cycle. Upon approval, the resolutions will be uploaded and included with the application on eGrants. These resolutions are specifically for the LRGVDC Regional Planning Services Grant and the Texas Task Force RGV Type 3 Team Enhancement Grant. Commissioner Danny Guzman made a motion to approve both the LRGVDC Regional Planning Services Grant Resolution and the Texas Task Force RGV Type 3 Team Enhancement Grant Resolution as presented. Mr. Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Regional Police Academy Status Report

Mr. Cruz was again recognized and gave the status report for the Regional Police Academy.

E. Transportation

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization Status Report
Andrew Canon, Director of the HCMPO, was recognized and reported that the Expressway Illumination Project is moving forward with the installation of brighter LED lights and is scheduled for completion in November 2018. He also announced that May is Motorcycle and Bicycle Awareness Month and that there is a Motorcycle Awareness Ride scheduled for May 5, 2018.

Valley Metro Status Report

1. Consider Approval of Revisions to Drug and Alcohol Policy
Mr. Tom Logan, Valley Metro Director, was recognized and stated that the revisions to the Drug and Alcohol Policy are minor in nature and are intended to reflect changes in the Federal Transit Administration guidelines in order to maintain compliance. Mr. Eddy Gonzalez made a motion to approve the revisions to the Drug and Alcohol Policy as presented. Mayor Pro-tem Pete Garcia seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously. Upon conclusion of action Mr. Logan gave the current Ridership Report noting that there has been a 35% year-to-date increase in Valley Metro’s ridership.

President Hernandez next move to item 6: Executive Session

A. Personnel Matters pursuant to Section 551-074 (1) to deliberate the appointment, employment,
evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee RE: Executive Director Annual Performance Evaluation.

At 1:13 pm Mr. Eddy Gonzalez made a motion to go into Executive Session; Mr. Ronald Mills seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

At 1:20 pm Mayor Jim Darling made a motion to return to regular session; Mayor Henry Hinojosa seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jim Darling then made a motion to approve a 2% salary increase for Mr. Ron Garza, Executive Director. Mr. Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

President Hernandez next moved to item 13. – New or Unfinished Business; there being none, Mr. Eddy Gonzalez a motion to adjourn; Mayor Pro-tem Norie Gonzalez Garza seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 1:22 pm.

ATTEST:

Mayor Ambrosio “Amos” Hernandez, President

Deborah Morales, Recording Secretary
ITEM #4.

ADMINISTRATION

B. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Item #4: Administration

B. Executive Director Report

- LRGVDC Updates & Activities
  - **2018 Program Orientation Schedule**
    Program orientations are aimed at providing Board Members in-depth knowledge of our programs, corresponding advisory committees, recent accomplishments, and a venue for feedback and guidance.

**Proposed Schedule**

Orientations will be held from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Session 1: March 28**
Transportation
- Valley Metro
- Hidalgo County MPO

**Session 2: June 27**
Public Safety
- Criminal Justice
- Emergency Communications
- Homeland Security
- Regional Police Academy

**Session 3: September 26**
Community & Environmental Services, and Economic Development
- HUD Disaster Recovery Housing Program
- Solid Waste Management Program
- Water Resources

Economic Development

**Session 4: December 5**
Health & Human Services
- Area Agency on Aging
- RIO-Net ADRC

ACTION ITEM
Item #4: Administration

B. Executive Director Report

- LRGVDC Updates & Activities
  - Explore RGV
    1. Consider Approval to Procure Contractual Services

Explore RGV will be moving to the second major phase of this project by procuring a vendor to design and develop an interactive website and mobile app. In the event that this service exceeds $25,000, Board approval is sought in order to move forward with procurement services. LRGVDC’s Procurement Policy requires approval from the Board of Directors to begin this purchasing process.
ITEM #5. A.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Item #5: Department Reports

A. Economic Development Status Report .......................... Terrie G. Salinas, Director

- Regional Small Cities Coalition Meeting

This month’s Regional Small Cities Coalition meeting was held in LRGVDC’s Ken Jones Executive Board Room. Mr. Ron Garza, Executive Director hosted the meeting so it would coincide with the Explore RGV Forum that was held immediately following. Mr. Garza provided LRGVDC’s schedule of events and invited members to attend one or all the exciting projects. This month’s speaker was Mr. Michael Leo, Director of Economic Development for the Office of Hidalgo County Judge Ramon Garcia. Mr. Leo presented the “Hidalgo County Small Town Economic Development Grant Program”. This project strives to encourage Hidalgo County residents to develop and grow new ideas or promote business expansion. This project will provide participants with support and resources for the development of their business proposals. All proposals will be presented before an evaluation committee for consideration and input. Applicants will be subject to a written evaluation of a business plan and an oral presentation before the evaluation committee. Qualifying entrants can request an amount not to exceed $20,000 in grant funds and since there is a very short window of opportunity for these funds, those interested should contact Mr. Leo or his staff as soon as possible. The County requires six (6) hard copies and one (1) electronic copy of the final plan. These applications are due at the Hidalgo County Judge’s office at 100 E. Cano, Edinburg, TX 78539 on or before May 31, 2018, with no exceptions. Several other reports and updates were provided during meeting. The next meeting will be hosted by the Town of Rancho Viejo.

- Kari’s Law Project

The 9-1-1 Department and Economic Development Department have once again joined together to provide businesses and the public with information and resources on Kari’s Law. In 2015 this law was enacted requiring direct access to 9-1-1 from a Multi-Line Telephone System without having to first dial a prefix or other access codes. For example, some businesses require that you dial a 9 before you can get an outside line. This law ensures that businesses provide direct access to 9-1-1 in case of an emergency. For more information or to schedule a staff presentation, please contact the Economic Development Director. A copy of the state flyer is attached.
Callers to dial 9-1-1 directly, without needing to enter an extra digit or a unique dialing code for an outside line.

Don’t “intercept” 9-1-1 calls by allowing them to be answered by a front desk or by anyone other than a public safety answering point call-taker. Interfering with a request for emergency assistance is a violation of Texas Penal Code § 42.062.

“When consumers dial 9-1-1, they need to reach emergency personnel; it shouldn’t matter whether they are using the public-switched telephone network (or PSTN), a VoIP application, or a wireless phone. Neither should it matter whether they are using a phone at a hotel, motel, or office building. If you dial 911 in a large building, you need to reach someone qualified to help. And you should be able to do so: The technology to make that happen already exists.”

- Ajit Pai, FCC Commissioner

“There are lives at stake, we know, like Kari’s, and I believe we have an obligation to act to keep tragedies like Kari’s from happening again.”

-Texas Senator John Cornyn

Contact your MLTS Manager/Operator to determine how your system is configured for outgoing calls to 9-1-1.

Work with your local 9-1-1 agency to test calls made from your facility to 9-1-1.

Visit the Kari’s Law website at www.texas911.org/karislaw for more information or to obtain a one-year waiver, if needed.

avoid these common problems

where to get information on MLTS issues and solutions

“DO YOU HAVE DIRECT ACCESS TO 9-1-1 FROM YOUR MLTS PHONE?”

ACCESSING 9-1-1 USING A MULTI-LINE TELEPHONE SYSTEM (MLTS)

practical information for:

HOTELS | MOTELS | DORMS
SCHOOLS | HOSPITALS | BUSINESSES

333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 2-212, Austin, TX 78701 
(512) 305-6911
www.csec.texas.gov

333 Guadalupe Street
Suite 2-212
Austin, Texas 78701
If you operate a Multi-Line Telephone System or Private Branch Exchange (MLTS or PBX) in your school, hotel, hospital, or other business, it is important for you to know the issues that arise in calling 9-1-1 from these types of phones.

Some MLTS phones require an extra digit, often a “9”, to be entered for an outside line. This can cause a problem, especially when people are taught to dial 9-1-1 and not “9,9-1-1.”

Other MLTS phones might direct you to dial another digit before getting access to an outside line to call 9-1-1. Even more alarming are phones where you must dial several digits before getting to an outside line. This problem must be fixed in order to make sure everyone has access to emergency services.

In 2015 Kari’s Law was enacted requiring direct access to 9-1-1 from a MLTS phone without having to first dial a prefix or other access code. MLTS service providers have indicated that there would be little to no cost to update the MLTS configuration to allow direct access to 9-1-1. This simple change could potentially save lives.

There are several options available in ensuring that MLTS phones can directly dial 9-1-1 in the event of an emergency. Contact your MLTS provider to confirm that your phone can directly dial 9-1-1. You can also contact your local 9-1-1 coordinator to help assist with test calls and to provide public education on Kari’s Law. For more information, please visit www.texas911.org/karislaw.

“Seconds count and when a 9-year old little girl is mature and brave enough to attempt to dial 9-1-1 for help, she should be answered.”

- Hank Hunt, Kari’s Law

It is the responsibility of the Business Service User to update and maintain your MLTS/PBX system so that 9-1-1 calls get through to 9-1-1. If you find that your system cannot meet standards, you must fill out a waiver and submit it to www.texas911.org/karislaw.
ITEM #5. B.

COMMUNITY &
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
B. Community & Environmental Services ...................................Marcie Oviedo, Director

Community Development Status Report

- HUD Disaster Recovery Housing Program

The LRGVDC executed a contract with Texas General Land Office (GLO) for Hurricane Dolly Disaster Recovery Affordable Rental Program (DRARP) on October 12, 2012.

Additional funds have been awarded to two Multi-Family Rental Projects for additional units: Willacy White House Project (11 units) and South Texas Economic Development Corporation – Donna Project (8 units).

