



Regional Council of Governments & Economic Development District serving Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy County

RESOLUTION 2022-02

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

WHEREAS, the LRGVDC follows the guidelines set forth in the LRGV Regional Strategic Plan which includes the Public Safety vision statement to “enhance and provide sufficient resources to improve the capability of local governments, communities, and individuals to prepare for, respond and recover from emergency and weather-related events and incidents”; and,

WHEREAS, on October 3, 2022, at 8:03 A.M. in Weslaco, Texas, LRGVDC staff jumped into action to save the life of a fellow citizen after an explosion occurred due to a natural gas leak at a structure across from the LRGVDC CIEDO Building at the intersection of S. Palmas and Railroad St.; and,

WHEREAS, the following LRGVDC staff members: Cesar Merla, Marilu Fuentes, Rolando Florez, Jaime Garza, Emmanuel Escobedo, Beatrice Hernandez, Ivonne Desiga, Liza Alfaro, and Mary Rojas rushed to help a restaurant worker and ushered her away from the collapsed structure and rubble, called 9-1-1, and provided first aid until ambulatory services arrived; and,


WHEREAS, LRGVDC staff continued to assist and shield the victim from debris and possible secondary explosions as the structure continued to sustain further damage; and,

WHEREAS, staff's quick thinking and courageous actions saved the victim from sustaining further injuries and averted what could have been a tragic loss of life.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the LRGVDC President and Board of Directors that:

- This governing body recognizes that LRGVDC staff risked their own lives to save the life of another and takes great pride in expressing our appreciation for their professional and quick actions during this disaster.
- In recognition of their heroic actions, the President and Board of Directors award the aforementioned staff members LRGVDC Medals of Valor and directs the LRGVDC Executive Director to make this resolution a part of the permanent records of the LRGVDC.

ADOPTED this 26th day of OCTOBER 2022.



Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez, President

