



Judge Linda Grant
President

Councilmember Jim Holmes
Vice-President

Judge Jay Elliott
Secretary/Treasurer

Russell Devorsky
Executive Director

Heart of Texas Council of Governments

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Heart of Texas Council of Governments' Executive Committee, in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended, met in regular session, on Thursday, the 28th Day of January 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at the Heart of Texas Council of Governments, 1514 South New Road, Waco, Texas, by "Virtual/Telephone Conferencing", (as approved by the Texas Attorney General).

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/426635053>

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United States (Toll Free): [1 866 899 4679](tel:18668994679)

Access Code: 426-635-053

Members Present

Judge Linda Grant, *President*
Councilmember Jim Holmes, *Vice-President*
Judge Scott Felton
Co. Treasurer Jeannie Keeney
Commissioner Jim Smith
Councilmember Jimmy Rogers
Mayor Andy Smith
Judge Cindy Vanlandingham
Mayor Dillon Meek

Freestone County
City of Waco
McLennan County
Freestone County
McLennan County
City of Robinson
City of Hillsboro
Bosque County
City of Waco

Members Absent

Judge Justin Lewis
Judge Richard Duncan
Judge Jay Elliott, *Secretary-Treasurer*
Commissioner Nita Wuebker
Mr. Calvin Rueter
Mayor Johnnie Hauerland

Hill County
Limestone County
Falls County
Falls County
Special Districts
City of Meridian

Staff Present

Russell Devorsky
John C. Minnix
Gary Luft
Mary McDow
Dorthy Jackson

Executive Director
Dep. Exec. Director of Administration
Dep. Exec. Director of HHS
Personnel Manager
Regional Economic Development Manager

Tim Jeske
Amy Derrick
Rep Pledger
Harold Ferguson

Homeland Security Manager
Emergency Preparedness Planner
Transportation Manager
Economic Development Planner

AGENDA

I. Call to Order and Determination of a Quorum

President Linda Grant called the meeting to order, roll call, and determined that a quorum was present.

II. Proof of Posting of notice in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended, known as the Texas Open Meetings Act. Proof of posting was provided by Mary McDow.

III. Introduction of Guests. Guests and staff were introduced.

IV. Consideration of and/or action on the following:

A. Approval of the October 22, 2020 meeting minutes and December 10, 2020 meeting minutes

President Linda Grant asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. There being none, a motion was made by Freestone County Treasurer Jeannie Keeney and seconded by City of Robinson Councilmember Jimmy Rogers to approve the October 22, 2020 and December 10, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

B. New Business

1. Executive Committee recommendations of Officers and Members for 2021

Mr. Russell Devorsky presented the list of Officers and Executive Committee members for 2021 recommended by the Nominating Committee (Judge Justin Lewis, County Treasurer Jeannie Keeney and Councilmember Jimmy Rogers).

Officers:

President: Linda Grant, Freestone County Judge

Vice President: Jim Holmes, Councilmember, City of Waco

Secretary-Treasurer: Jay Elliott, Falls County Judge

Members:

Cindy Vanlandingham, Bosque County Judge

Johnnie Hauerland, Mayor, City of Meridian

Justin Lewis, Hill County Judge

Andy Smith, Mayor, City of Hillsboro

Nita Wuebker, Commissioner, Falls County

Richard Duncan, Limestone County Judge

Scott Felton, McLennan County Judge

Jim Smith, Commissioner, McLennan County
Jimmy Rogers, Councilmember, City of Robinson
Jeannie Keeney, County Treasurer, Freestone County
Dillon Meek, Mayor, City of Waco
Calvin Rueter, Member, Special Districts
Vacant, City of Waco
Vacant, Limestone County Representative

A motion was made by City of Robinson Councilmember Jimmy Rogers and seconded by McLennan County Judge Scott Felton to approve the list of recommendations of Officers and members to be appointed to the Executive Committee. Motion passed.

2. Law Enforcement Training Advisory Committee (LETAC) Appointments

Mr. Tim Jeske presented a list of the Law Enforcement Training Advisory Committee (LETAC) members for appointment and reappointment:

- Chris Anderson-Bosque County EMT
- Michael Abel, McLennan County
- David Drake, Limestone County
- Lee R. Cox, Limestone County Sheriff's Office
- Tina Lincoln, Hill County Juvenile Probation
- Jeremy Shipley, Freestone County Sheriff
- Joe Lopez, Falls County Sheriff
- David Kilcrease, McLennan County Sheriff's Office

A motion was made by McLennan County Commissioner Jim Smith and seconded by Freestone County Treasurer Jeannie Keeney to approve the recommended appointments and reappointments to serve on the Law Enforcement Training Advisory Committee. Motion passed.

3. Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Appointments

Mr. Jeske presented a list of appointments and reappointments to the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC):

-Brian Swick, Chair, Scott Ferguson, Vice-Chair, Milton Albright, Cathy Beckwith, Katie Cole, Bill Madding, David Echols, Jay Sparkman, Mark Norcross, Tuck Saunders, Dick VanDyke and Nita Wuebker. President Linda Grant noted that Bill Madding would be retiring and a recommendation would be forthcoming to replace Mr. Madding.

A motion was made by County Treasurer Jeannie Keeney and seconded by Councilmember Jimmy Rogers to approve the recommended committee members for reappointment except for Bill Madding. Motion passed.