Construction has been completed on all 11 units of the Willacy White House Project, and South Texas Economic Development Corporation will begin construction on the Donna Project early next month.
Item #5: Department Reports

B. Community & Environmental Services ............................................. Marcie Oviedo, Director

Environmental Resources Status Report

- Solid Waste Management Program


The SWAC met Tuesday, February 6, 2018, to review and score FY 2018/2019 Solid Waste Grant Applications received. Nine (9) applications were reviewed, scored and ranked. Below is a list of the ranking; Board approval is needed to submit to TCEQ for their approval. Thank you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicants</th>
<th>Funded Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Weslaco – Source Reduction &amp; Recycling</td>
<td>$30,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of South Padre Island – Source Reduction &amp; Recycling</td>
<td>$30,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of San Juan – Source Reduction &amp; Recycling</td>
<td>$11,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Port Isabel – Education &amp; Training</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidalgo County – Other - Technical Study</td>
<td>$30,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameron County – Education &amp; Training</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Alton – Source Reduction &amp; Recycling</td>
<td>$12,082.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of San Benito – Other - Litter &amp; Illegal Dumping Cleanup and Community Events</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of South Padre Island – Education &amp; Training</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACTION ITEM

- Staff continues to provide technical assistance and outreach and continues to monitor all Solid Waste Management Projects. All information pertaining to the Solid Waste Program is available at [www.lrgvdc.org/solidwaste.html](http://www.lrgvdc.org/solidwaste.html)
Item #5:  Department Reports

B.  Community & Environmental Services .......................... Marcie Oviedo, Director

Environmental Resources Status Report

- Water Resources

1. Consider Approval of Resolution 2018-02 in Support of Application to US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) for WaterSmart Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP).

The main goal of this project is the preliminary development of the Lower Laguna Madre Watershed Planning Group. LRGVDC will be partnering with the Counties of Willacy, Hidalgo and Cameron, the UTRGV the Cameron County Coastal Cities Task Force and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Task Force for this project. This is a two (2) year Project which will mainly be to partially fund a Watershed Coordinator. This project aims to begin the preliminary assessment of sub-watersheds associated with the Raymondville Drain, the Hidalgo/Willacy Floodway and the IBWC Floodway. The Arroyo Colorado is currently managed by a watershed protection plan associated with the USEPA’s Clean Water Act. Through this project the water quality in the Lower Laguna Madre Watershed will be characterized by collecting existing data from various sources, identifying the causes of water quality impairments and issues, identification of sources of pollution, quantification of pollutant loadings from these sources and inventory of the data from the watershed. These major waterways contribute freshwater and stormwater to the Lower Laguna Madre.

Thank you. This agenda item requires Board Action.
RESOLUTION 2018-02

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION (USBOR) FOR THE WATERSMART COOPERATIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (CWMP)

Whereas the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) is the Regional Council of Governments serving Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy Counties; and,

Whereas the LRGVDC coordinates regional planning efforts with the Lower Rio Grande Valley and,

Whereas the LRGVDC recognizes that an adequate quality water supply is the economic lifeline for the Lower Rio Grande Valley; and,

Whereas the LRGVDC is submitting a proposal to the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBOR) for funding a WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program (CWMP) Phase I Grant for fiscal year FY-2018 – Lower Laguna Madre Watershed Planning Group; and,

Whereas the scope of work and ultimate goal of this proposal is to facilitate, plan and prepare water management plans for LRGV Region.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the LRGVDC Board of Directors that Ron Garza, Executive Director is authorized to request grant funding under the LRGVDC and act on behalf of LRGVDC in all matters related to the grant application and any subsequent grant contract and grant project that may result.

The LRGVDC will work with the Bureau of Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a grant cooperative agreement.

Adopted this 28th day of February, 2018.

Mayor Ambrosio “Amos” Hernandez, President
Item #5: Department Reports

B. Community & Environmental Services ........................................Marcie Oviedo, Director

Environmental Resources Status Report

- Water Resources
  - Please visit the Region M Website at [www.riograndewaterplan.org](http://www.riograndewaterplan.org) for updates on the 2021 Regional Water Plan and other Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group activities.

- Reservoir Levels
  On February 17, 2018, the U.S. combined ownership at Amistad/Falcon stood at 65.71% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 2,228,642 acre-feet, up from 62.07% (2,105,414 AF) of normal conservation a year ago. Overall the system is holding 57.79% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 3,422,818 acre-feet with Amistad at 61.41% of conservation capacity, impounding 2,011,372 acre-feet and Falcon at 53.33% of conservation capacity, impounding 1,411,446 acre-feet. Mexico has 47.19% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 1,194,176 acre-feet at Amistad/Falcon.
2/17/2018, 65.71% of Capacity or 2,228,642 AF
up from 2,105,414 AF of Normal Conservation a year ago

NOTE: Mexico Ownership/Reservoir Capacity for February 17 2018: 47.19% (1,194,176) A.F.
# Rio Grande Watermaster Report

## 02/17/18

### Amistad

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Water Elevation</td>
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<td>1,093.91</td>
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<td>Total Normal Conservation Capacity</td>
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<td>TCM</td>
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<td>3,275,532</td>
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<td>Total Combined Storage</td>
<td>2,481,000</td>
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<td>2,011,372</td>
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<td>US Share of Current Storage</td>
<td>1,709,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1,385,503</td>
<td>31.12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico share of Current Storage</td>
<td>772,000</td>
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<td>625,868</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL RELEASES AVG</td>
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<td>893</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Release AVG</td>
<td>21.20</td>
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<td>749</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico Release AVG</td>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>CMS</td>
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<td>145</td>
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<td>TOTAL INFLOWS AVG</td>
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<td>CMS</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10.80</td>
<td>CMS</td>
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<td>381</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Reservoir Loss</td>
<td>3.99</td>
<td>CMS</td>
<td></td>
<td>141</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Percent of Storage Capacity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>57.79%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Falcon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
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<th>Unit</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Combined Storage</td>
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<td>1,411,446</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Share of Current Storage</td>
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<td>TCM</td>
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<td>843,138</td>
<td>40.26%</td>
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<td>Mexico share of Current Storage</td>
<td>701,000</td>
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<td>568,308</td>
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<td>Total Releases AVG</td>
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<td>US Release AVG</td>
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<td>918</td>
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<td>357</td>
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<td>1,593</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Inflows AVG</td>
<td>30.70</td>
<td>CMS</td>
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<td>1,084</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>US Reservoir Loss</td>
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<td>108</td>
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<td><strong>Percent of Storage Capacity</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td>57.79%</td>
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### Overall Status

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<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal Conservation Capacity - <strong>Amistad</strong></td>
<td>4,040,325</td>
<td>TCM</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,275,532</td>
<td>75.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Share of Amistad Normal Conservation</td>
<td>2,270,663</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1,840,849</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current US share of Normal Conservation</td>
<td>1,709,000</td>
<td>TCM</td>
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<td>1,385,503</td>
<td>54.36%</td>
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<td>Normal Conservation Capacity - <strong>Falcon</strong></td>
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<td>2,646,817</td>
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<td>US Share of Falcon Normal Conservation</td>
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<td>1,551,034</td>
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<td>Current US share of Normal Conservation</td>
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<td>TCM</td>
<td></td>
<td>843,138</td>
<td>57.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normal Capacity - Amistad/Falcon System</td>
<td>7,305,138</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5,922,348</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Normal Conservation Capacity - US</td>
<td>4,183,843</td>
<td>TCM</td>
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<td>3,391,883</td>
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<td>Normal Conservation Capacity - Mexico</td>
<td>3,121,295</td>
<td>TCM</td>
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<td>2,530,466</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Storage US</td>
<td>2,749,000</td>
<td>TCM</td>
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<td>2,228,642</td>
<td>65.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Storage Mexico</td>
<td>1,473,000</td>
<td>TCM</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,194,176</td>
<td>47.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Storage - Amistad - Falcon System</td>
<td>4,222,000</td>
<td>TCM</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,422,818</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of Storage Capacity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>57.79%</td>
<td>57.79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ITEM #5. C.

HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES
Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Item #5: Department Reports

C. Health & Human Services

Area Agency on Aging Status Report ............................. Jose L. Gonzalez, Director

1. Consider Approval of Advisory Council Recommendation RE: Housing Bond Request for Proposals

The Advisory Council recommends approval to authorize the Area Agency on Aging to respond to the Housing Bond request for proposals being issued by the Health and Human Services Commission. The purpose of this funding is to assist seniors with housing issues such as roof repairs.

ACTION ITEM

2. Consider Approval of Advisory Council Recommendation RE: Appointment of New Advisory Council Member

The Advisory Council recommends approval to appoint Ms. Connie Garza from Mission to the Advisory Council. Ms. Garza is involved in various groups in Mission. She is also a former member of the Texas Silver Haired Legislature and represented the Valley during the last TSHL session.

ACTION ITEM

• Health and Human Services Office Of Area Agencies on Aging

During the current transition process at Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) all of the contracting and monitoring functions from the Office of Area Agencies on Aging are being transferred to the new Business Operations and Support Department of HHS.

The Office of Area Agencies on Aging will be monitoring all Area Agencies on Aging in 2018.
ITEM #5. D.

PUBLIC SAFETY

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Item #5: Department Reports

D. Public Safety

Criminal Justice Program Status Report ...............................Manuel Cruz, Director

- Criminal Justice Division (CJD) Grant Opportunities – FY 2018

The FY2018-2019 Criminal Justice funding cycle for agencies interested in enhancing the criminal justice system, juvenile justice system, direct victim services, and mental health/substance abuse treatment has closed. A diligent effort was put forth by staff in the notification process in order for applicants to apply. Detailed funding information and a calendar listing these and other opportunities are located on the following website:


The following grant funding opportunities were available:

- VOCA – General Victim Assistance – Direct services programs
- VAWA – Violent Crimes Against Women Criminal Justice and Training Projects – Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking
- JAG – Criminal Justice Programs – Justice Assistance Programs
- JJDP – Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Programs

Below is an update on the 2018-2019 Criminal Justice Grant Program Regional Budget Expectation (RBES) for the four solicitations.

| 2100 – Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| VOCA            | VAWA            | JAG             | JUVENILE        |
| $4,579,354      | $257,513        | $385,746        | $409,571        |

RBE FACTS:

- Calculated from most recent UCR stats and population
- Used to shape your region’s portfolio during scoring
- CJD will not award more or less funds than the calculated RBE provided*
- Projects will be funded in order of rank up to the RBE
- If the last ranked project is over the RBE, that project will receive a partial cut
- If CJD receives a larger award than anticipated, CJD will pick up the next highest ranked project under the RBE line
- If CJD receives a smaller award than anticipated, CJAC will need to provide guidance to CJD

*RBE values represent an estimate and are contingent upon receipt of federal awards or appropriated funds.

