

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF CAMERON §

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 25th day of May 2006, there was conducted a SPECIAL Meeting of the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority, Texas, at Rancho Viejo City Hall, thereof, in the Town of Rancho Viejo, Texas, for the purpose of transacting any and all business that may lawfully be brought before the same.

THE BOARD MET AT:

8:00 A.M.

PRESENT:

DAVID ALLEX
CHAIRPERSON

LAURA BETANCOURT
DIRECTOR

SCOT CAMPBELL
DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR

VICTOR ALVAREZ
DIRECTOR

MICHAEL SCAIEF
DIRECTOR

DAVID N. GARZA
DIRECTOR

Mary Robles

ABSENT:

RAY RAMON

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The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Allex at 8:06 A.M.

The Board considered the following matters as posted and filed for Record in the Office of the County Clerk on May 19, 2006, at 3:45 P.M.:

AGENDA

Special Meeting of the Board of Directors Of the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority

Town of Rancho Viejo City Hall
3461 Carmen Avenue
Rancho Viejo, Texas 78575

Thursday May 25, 2006
8:00 A.M.

- I. Public Comments
- II. Consideration and approval of work authorization No. 6 between Cameron County RMA and HNTB
- III. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Interim Executive Director to negotiate a scope and fee schedule with HNTB for preliminary engineering services, legal and financial advisory services, marketing and education and the environmental assessment phase of the West Loop Project
- IV. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Interim Executive Director to negotiate a scope and fee schedule with HNTB for preliminary environmental studies, preliminary engineering, public outreach and education, legal and financial advisory services for the Second Causeway Project
- V. Consideration and possible approval of resolution requesting Texas Transportation Commission for the return of un-used highway easement to original grantors, South Padre, LTD., for easements conveyed in 1972 and 1973.
- VI. Consideration and approval of travel for Directors and staff to attend the International Bridge Tunnel & Turnpike Association meeting on September 16-20, 2006 in Dallas, Texas

Signed this 19th Day of May 2006


David E. Allex
Chairman

ACCEPTED FOR FILING
CAMERON COUNTY
2006 MAY 19 P 3:45
COUNTY CLERK

(I) **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None was presented.

(II) **IN THE MATTER REGARDING CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF WORK AUTHORIZATION NO. 6 BETWEEN CAMERON COUNTY RMA AND HNTB (TABLED)**

Mr. Pete Sepulveda, Interim Executive Director, reported that two of the nine identified projects were not feasible for the RMA to participate in anymore. He recommended that this item be tabled. Mr. Sepulveda explained that the work authorization was strictly to package the application, and that the issue was that the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) would not fund 100% of the two projects, rather only about 80%, leaving a gap of 20% out of \$40 million to be funded. Mr. Sepulveda noted that most of the projects were within city limits, and that Brownsville would benefit most. He stated that the possibility of Cameron County contributing was discussed with Judge Hinojosa and that he suggested that a meeting take place with the cities of Harlingen and Brownsville for additional participation, adding that they would meet later with TXDOT. Mr. Sepulveda stated that the projects were part of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) through the MPO and that a response was pending from TXDOT to learn if TIP Funds could be used to fund the 20%. He stated that he could not recommend approval until he reached a comfort level, and that the East Loop Project could be added to the identified projects.

Upon motion by Director Campbell seconded by Director Garza and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED.**

(III) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE A SCOPE AND FEE SCHEDULE WITH HNTB FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING SERVICES, LEGAL AND FINANCIAL ADVISORY SERVICES, MARKETING AND EDUCATION AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PHASE OF THE WEST LOOP PROJECT**

Director Alvarez moved that the Interim Executive Director be authorized to negotiate a scope and fee schedule with HNTB for preliminary engineering services, legal and financial advisory services, marketing and education and the environmental assessment phase of the West Loop Project.

The motion was seconded by Director Garza and carried unanimously.

(IV) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE A SCOPE AND FEE SCHEDULE WITH HNTB FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING, PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION, LEGAL AND FINANCIAL ADVISORY SERVICES FOR THE SECOND CAUSEWAY PROJECT

Upon by Director Campbell, seconded by Director Alvarez and carried unanimously, the Interim Executive Director was authorized to negotiate a scope and fee schedule with HNTB for environmental studies, preliminary engineering, public outreach and education, legal and financial advisory services for the second causeway project.

(V) IN THE MATTER REGARDING CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION REQUESTING TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR THE RETURN OF UN-USED HIGHWAY EASEMENT TO ORIGINAL GRANTORS, SOUTH PADRE, LTD., FOR EASEMENTS CONVEYED IN 1972 AND 1973 (TABLED)

Mr. Sepulveda recommended that this item be tabled due to concerns expressed by TXDOT. He briefed as to the situation with the right-of-way located where Highway 100 ends. Mr. Sepulveda explained that said right-of-way was given to TXDOT by the owners and that the possibility that it be sold back to the county after declaring it a surplus for them to work with the developers was being contemplated, adding that TXDOT decided to wait on any action to be taken until after the technical studies for the second causeway.

Chairman Alex asked if there was any opposition.

Mr. Sepulveda responded negatively.

Director Garza commented that the issue was the need to have an alternate route for the road.

Chairman Alex and Director Scaief requested that maps be provided to better understand the items being discussed.

Upon motion by Director Campbell seconded by Director Alvarez and carried unanimously, this Item was **TABLED.**

(VI) CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF TRAVEL FOR DIRECTORS AND STAFF TO ATTEND THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE & TURNPIKE ASSOCIATION MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 16-20, 2006 IN DALLAS, TEXAS

Chairman Alex invited any member to attend and indicated that he would attend the meeting in Dallas.

At this time Director Alvarez lead the Board in a prayer for the health of Mr. Sepulveda's mother who was presently in the hospital.

(VII) PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Sepulveda reported as to possible actions and efforts to be taken to prevent being presented unsolicited proposals from private firms. He explained that there were concerns with private firms contacting board members, GEC, and/or staff, and suggested that documentation of any contacts be kept.

(VI) CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF TRAVEL FOR DIRECTORS AND STAFF TO ATTEND THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE & TURNPIKE ASSOCIATION MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 16-20, 2006 IN DALLAS, TEXAS

Upon by Director Scaief, seconded by Director Betancourt and carried unanimously, the travel of directors and staff to attend the International Bridge & Turnpike Association Meeting on September 16-20, 2006, in Dallas, Texas, was authorized.

There being no further business to come before the **BOARD** and upon motion by Director Campbell seconded by Director Betancourt the meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:36 A.M.

APPROVED this 22nd day of **June 2006**.

CHAIRMAN DAVID E. ALEX

ATTESTED:

SECRETARY LAURA BETANCOURT