New members recommended to the CJAC include John Miller, Hill County

Constable, Yesica Rodriguez, Domestic Violence Response Team-McLennan and Joe Lopez, Falls County Sheriff. A motion was made by Commissioner Jim Smith and seconded by Councilmember Jimmy Rogers to ratify the motion to approve the recommended new appointments to the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee. Motion passed.

4. FY2022 Law Enforcement Training Grant Application and Resolution

Mr. Jeske stated the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's Office is soliciting applications for projects for law enforcement training programs during FY 2022 and 2023 grant cycle. Mr. Jeske noted HOTCOG is requesting approval to request \$142,423.50 for the Heart of Texas Region Law Enforcement Program for the period of September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2023. Under the grant contract, HOTCOG will be responsible for:

- Scheduling TCOLE certified courses for regional law enforcement;
- Maintaining a quality program that offers basic, intermediate, mandatory and specialized classes;
- Providing grant management including quarterly progress as required;
- Attending a mandatory TCOLE Training Coordinators Conference.

A motion was made by County Treasurer Jeannie Keeney and seconded by Commissioner Jim Smith to approve the Resolution authorizing the submission of application to the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's office for FY2022 funding. Motion passed.

5. FY2022 Juvenile Justice Alternatives Grant and Resolution

Mr. Jeske stated the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's Office is soliciting applications for Juvenile Justice Alternatives during the state fiscal year 2022 grant cycle. Mr. Jeske noted HOTCOG is requesting approval to submit an application to request \$49,485.49 for the Heart of Texas Region Juvenile Justice and Truancy Prevention for the period of October 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022. Under the grant contract, HOTCOG will be responsible for:

- preparing contracts with each of the six counties within the HOTCOG region that will be receiving grant funds to provide juvenile detention alternatives;
- reimburse each of the six counties' juvenile probation departments for juvenile justice detention and counseling services provided; and
- provide grant management including submitting project quarterly and/or progress reports as required, and a monitoring visit to each sub-recipient.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jim Smith and seconded by County Treasurer Jeannie Keeney to approve the Resolution presented authorizing the Executive Director to submit the grant application to the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's Office for FY2022 Criminal Justice program funding. Motion passed.

6. Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee Appointments
Mr. Jeske presented the recommendations for the Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee appointments.
 - Rob Bergerson, Deputy Fire Chief, City of Waco
 - Trace Hendricks, Bosque County Sheriff
 - Terry Townley, Bosque County Commissioner
 - Danny Guerra, Supervisor, McLennan County
 - Chris Cary, Hill County Community Outreach Officer
 - Nate Smith, City Administrator, City of Fairfield

A motion was made by County Treasurer Jeannie Keeney and seconded by Councilmember Jim Holmes to approve the appointments to the Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee as presented. Motion passed.

7. 2021 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) HOTCOG Regional Projects and Approval of Resolutions for the Projects:
 - (1) HOTCOG Regional Planning,
 - (2) HOTCOG Regional Citizen Corps Program and
 - (3) HOTCOG ENS Information Sharing

Mr. Jeske presented three applications for submission to the Homeland Security Grant Program, HOTCOG Regional Planning, HOTCOG Regional Citizen Corps Program and the HOTCOG ENS Information Sharing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jim Smith and seconded by Councilmember Jim Holmes to approve the three resolutions presented - HOTCOG Regional Planning, HOTCOG Regional Citizen Corps Program and the HOTCOG ENS Information Sharing authorizing the Executive Director to submit the applications to the Office of the Governor's Public Safety Office. Motion passed.

C. Report of the Executive Director and Staff

1. Department of Administration

a. Financial, Personnel and Investment Report

Mr. John Minnix presented the Financial, Personnel and Investment Reports to the Committee for review. Mr. Minnix noted the outside Auditors, Pattillo, Brown & Hill, were inhouse in November and the audit is being processed and a report will be completed in the next few months. There were no findings or questioned costs.

2. Health & Human Services

a. Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan (RCTP)

Mr. Rep Pledger stated the HOTCOG Rural Transit District (RTD) staff released a Request for Proposal on December 23, 2020 to acquire the services of a planning consultant to update the current Regionally Coordinated Transportation

Plan (RCTP) in compliance with Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and HOTCOG requirements. The project is funded by TxDOT. Seven proposals were received and narrowed down to four for consideration. HOTCOG RTD staff and members from the Regional Transportation Coordination Council reviewed the four proposals and selected the KFH group from Austin, Texas as consultant to update the Plan at a cost of \$119,025.00.

b. Department Activities Report – Mr. Luft gave a summary of the activities of the Health and Human Services programs -Area Agency on Aging, HOT Aging and Disability Resource Center, HOT 2-1-1 Call Center and the Rural Transit District.

3. Regional Services Department Activities Report

Mrs. Dorothy Jackson gave an activity report of the Economic and Community Development programs.

4. Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Russell Devorsky administered the Oath of Office to the Officers and Executive Committee members. Mr. Devorsky noted HOTCOG’s new website will be launched sometime in the next few months and the upgrade to the audio-visual equipment in the Board Room is in progress. Mr. Devorsky noted that over 11 million PPEs (gloves, masks, etc.) have been distributed in the region to fire departments, nursing homes, civic groups, etc. Please let HOTCOG know if you know of anyone that may need these items.

V. Other Reports – None.

VI. Public Comment – None.

VII. Adjournment – A motion and second was made to adjourn the meeting.

Linda Grant, President
Freestone County Judge

Jay Elliott, Secretary Treasurer
Falls County Judge