- **Regional Crime Victim’s Liaison Program**

  On February 9, 2018, staff attended a meet and greet event for crime victim’s liaisons and chiefs of police in Willacy County. The event topics of discussion were: protective orders and the rising numbers on family violence. Staff contacted South Padre Island Police Department to obtain dates and times that staff would be assisting possible victims during Texas Spring Break week. The dates for Texas Spring Break are as follows: March 12-23 and the times will be from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Some upcoming events that are currently being coordinated by staff are the Crime Victims Liaison Training Academy and training on how victims may inquire on protective orders and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Discussions on these training are taking place with Cameron County and Nueva Luz.

- **The Office of the Governor’s Criminal Justice Division – Meet your Grant Coordinator**

  The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council hosted The Office of the Governor’s Criminal Justice Division, “Meet your Grant Coordinator.” The invitation was extended to any potential grantees, to include those in the following COG areas:

  - Middle Rio Grande Development Council
  - Lower Rio Grande Development Council
  - Coastal Bend Council of Governments
  - South Texas Development Council
  - Alamo Area Council of Governments

  Mr. Lester Brown, Grant Coordinator from CJD gave a presentation that was designed to provide insight and guidance related to the various grant programs managed by Victim Services. Time was also allocated to answer questions and provide technical assistance related to the application process. The session took place on February 15, 2018 at 10:00 am and afternoon session at 1:30 pm.

  Should you have any questions, please advise.
ITEM #5. D.

PUBLIC SAFETY

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS
Item #5: Department Reports

D. Public Safety

Emergency Communications Status Report

- Location Validation Program
  Staff constantly generates address tickets, addresses new subdivisions and receives customer requests for their 9-1-1 Physical Address. In addition, staff is working closely with Hidalgo County in preparation for the 2020 Census by providing an addressing link to Hidalgo County which features all current address points. Address points are updated every 24 hours to this same link and can be viewed on 2017 aerials.

  Additionally, “Spartan Pro” has been introduced to interested small communities inside city limits. This will allow them to do their own addressing and will then be verified by our department. Upon verification of the address point, it is mapped and updated to both the addressing link and our maps within 24 hours. Both can be view by 9-1-1 call takers. Spartan Pro is the addressing application used internally in our office.

- Database Program
  The City of McAllen annexed an area on the north side, from Highway 107 to Russell Rd and from Depot Rd to Rooth Rd. Updates were made accordingly in the Database for the streets within the annexed area and for calls in that area to be routed to McAllen PD.

  Database staff continuously updates the 9-1-1 database and adds new streets and ranges as new subdivisions are developed in Hidalgo and Willacy Counties. Staff also updates the No Record Found (NRF) list received from West Inc. on a daily basis. NRFs are those telephone numbers that dial 9-1-1 and no record shows in the 9-1-1 system. In January 174 Telephone Numbers (TN) were corrected and 147 streets in the Master Street Address Guide (MSAG) were updated. Also, over 230 address request calls were received which resulted in 202 address tickets for 9-1-1 physical addresses.

- Mapping Program
  Mapping Program staff has transitioned all 9-1-1 physical address data to the new State approved EGDMS Schema; this change is vital to the future of 9-1-1 call routing. It has been implemented at the LRGVDC 9-1-1 office as well as the host sites at McAllen PD and the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office. The GIS team is upgrading the system to use the new ArcMap 10.4.1 software to add new data to maps more efficiently.
Staff has begun collaborating with Hidalgo County Judge Ramon Garcia’s office to provide GIS data for the CENSUS 2020 LUCA program. Mapping staff continuously works on address point verification in order to ensure accurate call routing in the new I-3 9-1-1 Environment. Staff also continues to update address information on its local maps.

- **System and Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Operations**
  Systems staff continues monitoring our PSAP sites. In order to ensure continuity of service we are installing dual routers and generators at PSAPs. Both projects are scheduled to be complete by the mid-March 2018. Systems staff has begun the installation of a third Host site at our Weslaco office that will help create a segregated network. Our back-up network has been completely deployed with AT&T fiber, adding redundancy to our 9-1-1 networks which will significantly decrease down time.

- **Public Education /Training Program**
  Public Education is an ongoing priority for Emergency Communications Program and staff continues to reach out to communities and educate residents.

  Staff attended Career Day at Munoz Elementary and at Julian S. Adame Elementary, bringing awareness to 2nd grade and 5th grade students about the Public Safety E-Comm 9-1-1 Division and its many internal programs.

  All campaign PSA’s (Kari’s Law, Text To 9-1-1, Pocket Dial, and Know Your Location) have been uploaded to Cinemedia for previewing while visiting local Cinemark Theaters in Hidalgo County.

  TCOLE visited our region to give updates on inquiries that instructors or members needed to be addressed. The next TCOLE Commission Meeting is scheduled in Austin on March 1, 2018. Meetings are held on a quarterly basis and open to the public.

  Telecommunicator’s Appreciation Week is in April, and 250 valiant call takers from Hidalgo and Willacy County will be honored at a grand celebration that will include appreciation gifts.

  Training courses are being scheduled and are open to our Telecommunicator’s for continued training. Public Education events are being scheduled as they are requested through our public education coordinator. Efforts continue to focus on educating the Lower Rio Grande Valley on “Kari’s Law” along with “Text to 9-1-1” and “Know Your Location.”
ITEM #5. D.
PUBLIC SAFETY
HOMELAND SECURITY
Item #5: Department Reports

D. Public Safety

Homeland Security Program Status Report.................................Manuel Cruz, Director

1. Consider Approval of FY 2018 Homeland Security Grant Program Resolutions

In accordance with the Office of the Governor’s Homeland Security Grant Division (OOG-HSGD), grant applications must include a resolution that contains specific information relevant to the FY 2018 HSGP grant funding cycle. Upon approval, the resolutions will be uploaded and included with the application on e-Grants.

Attached for your review and approval are the resolutions for the specific projects that will be managed by the LRGVDC.

A. LRGVDC Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) Project
B. LRGVDC and Fire Alliance Regional Training Academy

Please see attachments A & B. Should there be any questions, please advise.
WHEREAS, The LRGVDC Board of Directors, Governing Body finds it in the best interest of the citizens of the LRGVDC Region, that the RGRRA sUAS Project be operated for FY2018 and managed and implemented by the LRGVDC; and

WHEREAS, The LRGVDC Board of Directors agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the Office of the Governor funds, the LRGVDC Board of Directors assures that the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor in full.

WHEREAS, LRGVDC Board of Directors, Governing Body designates the LRGVDC Executive Director as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of the applicant agency.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The LRGVDC Board of Directors approves submission of the grant application for the FY2018 RGRRA sUAS Project to the Office of the Governor, Homeland Security Grant Division for the amount of $48,500.00

Passed and Approved this 28th of February 2018

Signed by: _______________________________________________________

The Honorable Ambrosio "Amos" Hernandez, LRGVDC President
WHEREAS, The LRGVDC Board of Directors, Governing Body finds it in the best interest of the citizens of the LRGVDC Region, that the LRGVDC & Fire Alliance Regional Training Academy Project be operated for FY2018 and managed and implemented by the LRGVDC; and

WHEREAS, The LRGVDC Board of Directors agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the Office of the Governor funds, the LRGVDC Board of Directors assures that the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor in full.

WHEREAS, LRGVDC Board of Directors, Governing Body designates the LRGVDC Executive Director as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of the applicant agency.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The LRGVDC Board of Directors approves submission of the grant application for the LRGVDC & Fire Alliance Regional Training Academy Project to the Office of the Governor, Homeland Security Grant Division for the amount of $30,000.00.

Passed and Approved this 28th of February 2018

Signed by: _______________________________________________________
The Honorable Ambrosio "Amos" Hernandez, LRGVDC President
Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Public Safety

Homeland Security Program Status Report

- Homeland Security Program & Funding Opportunities FY 2018

  Staff continues to provide technical assistance to jurisdictions during the
  grant application period.

  Staff continues to provide technical assistance to jurisdictions with
  Emergency Management Plans (EMP), and identifying training
  opportunities for first responders. Staff hosted a Wide Area Search
  course February 20-23, 2018.

- Citizen Corps Program (CCP)/Preparedness

  Staff continues to be part of R6 FEMA Community Preparedness Working
  Group as well as participating as an advisory member for the Texas Youth
  Preparedness Council. Staff continues to conduct outreach and promote
  Community Preparedness throughout the LRGVDC Region.

  SAVE-THE-DATE: South Texas 2018 All Hazard Conference is scheduled
  for March 28 & 29 at the McAllen Convention Center.

  Register at: https://www.hidalgocounty.us/1464/2017-South-Texas-All-
  Hazards-Conference

- FY 2016 Homeland Security Grant Program

  As part of the reallocation process, LRGVDC has purchased equipment for
  the RGV Texas Task Force – Type 3 Team. Additional funding has been
  received and staff is in process of ordering additional equipment for the
  team.

- FY 2017 Homeland Security Grant Program

  Staff continues to monitor active grants for the FY 2017 grant funding
  cycle and assist jurisdictions with technical assistance. Staff continues to
  manage the FY 2017 Edinburg-Mission HAZ-MAT Team grant.

  Should there be any questions, please advise.
ITEM #5. D.

PUBLIC SAFETY

REGIONAL POLICE ACADEMY
Item #5: Department Reports

D. Public Safety

Regional Police Academy Status Report........................................Randall Snyder
Training Coordinator

1. Consider Approval of Revised Basic Peace Officer Course Rules Handbook

The Regional Police Academy Advisory Committee convened on Monday, February 12 to review, discuss, and provide input for the Revised Basic Peace Officer Course Rules Handbook for the upcoming BPOC Academies schedule to commence in March 2018.

Attached for your review and consideration is the New Basic Peace Officer Course, Cadet Rule Book.

Please refer to attachment A. Should there be any questions, please advise.

ACTION ITEM
Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council

BASIC PEACE OFFICE COURSE (BPOC) RULES HANDBOOK
ACADEMY OVERVIEW:

The Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) operates the Regional Police Academy with almost 50 years of experience administering training resources and programs for the development of qualified law enforcement officers throughout the region.

LRGVDC Regional Police Academy utilizes a wide-variety of law enforcement instructors to provide a comprehensive, diverse academy, incorporating the expertise of some of the finest training officials in the region.

LRGVDC currently has partnerships with law enforcement agencies such as the Cities of Edinburg, Hidalgo, Harlingen, Mission and San Benito to provide instructors and training site locations that offer accessible day & night training locations across the Rio Grande Valley.

Our primary goal is to provide a premier, valuable training resource for citizens of the area and produce highly qualified, professional law enforcement officers to serve and protect the citizens of the Rio Grande Valley.

LRGVDC administers the Basic Peace Officer Course (BPOC) Academy to provide cadets the essential knowledge and foundational experience to begin a career in law enforcement while preparing to sit for the State Peace Officer Licensing Examination.

LRGVDC is a contractual training provider as approved and licensed by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) and must abide by all mandated TCOLE training regulations and compliance measures.

The LRGVDC BPOC Rules Handbooks serves as the Basic Peace Officer Course rules, policies and procedures and all Cadets must abide by the policies set forth or may face the appropriate disciplinary action, including failure to successfully complete academy.
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PROCEDURE 1.0: BPOC CADET ELIGIBILITY

1.1 Citizenship

Applicant must be a United States Citizen

1.2 Age Requirement

Applicant must be at least 21 years of age prior to the scheduled final examination date of the selected academy.

1.3 Educational Requirement

Minimum educational requirements include high school diploma; high school equivalency certificate; or an honorable discharge from the armed forces of the United States after at least 24 months of active duty service.

1.4 Criminal Background Requirements

Applicant must complete fingerprinting and search of local, state and U.S. national records and fingerprint files to verify the following:

a. is not currently charged with any criminal offense for which conviction would be a bar to licensure;

b. has never been on court-ordered community supervision or probation for any criminal offense above the grade of Class B misdemeanor or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten years (10) from the date of the court order;

c. has never been convicted of an offense above the grade of a Class B misdemeanor or a Class B misdemeanor within the last ten (10) years;

d. has never been convicted or placed on community supervision in any court of an offense involving family violence as defined under Chapter 71, Texas Family Code;

e. is not prohibited by state or federal law from operating a motor vehicle; (must possess a valid Texas Driver’s License)

f. is not prohibited by state or federal law from possessing firearms or ammunition;

g. has never received a dishonorable or other discharge based on misconduct with bars future military service;

h. has been subjected to a background investigation.

1.5 Medical Requirements

Applicant must be examined by a physician, approved by LRGVDC, who is licensed by the Texas Medical Board. The appointee must be declared by that professional, on a form prescribed by the commission, within 180 days before the academy start date to be:

a. physically sound and free from any defect which may adversely affect the performance and essential functions of a peace offer, including:
- Vision sufficient to perform functions such as apprehend suspects; obtain information at disturbances, service and accident calls; and to read and review written communications;

- Hearing and speech sufficient to communicate clearly and distinctly face-to-face as well as over the radio in normal and adverse conditions;

- Arm and hand steadiness and manual dexterity sufficient to use weapons necessary to prevent injury or to protect self and others;

- Stamina and tolerance sufficient to remain physically and mentally alert for short bursts of extremely intense physical and/or mental activity separated by extended periods of physical and/or mental inactivity.

b. show no trace of drug dependency or illegal drug use after a blood test or other medical test; and for the purpose of meeting the requirements for initial licensure, an individual's satisfactory medical exam that is conducted as a requirement of a basic licensing course may remain valid for 180 days from the individual's date of graduation from that academy.

1.6 Psychological Requirements

Applicant must be examined, face-to-face by a psychologist, approved by LRGVDC, who is licensed by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists or Texas Medical Board. The individual must be declared by that professional, on a form prescribed by the commission, within 180 days before the start date of academy to be in satisfactory psychological and emotional health to serve as the type of officer for which the license is sought measuring suitable personality traits and psychopathology.

In addition to the admission standards set forth, all applicants must exhibit no history or indication of a pattern of behavior that is unethical, violent, or criminal in nature.

PROCEDURE 2.0: APPLICATION PROCESS

2.1 Pre-Enrollment Entrance Examination

All applicants must complete and pass a general aptitude examination measuring cognitive ability.

a. Applicants will select and attend a designated pre-enrollment BPOC entrance examination date.

b. BPOC Entrance Exam dates will be posted at www.lrgvdc.org and will be administered periodically in accordance with scheduled BPOC Academy start dates.

c. BPOC Entrance Examination fee is established at $25.00 payable by check or money order at testing site prior to be admitted for exam.

Pre-enrollment entrance examination date will also serve as orientation to remaining steps in applying to the LRGVDC BPOC Academy. Examinations are graded onsite and all passing applicants must remain onsite for additional guidance in completing additional forms. It should be noted that some forms may take time to accurately complete. Applicants should plan their test date accordingly.
2.2 Entrance Examination Requirements

a. Applicants must receive a passing score of 75.00% or greater on administered pre-entrance exam.

b. Applicants will be allowed two re-tests for the examination. Applicants who are unable to pass the examination on the third attempt will not be eligible for admission into the Academy and may not test again until the next available Academy entrance exam cycle.

c. The pre-enrollment testing scores are valid for one year after the date of examination for applicants who wish to defer admission into the Academy.

2.3 BPOC Application Packet

Applicants must print and complete the LRGVDC BPOC application and Personal History Statement (found at www.lrgvdc.org). Upon successful completion of pre-entrance examination (with passing grade), application and personal history statement will be submitted along with the following forms:

a. Proof of U.S. Citizenship (Birth Certificate or Naturalization Certificate)

b. High school diploma or G.E.D.

c. College Transcript (if applicable)

d. Photocopy of driver’s license

e. DD-214 (form 4)/VA Forms (prior military applicants)

f. Driving Record

g. Misc. correspondence, if applicable

h. Photocopy of current automobile liability insurance card

If the cadet’s automobile liability insurance card expires in the weeks between admission and the driving training course, the cadet shall provide a current, valid automobile liability insurance card before the cadet will be allowed to take the driving training course.

Applicants will also be provided the following documents and instructions to complete them on exam day.

a. Declaration of Medical Condition (L-2)

b. TCIC/NCIC Record Request Form or F.A.S.T. Form

c. Agreement and understanding of payment

Applicants will then coordinate the completion of their Psychological Evaluation (L-3).

2.4 Application Packet Deadline

All required examinations, evaluations, forms and reports must be submitted to LRGVDC no later than 15 calendar days prior to Academy start date. Any exceptions to this policy must be approved by LRGVDC Academy Training Coordinator.

PROCEDURE 3.0: TUITION

3.1 Tuition Fees

Basic Peace Officer Course (BPOC) $2,200.00
3.2 Methods of Payment

All cadets paying tuition must utilize online registration and payment system (www.eventbrite.com).

*** Cash will not be accepted under any circumstance***

Cashier’s Check or Money Orders must be made payable to LRGVDC and mailed to the following address:
LRGVDC Finance Department
Regional Police Academy
301 W. Railroad St.
Weslaco, Texas 78596

3.3 Payment Deadlines

All tuition payments are due by the first day of the BPOC Academy (Academy Orientation).

3.4 Payment Plan

LRGVDC may authorize a payment plan, when request is submitted and approved in writing, by the end of the first day of the BPOC Academy.

Payment plan includes 50% due by the first day of the Academy, with the final 50% due 30 calendar days after the first day of the Academy.

Failure to pay tuition balance in full by thirty (30) day payment deadline will result in dismissal from academy.

3.5 Refund Policy

This policy applies to cadets who voluntarily drop or are terminated from the Basic Peace Officer Course (BPOC).

a. BPOC Cadets who voluntarily drop before the 5th calendar day of scheduled class will be refunded 50% of the course fee only if the cadet has paid 100% tuition in full.

b. BPOC Cadets who voluntarily drop after 5 days from the first day of scheduled class will receive no refund of course fees.

Cadets who are dropped for violation of Academy rules and regulations, disciplinary actions, or violations of statute shall not receive any refund of fees. Cadets must also return all Academy equipment that has been provided to the cadet for training purposes upon notification.

3.6 Veterans Administration Financial Assistance

Cadets intending to use Veterans Administration financial assistance must notify the Academy during the application process. Once authorized by the V.A. to utilize financial assistance to LRGVDC BPOC Academy, cadets will complete all necessary paperwork at orientation. Payments must be made in accordance with LRGVDC payment policy. Cadets should contact the V.A. office at (888) 442-4551 or www.gibill.va.gov to verify their status.
3.7 Training Location Assignment

LRGVDC BPOC Academy utilizes multiple training site locations across the region. Each BPOC Academy is run concurrently at all authorized locations. Cadets may be initially assigned to a specific training location based on home address documented in application packet; however, LRGVDC BPOC Academy retains the right and authorization to assign or transfer a location based on logistics, classroom size, or other circumstances deemed necessary.

PROCEDURE 4.0: REQUIRED SUPPLIES

4.1 Cadet supplied equipment

Each cadet shall maintain the responsibility of purchasing his/her own equipment no later than 30 calendar days after Academy start date. All supplies must be in new or “like new” condition and free from defects.

- Duty Gun Belt
- Magazine Pouch
- Holster
- Inner Belt
- Handcuff Case
- Outer/duty belt
- Belt keepers
- Handcuffs
- ASP Baton and Case
- OC Spray case
- Taser cartridges
- Footwear
- Flashlight and Flashlight / Ring
- Academy designated Uniform (may include headgear)
- Pistol
- 1000 Rounds Pistol Ammo (9mm/.40 caliber)
- 15 Shotgun Ammo – 00 buck 9 pellet
- 15 Shotgun Ammo - Slugs
- 50 Shotgun Ammo – Field/Bird load
- 200 Rifle Ammo – 5.56 or 2.23 depending on location

Note: Ammo requirements may vary to accommodate any changes to the firearms training. Cadets will be advised of the required rounds needed prior to attending the range.

PROCEDURE 5.0: ATTENDANCE POLICY

5.1 Class Start Time

Class starting time shall be defined by the master schedule. The Academy reserves the right to alter start time in order to accommodate the training objectives of the topic, as well as availability of off-site training facilities.
5.2 Tardiness

Each class will start promptly as scheduled. **Tardiness in excess of 15 minutes will count as 1 missed hour towards attendance standards.** Frequent or habitual tardiness of any time amount may result in appropriate disciplinary action.

5.3 Attendance Standards

To ensure each candidate meets the TCOLE mandated minimum required classroom hours, each cadet is expected to attend all scheduled classes of the BPOC Academy.

***Any cadet absent in excess of 40 clock hours will be dismissed from the Academy***

Unauthorized departure from any scheduled class or training event or refusal to participate in any related assignment shall be construed as grounds for termination from the Academy.

5.4 Makeup Assignment Policy

If absent for any portion of the Academy, it remains the responsibility of the cadet to learn the applicable objective and lessons missed. **Each cadet must complete 2-full pages of handwritten notes per clock hour missed.** Makeup notes must be turned in to the instructor within 3 calendar days of return from absence.

5.5 Inclement Weather/Facility Closure Policy

It shall be the policy of this Academy that in the event of inclement weather, classes will be canceled should the Texas Department of Public Safety close main highways, bridges, overpasses, and side streets. All other weather or facility related closures will only be authorized by Academy Training Coordinator. It shall be the responsibility of the cadet to contact the on-site instructor or Academy Training Coordinator if there are circumstances regarding weather or facility issues.

**PROCEDURE 6.0: ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS**

The LRGVDC Regional Police Academy demands a high standard of achievement. The profession of law enforcement requires a high level of individual knowledge, ability and skills that will serve to maintain the officer’s sense of pride, proficiency and personal safety throughout his or her career. Failure to achieve the minimum acceptable performance standards in any area will serve as grounds for termination from the Academy.

6.1 Grade Point Average

Cadets must achieve an 80% score or higher on all examinations to maintain the academic standards and remain in the Academy.

Content proficiency will be graded by:
- Individual Chapter Examinations;
- One (1) Mid-term Examination;
- One (1) Comprehensive Final Examination;
- Physical Training Participation;
- Firearms Proficiency and Reality-Based Training.
6.2 Chapter Examinations

Each topic included in the BPOC is considered to be an independent, functional area. An examination will be given at the conclusion of each chapter that will cover all functional areas within that chapter. This may include a written exam, practical exam, and/or combination. Cadets must achieve an 80% score or higher to meet academic standards.

6.3 Mid-Term and Final Examination

In addition to the individual chapter examinations, content mastery will be determined by one (1) Mid-Term Examination including content from the beginning of the Academy to approximate mid-point. Additionally, one (1) Comprehensive Final Examination will be administered which will include topics areas from the full duration of the Academy content and topics.

6.4 Retest Policy

All exams are graded on a scale of 1-100. Cadets must receive and 80% on all exams to be considered a passing grade.

***Cadets will be allowed a total of four (4) retests during the entire Academy***

- Three (3) retests may be used for Individual Chapter Exams or Mid-Term Exam Only.
- One (1) retest opportunity will be granted for the Comprehensive Final Exam Only.

If a cadet fails an exam, and has not exhausted retest opportunities, a different version of the exam will be administered. Should a cadet fail any retest attempt or has exhausted all retest opportunities, this will be determined failure to meet minimum grade point average and will be dismissed immediately.

6.5 Physical Training Participation

This phase of the Academy is rigorous and produces a multitude of benefits aside from physical conditioning, including: discipline, stress management, nutrition, self-confidence, teamwork, and street survival skills. It will also generate a clear perspective of the individual’s attitude and desire toward this profession. All cadets will be expected to participate fully in all scheduled sessions of physical and skills training exercises. Any unauthorized absence from any physical or skills training session will be counted as an absence from class and the cadet may be subject to progressive disciplinary action.

6.6 Firearms Proficiency

Firearms proficiency requires good hand, finger, arm and shoulder strength and control. The hours of training devoted to this vital aspect is intended to provide the cadet with the skill necessary to attain the requisite proficiency. A cadet must achieve a minimum score of 70% on the qualification course, and pass the firearms written examination to successfully complete the training program. Cadets shall agree in writing to all range safety rules prior to range training. Cadets failing to meet these standards will not meet minimum standards for graduation.

6.7 Reality Based Training

Practical skill problems will be conducted to determine the cadet’s ability to demonstrate newly acquired skills during the course. Cadets will be required to perform in a variety of simulated situations during which they will
be closely observed and evaluated. A cadet who fails to demonstrate a level of acceptable proficiency may not meet minimum standards for graduation.

6.8 Testing Administration Procedures

The maintenance and security of Academy testing materials must be safeguarded as well as the integrity of the exam administration. A designated test proctor will be present for all exams including retests. Retests are given at the time and place convenient for academy staff and must be coordinated with advanced notice.

In order to ensure that cadets are prevented from committing academic dishonesty, the following procedures are put in place:

a. On the date of the exam, the classroom must be free of cadets’ personal gear. No cadet will be allowed in the classroom prior to the time the exam is administered.

b. Cadets will be in their assigned uniforms for the day for any test they are taking.

c. Cadets must assemble and being their normal routine of formation, inspection, pledge, and citing the Code of Ethics prior to exam administration. Cadet shall occupy their assigned seat once notified by instructor that they may enter the classroom.

d. Upon the start of the exam, no cadet is allowed to leave the classroom for any reason, unless the cadet has completed the whole exam. As a general guideline, the exam proctor will not leave the classroom while administering the exam.

e. Upon completion of the exam, cadets may leave the classroom after they have placed the testing materials face down on the desk or turned in the test as described by the exam proctor.

f. After a short break, the cadets will go back into the classroom and the tests will be graded according to established procedures.

g. Exam time allotted for chapter examinations is one (1) hour. Mid-term and final exams will be allotted two (2) hours.

6.9 Classroom Participation and Notetaking

Cadets are required to be fully engaged in all lessons and encouraged to ask questions when necessary but stay on the subject and exercise good judgment in the privilege of inquiry. Participation in study groups may be required as assigned by Academy staff or class officers as an aid in improving cadets’ grades, and most especially when cadets have failed an exam. Good study habits must be maintained; therefore, non-academy time must be devoted to review of class material or reference materials.

Cadets shall take careful notes during all lectures, unless the instructor notifies the students otherwise. **Students are required to maintain a permanent notebook** (three-ring binder) for the purpose of maintaining handout materials and notes.
6.10 Licensing Examination Endorsement

Only those cadets who maintain the minimum grade point average (80% on all examination and applicable retests) attend the minimum classroom clock hours, and participate in all required practical, physical and reality-based training shall receive endorsement to take the State Peace Officer Licensing Examination.

Cadets not meeting these standards and who are not eligible to take the State Peace Officer Licensing Examination will not receive graduation status from the Academy or be allowed to participate in Academy graduation ceremonies.

6.11 Academic Achievement Recognition

The LRGVDC BPOC Academy and professional of law enforcement demands a high standard of achievement, knowledge, ability and skills. In recognition of those members which excel at each training site location, the following recognitions will be honored during graduation ceremonies:

a. **Honor Graduate:** This award is based upon an overall G.P.A., attendance, disciplinary actions and includes the scores from the functional skills areas of training including Firearms and Driving and demonstrates behavior that exemplifies the mission and values of the LRGVDC BPOC Academy. At graduation, the cadet with the highest overall score will receive an award for excellence as the honor graduate of the class. *Any Cadet who has failed an exam and later passed a re-test is not eligible for this award.*

b. **Top Gun:** The cadet with the highest marksmanship score will receive an award in recognition of his/her skill level with a weapon. This applies only to handgun scores. *Any Cadet who has failed an exam and later passed a re-test is not eligible for this award.*

**PROCEDURE 7.0: CADET PERSONAL APPEARANCE**

Disciplinary action for failure to comply with Cadet personal appearance policy will result in termination from the Academy after the cadet has failed to meet the daily inspection standards on no more than five occasions.

7.1 Dress Code Policy

a. Cadet uniforms shall be worn each training day until graduation unless otherwise directed by Academy staff or instructors.

b. The cadet uniform will be worn only while attending class, participating in other training activities, or when otherwise authorized by the Academy staff.

c. The cadet uniform and duty gear must NOT be worn when engaging in personal business, shopping, or other non-Academy activities.

d. After the cadets have received their required uniforms they will be required to wear their complete duty belt by a date specified by the Academy.

e. Headgear may be worn only when authorized by BPOC Training Coordinator as official cadet uniform.

f. Uniforms will be kept neat at all times.
7.2 Personal Grooming and Hygiene

All cadets must exercise respectable personal grooming body hygiene and cleanliness.

a. Male Students. Hair must be worn as to present a neat and conservative appearance. Hair length must not exceed three inches on top. Hair at the base of the scalp must be trimmed so it will not extend below the top end of the collar of the uniform. Hair must be that of a natural color. No eccentric haircuts are allowed, i.e., Mohawks, spikes, horseshoe, etc. Also, earrings and other visible body piercings are not permitted. A daily facial shave is required. No beards or sideburns are allowed. Mustaches, when worn, must not exceed the corners of the lips and the length must not exceed 1/4 of an inch. They must be neatly trimmed so as to present a conservative appearance.

b. Female Students. Hair is to be trimmed in a neat fashion that does not extend below the cap headband on the forehead. Hair must have a neat and conservative appearance. When wearing the Academy uniform, the hair must not extend below the lower end of the collar. When headgear is worn, the hair must not interfere with the fit and appearance of the headgear. Earrings or hair ornaments are not permitted. Hair must be that of a natural color. Makeup must be very conservative.

7.3 Jewelry and Personal Accessories

Standard wristwatches may be worn; smartwatches are not allowed in the classroom. Individuals with wristwatches with alarms, tones or other sounding devices shall secure the wristwatch so that no alarm, tone or noise is sounded from the wristwatch during class. An engagement or wedding ring may be worn. No other rings are permitted. Also, visible body piercings are not permitted. Visible necklaces and other decorative jewelry are prohibited.

PROCEDURE 8.0: PERSONAL CONDUCT

As a cadet of the LRGVDC BPOC Academy, you are considered a public servant. Cadets are reminded that the activities of law enforcement personnel are subject to public scrutiny and review at all times whether on or off duty. As such, cadets should remember that the same high ethical standards will apply in their individual activities regardless of duty status. Violations of Cadet personal conduct policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination from the program. Certain conduct violations may vary in disciplinary action response.

8.1 Cadet Behavior Standards

a. The classroom is to be regarded as a place of learning. Unnecessary distractions and/or conversations are not tolerated.

b. Cadets will remain alert and awake at all times in the classroom. Cadets will occupy themselves only with Academy business and refrain from non-related reading material or activity.

c. Cadets will promptly comply with instructions, directions, orders, and assignments given to them by Academy staff members and instructors. Failure to do so will be considered insubordination and will be grounds for termination.

d. Cadets will address staff and supervisory officers by appropriate title and name. Cadets will be expected to address all instructors as “Sir/Ma’am” or as instructor/rank/last name as appropriate.
Cadets may not speak to instructors in a familiar manner. Instructors will address cadets as “Cadet/last name” as appropriate.

e. Cadets are not permitted to speak or answer in class unless recognized by the instructor.

f. The use of any classroom facilities or equipment is permissible only with an instructor’s approval.

g. Improper or negligent use of any Academy property is prohibited.

h. Cadets shall refrain from loitering in the hallways or working areas of an assigned building. Improper demeanor while in cadet uniform is prohibited.

i. Cadets may enter an Instructors Office only after knocking on the door and receiving permission to enter.

j. Cadets will be expected to come to the position of attention whenever an instructor, Academy staff member, or official visitor enters the classroom for the first time during each training day. Cadets will remain at attention until given the order “as you were” by the official.

k. Cadets are expected to attend and fully participate in every assigned practical training exercise, field training exercise, physical fitness training session, and homework assignment. All homework assignments must be completed and turned into the instructor at the designated time and date.

l. Use or possession of any items used as weapons, including, but not limited to, handguns, firearms, ammunition, fireworks, pellet guns, paintball guns, bb guns, knives, or explosive or noxious materials on Academy premises, except for equipment issued or required by the Academy for firearms training or other Academy tactical training at the designated time, are strictly forbidden and will be considered a Class III Offense.

m. The BPOC Training Coordinator or designee has the authority to determine reparations for certain violations. Reparations may be in the form of writing assignments, physical exercise, additional physical training or any combination.

n. Cellular phones or personal paging devices of any kind are expressly prohibited within the classroom.

o. Any cadet who may become physically ill, injured, or who requires medical attention during training is required to notify the on-site instructor or Academy Training Coordinator as soon as practical.

p. Cadets have no authorized powers other than those of any citizen. Cadets are expected to assist peace officers only when called upon or when the need is apparent.

q. The carrying of weapons or ammunition by a cadet is prohibited except with staff authorization.

r. Cadets involved in, or witness to a police related incident will file a written report with the BPOC Training Coordinator within 24 hours of the event.

s. Cadets shall not consume intoxicants or have the odor of intoxicants on their breath while on duty, or while in uniform on or off duty. No cadet may consume intoxicants to the extent that the cadet becomes intoxicated to any degree.
t. Contact by cadets with other agencies and persons must be handled in a professional manner as a credit to the Academy.

u. Cadets shall conduct themselves with courtesy and professional dignity at all times. Discourtesy, rudeness, and/or vulgarity by trainees toward other cadets, citizens, staff, or police officers will not be tolerated and such conduct shall be subject to disciplinary action.

v. The BPOC Training Coordinator or designee has the authority to determine reparations for certain violations. Reparations may be in the form of writing assignments, physical exercise, additional physical training or any combination.

w. Cadets may be requested to participate in civil and community engagement activities. While no minimum requirements will be determined for this criterion, each cadet shall volunteer at their availability and represent the Academy with respect, service and honor.

x. Cadets shall not post video, images, photos, or official Academy training activities to social media outlets. Cadets and/or training site locations are not allowed to create a social media “page”.

y. Cadets shall not engage in fundraising activities and/or solicit donations aimed to create revenue associated with, or on behalf of the LRGVDC BPOC Academy training; this includes, but is not limited to graduation ceremonies, social events, etc.

z. Cadet shall not comment or represent on behalf of the LRGVDC BPOC Academy to media outlets.

8.2 Ethical Conduct Policy

The commission of peace officer is one of public trust. A peace officer is a public servant who derives his/her authority from the people of the community the cadet is sworn to serve. In the United States, only the peace officer has been given the legal right under strict circumstances to deprive citizens of their life or liberty in the course of their duties. With the authority given to peace officers comes the burden of great responsibility. As cadets who endeavor to achieve the commission of peace officer, cadets are expected to maintain a posture that is above reproach. Behavior that is unethical, illegal, and/or immoral will not be tolerated.

All cadets of the LRGVDC BPOC Academy must be committed to our key guiding values:

- We treat everyone with respect.
- We are committed to honesty, integrity, and professionalism.
- We serve our community and organization as innovative and creative problem solvers.
- We strive for excellence as a team.

8.3 Harassment, Bias and Intimidation

It is the policy of LRGVDC BPOC Academy to provide and maintain an educational environment that is free of harassment, bias or intimidation. This policy includes but is not limited to any form of harassment that is directed to an individual due to their: gender, sexual preference, race, national origin, religion, age, or disability. All cadets are expected to comply with this policy. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action.
Any cadet who feels that he or she is being subjected to any form of harassment should tell the harasser that he or she finds the conduct offensive and insist that it stop. If the offensive conduct does not cease immediately, or if the cadet is uncomfortable with telling the offending person to stop the conduct, the cadet should report the matter to their instructor, the BPOC Training Coordinator, the Director of Public Safety or the Executive Director of the LRGVDC. If the harassment involves the supervisor, the cadet should contact the Executive Director of the LRGVDC and the Director will investigate the matter promptly and take corrective action as appropriate. Retaliation or reprisal against any cadet for complaining of harassment or discrimination is illegal and will not be tolerated.

8.4 Non-fraternization Policy

Cadets are taught the values of discipline, integrity, and commitment as they undergo training to be Texas peace officers. They are expected to be professionals in every aspect of their conduct and demeanor. Therefore, cadets are forbidden to have intimate relationships with Academy staff and instructors, as well as employees of the LRGVDC, while enrolled in the BPOC. These types of relationships undermine the discipline, ethical conduct, and morale of Academy personnel. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action and the consequent dismissal from the Academy.

PROCEDURE 9.0: DISCIPLINARY POLICY

It is the intent of the Academy staff to protect the rights of each cadet, and to adhere to a system of discipline that provides notice, fairness, equity, and due process. The cadet can thereby be assured of reasonable expectations concerning this procedure. The disposition of disciplinary incidents will conform to the following guidelines as closely as is practical.

The LRGVDC BPOC Academy classifies offenses into Class I or II categories. Each category has specific and individualized disciplinary procedures.

9.1 Class I Offenses

Consist of offenses that are minor to moderate in nature and may lend themselves as opportunities for learning and corrective behavior. Examples of Class I offenses include, but are not limited to:

a. Tardiness (Fewer than 5 times).
b. Failure to meet personal appearance standards (Fewer than 5 times).
c. Failure to meet certain cadet behavior standards (Fewer than 5 times).
d. Minor act of negligence or inefficiency.
e. Insubordination (1st offense).
f. Financial irresponsibility.
g. Possession of cellular phones or personal paging devices in the classroom.
h. Other acts or omissions that meet the above description.

9.2 Class II Offenses

Consist of offenses that are serious in nature and may preclude the possibility of continued participation in the program. Class II Offenses are grounds for immediate termination from the program. Examples of Class II offenses include, but are not limited to:

a. Repetition of a Class I offense.
b. Tardiness (Greater than 5 times).
c. Failure to meet personal appearance standards more than 5 times.
d. Failure to meet certain cadet behavior standards more than 5 times.
e. *Gross Discourteous Conduct.
f. *Insubordination (2nd offense).
g. Gross Insubordination (1st offense).
h. *Dishonesty.
i. Violation of safety rules (range, tactical driving, defensive tactics, other).
j. Improper use of authority.
k. Intentional or reckless conduct which endangers the health or safety of self or others.
l. Act of gross negligence in efficiency or competence.
m. Use of illegal controlled substances at any time, or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs while on duty.
n. Consumption of alcohol while in uniform on or off duty.
o. Committing Assault, Theft, or Terroristic Threats.
p. Criminal Actions that lead to charges that are classified as Class B Misdemeanors or above.
q. Use or possession of any items used as weapons, including, but not limited to, handguns, firearms, ammunition, fireworks, pellet guns, paintball guns, bb guns, knives, or explosive or noxious materials on Academy premises, except for equipment issued or required by the Academy for firearms training or other Academy tactical training at the designated time.
r. Failure to reporting incidents or offenses or behavior not reflective of the values, policies, and procedures of the LRGVDC BPOC Academy.
s. Fraternization
t. Patterns of misconduct
u. Other acts or omissions that meet the above description.

* Definition Provided

**Definition of Class II Offenses:**

**Gross Discourteous Conduct:** is conduct by either action or omission that is disrespectful in nature and has the potential of negatively impacting the learning environment. Examples of gross discourteous conduct include but are not limited to: sleeping or otherwise disruptive behavior during class, abusive or obscene language, gestures, or behavior.

**Insubordination:** is the willful disregard or disobedience of a lawful and ethical order or directive issued by any person with authority over the student to include but not limited to: all Academy staff such as the BPOC Training Coordinator, Training-site Supervisor, Administrative Personal, Staff Instructors, Adjunct Instructors, and or designees of the Academy’s authority.

**Dishonesty:** is any deceptive act or an act that may bring embarrassment, distrust or discredit to the LRGVDC Regional Police Academy, or the law enforcement profession. Acts of dishonesty include but are not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation, bribery or acceptance of bribes, destruction of property, theft or concealment. Cheating includes assisting others to cheat or failing to report observing a cheating incident, and includes cheating on quizzes or retests that have no effect on a cadet’s G.P.A.

9.3 **Disciplinary Procedures**

The following process provides a fair and equitable course of progressive action that insures a clear understanding of the remedies to unacceptable behavior. Because not every possible scenario can be addressed in these rules, where disciplinary cases are not specifically addressed, it shall be at the discretion of the BPOC
Training Coordinator, Director of Public Safety and/or Executive Director as to the manner in which the situation will be resolved.

9.4 Disciplinary Process for Class I Offenses

1. Academy Instructor and/or other Academy personnel will immediately address any and all violations with cadet once observed and/or notified.

2. The Academy Instructor and/or other Academy personnel will address the violation with cadet and conduct a one-on-one performance coaching session addressing the disciplinary issue(s) and appropriate corrective action.

3. Following the performance coaching session and acknowledgment of corrective action, cadet will submit a corrective action written report to LRGVDC Training Coordinator to be placed in cadet file.

9.5 Disciplinary Process for Class II Offenses (or repeat Class I Offense)

1. Academy Instructor and/or other Academy personnel will immediately report any and all Class II violations to LRGVDC BPOC Training Coordinator once observed and/or notified.

2. The BPOC Training Coordinator and/or Director of Public Safety will conduct a thorough investigation into the offense including full disclosure and inquiry into the facts and circumstances of the violation.

   Note: During an investigation into a Class II offense, the cadet in question may be temporarily removed from BPOC Academy training activities for no more than three (3) full class days while the investigation is ongoing and final action and/or determination is made.

3. Should it be determined that the cadet may continue the Academy, the BPOC Training Coordinator will address the violation with cadet and conduct a one-on-one performance coaching session addressing the disciplinary issue(s) and appropriate corrective action.

   Note: If reinstated, any absence due to temporary removal will be addressed as per attendance policy.

4. Following the performance coaching session and acknowledgment of corrective action, the cadet will submit a corrective action written report to LRGVDC Training Coordinator to be placed in cadet file and be placed on probationary status.

5. Once a cadet is classified as on probationary status, any further Class II (and certain Class I) infractions will result in immediate dismissal from the BPOC Academy.

6. Should the violation be determined appropriate for dismissal from the Academy, the cadet (and sponsoring agency, if applicable) will be notified of dismissal in writing.

9.6 Disciplinary Action Appeal

Any cadet wishing to file an appeal to a disciplinary action, must submit the request in writing directly to the LRGVDC BPOC Training Coordinator as soon as possible, but no later than three (3) calendar days after notification of disciplinary action.
Written appeal request must include:

a. Facts of the incident;
b. Witness accounts (if applicable);
c. Issues of substantive or procedural errors; and/or,
d. Newly discovered or relevant information that was not available to staff determining disciplinary action.

Appeal response by the LRGVDC BPOC Training Coordinator shall be provided to the cadet, in writing, within three (3) calendar days after receipt.

9.7 Request for Administrative Hearing

The last and final course of action would include a request for administrative hearing directly to the LRGVDC Director of Public Safety or LRGVDC Executive Director.

Any cadet wishing to request an administrative hearing, must submit the request in writing as soon as possible, but no later than three (3) calendar days after appeal response notification.

Written administrative hearing request must include:

a. Facts of the incident;
b. Witness testimonies, in writing (if applicable);
c. Issues of substantive or procedural errors;
d. Why the appeal response was not satisfactory; and/or,
e. Newly discovered or relevant information that was not available to staff issuing appeal response.

Based on the statements of the written request, an administrative hearing may be scheduled or final decision response letter will be issued within three (3) calendar days after administrative hearing written request receipt.

Note: If reinstated, any absence due to temporary removal will be addressed as per attendance policy.

PROCEDURE 10.0 BPOC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Regional Police Academy BPOC is a division of LRGVDC’s Public Safety Department and will follow LRGVDC’s organizational chain-of-command and that of its partnership law enforcement agencies for communication, incident reporting, feedback, etc.

10.1 Academy Personnel Organizational Flow-chart

a. Training-Site Instructor
   The assigned training-site instructor will serve as the first line supervisor for the cadet’s day-to-day activities.

b. Training-Site Liaison
   The training-site liaison is identified as the lead representative of the partnering law enforcement agency.

c. LRGVDC Staff (Administrative and/or direct instruction staff members)
d. **LRGVDC Training Coordinator**
The LRGVDC Academy Training Coordinator is responsible to ensure compliance with all state rules, guidelines, maintenance of training files, development of course objectives, lesson plans and the enforcement of all established BPOC rules. The Academy Training Coordinator is a TCOLE-mandated requirement and must be a full-time staff member of the Academy and hold a valid instructor license.

e. **LRGVDC Director of Public Safety**
The Director oversees the operations of LRGVDC’s Public Safety Department including multiple divisions, grants and programs. All Regional Police BPOC Academy staff members report directly to the Director of Public Safety.

f. **LRGVDC Executive Director**
The LRGVDC Executive Director is the chief administrator of all operations and staff of the Regional Police BPOC Academy. The Executive Director establishes training agreements with Police Chiefs of the region and also directly appoints members to serve on the Police Academy Advisory Committee. Under contract with TCOLE as a regional training provider, the Executive Director upholds compliance and reporting agreements to the state agency.

**10.2 Classroom Elected Leadership**

Each Cadet training-site class will conduct elections under the direction of the Academy Training Coordinator between the second and fourth week of the Academy. The elected positions are that of President, Vice President, and up to two (2) additional squad leaders. No other class leadership is authorized or recognized.

a. Any class leader that fails to demonstrate the ability and/or willingness to execute their respective duties will be removed from their position. The BPOC Academy Supervisor will appoint a replacement. All elected or appointed leadership will assist in the coordination of the Academy graduation.

b. Any class leader that is placed on academic probation will be removed from their position. The BPOC Academy Supervisor will appoint a replacement.

**10.3 Class President**

**Duties:** The class president will serve as the primary liaison between the class and Academy staff. All cadet daily task assignments, rosters, etc. will be assigned from Academy staff to the President who may delegate those duties and responsibilities on to his/her squad leaders. The class president will organize the class in up to three (3) operations squads, which will be under supervision of three (3) squad leaders. He or she is ultimately responsible for actions of his/her class. The class president will maintain a class telephone notification roster. The duties of the class president may be delegated to the vice president who will act in place of the president and shall assist in class management where needed.
10.4 Vice President (Squad Leader 1)

**Duties:** 1st squad leader will serve as class vice president. The class vice president will perform the same duties as the class president in his/her absence. The class will be divided in up to three (3) sections. Each squad leader will have 1/3 of the class assigned to them. The squad leader and his/her squad will complete all assignments given to them by Academy staff or the class president. Cadets will receive training assignments in the skills functional areas by squads. The squad leaders will report to Academy staff through the class president. Squad leaders may delegate assignments to his or her subordinates within each squad.

10.5 Squad Leader 2

**Duties:** 2nd squad leader will serve as class secretary/treasurer. The secretary/treasurer will keep records as required for the class in session. The class will be divided into three sections. Each squad leader will have 1/3 of the class assigned to them. The squad leader and his/her squad will complete all assignments made to them by Academy staff or the class president. Cadets will receive training assignments in the skills functional areas by squads. The squad leaders will report to Academy staff through the class president. Squad leaders may delegate assignments to his or her subordinates within each squad.

10.6 Squad Leader 3

**Duties:** 3rd squad leader will serve as class historian. The historian will document anything of historical significance to the class. This may include written or photographic information obtained in corroboration with the instructor that may be shared at graduation. The historian is responsible for leaving historical documentation, plaques, etc. with the Academy upon graduation. The class will be divided into three sections. Each squad leader will have 1/3 of the class assigned to them. The squad leader and his/her squad will complete all assignments made to them by Academy staff or the class president. Cadets will receive training assignments in the skills functional areas by squads. The squad leaders will report to Academy staff through the class president. Squad leaders may delegate assignments to his or her subordinates within each squad.

10.7 Regional Police Academy Advisory Committee

LRGVDC utilizes the collective knowledge and experience of local law enforcement personnel to serve on the Regional Police Academy Advisory Committee.

a. Committee meetings are held annually at a minimum; however, generally the committee will meet once a quarter. All members are appointed by the LRGVDC Executive Director and composition of the committee includes law enforcement agency chief executives, law enforcement instructors and at least 1/3 general public.

b. The primary function of the advisory committee is to advise on the development of curricula, provide input into the development of policies and procedures, advise on the need to study, evaluate, and identify specific training needs, advise on the determination of the types, frequency, and location of courses to be offered, advise on the establishment of the standards for admission, prerequisites, minimum and maximum class size, attendance, and retention; and advise on the order of preference among employees or prospective appointees of the sponsoring organization and other persons, if any.

c. Advisory committee members do not have the authority to make determinations for cadet disciplinary actions, including cadet appeals.
10.8 Report of Non-Compliance Violation

LRGVDC also is committed to investigating and taking appropriate action into reports of non-compliance violations and prohibits retaliation against any person making a report. To submit an identified or anonymous report, please visit the main page of www.lrgvdc.org.
Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Item #5: Department Reports

D. Public Safety

Regional Police Academy Status Report

- **In-Service Training Hours Reported**
  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classes Reported</th>
<th>12/01/17-01/31/2018</th>
<th>Year to date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Officers Attending</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Hours</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>676</td>
<td>4,068</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Basic Peace Officer Academy Cadets Enrolled**

  - **Upper Valley**
    - Day: 41
    - Night: 15
  - **Upper Valley Night**: 21
  - **Lower Valley**
    - Day: 25
    - Night: 15

- **March 2018 In-Service Scheduled**
  
  - Active Shooter
  - Legislative Update
  - Intermediate Arrest Search and Seizure

- **Basic Peace Officer Course Upcoming Academies**
  
  The registration process is complete for all Academies – Orientation Friday, March 02, 2018
  
  - **196th BPOC Day Academy – Upper Valley**  
    Start: March 05, 2018
  - **196th BPOC Day Academy – Lower Valley**  
    Start: March 05, 2018
  - **197th BPOC Night Academy – Upper Valley**
  - **197th BPOC Night Academy – Lower Valley**  
    Start: March 05, 2018

- **Academy Graduation Dates**
  
  - **196th BPOC-Day Academy**  
    Tentative: August 2018
  - **197th BPOC-Night Academy**  
    Tentative: November 2018
ITEM #5. E.

TRANSPORTATION
Item #5: Department Reports

E. Transportation

**Valley Metro Status Report** .......................................................... Tom Logan, Director

- **Ridership Report**
  Both the rural and urban transit systems are operating and all systems are monitored daily. For the month of January 2018 ridership for the urban system, which operates Monday through Saturday in the urban areas of Hidalgo, Cameron, and Starr Counties has been averaging **11,226** passengers a week. Ridership for the rural system which operates in the rural areas of Cameron, Hidalgo, Willacy, Starr, and Zapata Counties has an average of **1,481** passengers per week for the month of January.

- **Regional Transportation Advisory Panel (RTAP) Activity**

  The next RTAP meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 9, 2018

  Location: TBD
### FY 2018 September - January

#### RURAL Ridership by Route

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Total Passenger Trips</th>
<th>Route Activity</th>
<th>Area(s) Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Route 33</td>
<td>1,205</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Sullivan City, West Hidalgo County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Route 43</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>South Cameron County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Route 50</td>
<td>24,228</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>Brownsville, Port Isabel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Route 60</td>
<td>4,043</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Roma, Rio Grande City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Route 61</td>
<td>2,246</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Rio Grande City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Route 62</td>
<td>1,667</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Rio Grande City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willacy (DR)</td>
<td>2,370</td>
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<td>Willacy County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starr (DR)</td>
<td>2,952</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zapata (DR)</td>
<td>494</td>
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<tr>
<td>Route 10</td>
<td>14,627</td>
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<td>Edinburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Route 12</td>
<td>6,471</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Edcouch, Elsa, Edinburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Route 14</td>
<td>11,820</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Edinburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Route 15</td>
<td>3,662</td>
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<tr>
<td>Route 20</td>
<td>15,019</td>
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<td>Mission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Route 30</td>
<td>7,367</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Pharr, San Juan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Route 31</td>
<td>37,680</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Hidalgo County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Route 32</td>
<td>1,635</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Donna</td>
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<td>Route 40</td>
<td>4,805</td>
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<td>Harlingen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Route 41</td>
<td>6,082</td>
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<td>Harlingen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Route 42</td>
<td>3,748</td>
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<td>San Benito</td>
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<td>Route 44</td>
<td>3,061</td>
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<td>Primera, La Feria, Santa Rosa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Route 45</td>
<td>22,800</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>Cameron County</td>
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<td>Vaquero Express</td>
<td>32,234</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>Weslaco, Pharr, McAllen</td>
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<td>Vaquero Express</td>
<td>108,929</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>Edinburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidalgo</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>City of Hidalgo</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>333,217</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### FY 2018 Monthly Ridership Summary

- Rural service - service in rural low population areas outside of urbanized areas
- Urban service - service between or within urbanized areas

#### FY 2018 Year-to-Date Ridership Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 08</td>
<td>9,578</td>
<td>4,027</td>
<td>4,378</td>
<td>4,077</td>
<td>9,057</td>
<td>9,067</td>
<td>8,113</td>
<td>8,567</td>
<td>9,344</td>
<td>8,720</td>
<td>9,633</td>
<td>10,483</td>
<td>10,428</td>
<td>107,094</td>
<td>11,456</td>
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<td>FY 09</td>
<td>9,538</td>
<td>9,913</td>
<td>7,590</td>
<td>7,562</td>
<td>8,323</td>
<td>8,113</td>
<td>8,567</td>
<td>9,344</td>
<td>8,720</td>
<td>9,633</td>
<td>10,483</td>
<td>10,428</td>
<td>107,094</td>
<td>11,456</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 10</td>
<td>10,274</td>
<td>9,702</td>
<td>8,580</td>
<td>8,471</td>
<td>8,670</td>
<td>9,204</td>
<td>10,836</td>
<td>10,274</td>
<td>9,566</td>
<td>10,107</td>
<td>9,537</td>
<td>10,931</td>
<td>116,152</td>
<td>8,258</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 11</td>
<td>12,184</td>
<td>9,481</td>
<td>9,374</td>
<td>9,264</td>
<td>9,445</td>
<td>9,804</td>
<td>11,255</td>
<td>10,480</td>
<td>9,801</td>
<td>10,046</td>
<td>10,176</td>
<td>12,111</td>
<td>120,694</td>
<td>6,512</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 12</td>
<td>25,644</td>
<td>15,256</td>
<td>14,982</td>
<td>14,267</td>
<td>17,027</td>
<td>15,196</td>
<td>23,184</td>
<td>22,450</td>
<td>22,827</td>
<td>25,436</td>
<td>25,807</td>
<td>29,118</td>
<td>295,824</td>
<td>139,060</td>
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<td>FY 13</td>
<td>35,707</td>
<td>32,758</td>
<td>26,694</td>
<td>23,293</td>
<td>26,542</td>
<td>28,888</td>
<td>30,087</td>
<td>31,465</td>
<td>29,911</td>
<td>28,744</td>
<td>30,396</td>
<td>34,255</td>
<td>358,850</td>
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<td>FY 14</td>
<td>58,118</td>
<td>41,893</td>
<td>30,069</td>
<td>23,338</td>
<td>26,011</td>
<td>26,993</td>
<td>29,366</td>
<td>31,638</td>
<td>29,764</td>
<td>29,806</td>
<td>31,733</td>
<td>35,241</td>
<td>397,687</td>
<td>88,737</td>
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<td>FY 15</td>
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<td>37,648</td>
<td>26,214</td>
<td>29,063</td>
<td>35,964</td>
<td>35,785</td>
<td>39,503</td>
<td>38,431</td>
<td>45,056</td>
<td>48,891</td>
<td>38,683</td>
<td>478,421</td>
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<td>62,627</td>
<td>50,274</td>
<td>38,310</td>
<td>36,305</td>
<td>51,867</td>
<td>46,286</td>
<td>56,675</td>
<td>37,990</td>
<td>33,822</td>
<td>30,148</td>
<td>32,939</td>
<td>539,431</td>
<td>61,010</td>
<td>13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 17</td>
<td>63,205</td>
<td>58,773</td>
<td>45,367</td>
<td>34,433</td>
<td>45,042</td>
<td>51,051</td>
<td>47,542</td>
<td>47,628</td>
<td>40,601</td>
<td>41,499</td>
<td>37,719</td>
<td>47,917</td>
<td>562,787</td>
<td>23,357</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>77,255</td>
<td>80,744</td>
<td>70,823</td>
<td>65,518</td>
<td>51,877</td>
<td>65,921</td>
<td>65,482</td>
<td>63,990</td>
<td>59,308</td>
<td>55,651</td>
<td>52,082</td>
<td>52,694</td>
<td>610,217</td>
<td>32,024</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly Change from Previous FY</td>
<td>13,950</td>
<td>21,971</td>
<td>25,426</td>
<td>5,085</td>
<td>8,707</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>122%</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FY 2018 Urbanized Performance Measures

- **COST EFFECTIVENESS**
  - Cost per revenue mile = $3.01 State Avg. = $4.54
  - Cost per revenue hour = $57.91 State Avg. = $69.62
  - Cost per passenger = $8.41 State Avg. = $4.78

- **SERVICE EFFICIENCY**
  - Percentage of service time operating = 0.29 State Avg. = 0.95
  - Percentage of service time operating = 5.85 State Avg. = 14.57

### FY 2018 Nonurbanized Performance Measures

- **COST EFFECTIVENESS**
  - Cost per revenue mile = $3.95 State Avg. = $3.19
  - Cost per revenue hour = $71.08 State Avg. = $60.90
  - Cost per passenger = $19.24 State Avg. = $16.89

- **SERVICE EFFICIENCY**
  - Percentage of service time operating = 0.31 State Avg. = 0.19
  - Percentage of service time operating = 5.94 State Avg. = 3.61
### Distribution of Ridership

#### Hidalgo County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Ridership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alamo</td>
<td>2,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alton</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donna</td>
<td>4,931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edcouch</td>
<td>386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edinburg</td>
<td>134,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elsa</td>
<td>622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hargill</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidalgo</td>
<td>536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Blanca</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Joya</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Villa</td>
<td>362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McAllen</td>
<td>55,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercedes</td>
<td>2,613</td>
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<tr>
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#### Cameron County

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#### SYSTEM TOTAL

| Total       | **320,217** |

--

**Ridership by County**

- Hidalgo County: 73%
- Cameron County: 22%
- Willacy County: 4%
- Starr County: 1%
- Zapata County: 0%
## FY 2018 University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

### Valley Metro Routes

#### Monthly Cumulative Passenger Counts

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Routes</th>
<th>Sept</th>
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<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
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<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
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<th>Aug</th>
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### 2017 - 2018 Valley Metro Routes UTRGV Student Passenger Count

![Chart showing passenger counts for each month from September 2017 to August 2018. The chart includes data for both Valley Metro Routes and Vaquero Express, with FY 2017 and FY 2018 labeled.]
## South Texas College - FY 2018
### Valley Metro Routes
#### Monthly Cumulative Passenger Counts

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### Non Valley Metro Routes

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<th>Dec</th>
<th>Jan</th>
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<th>Jun</th>
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### Change Over

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### South Texas College - Mid Valley JagExpress
#### STC Student Passenger Counts Comparison

#### FY 2018

### Direct Service

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### Connecting Service

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### Total Service

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## 2018 TSTC Valley Metro Routes
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<th>Feb</th>
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<th>Jun</th>
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### Change Over Previous Month

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