



Judge Don Pool
President

Judge Linda Grant
Secretary/Treasurer

Councilmember Mike Thompson
Vice-President

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, Thursday, the 27th Day of February 2020, at 10:00 a.m. at the Heart of Texas Council of Governments, 1514 South New Road, Waco, Texas.

Members Present

Judge Don Pool, <i>President</i>	Bosque County
Councilmember Mike Thompson, <i>Vice-President</i>	City of Groesbeck
Judge Linda Grant, <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Freestone County
Judge Jay Elliott	Falls County
Judge Justin Lewis	Hill County
Judge Scott Felton	McLennan County
Co. Treasurer Jeannie Keeney	Freestone County
Commissioner Kelly Snell	McLennan County
Commissioner Nita Wuebker	Falls County
Mayor Andy Smith	City of Hillsboro
Councilmember John Kinnaird	City of Waco
Councilmember Jimmy Rogers	City of Robinson
Mayor Kyle Deaver	City of Waco
Mr. Calvin Rueter	Special Districts

Members Absent

Judge Richard Duncan	Limestone County
Mayor Johnnie Hauerland	City of Meridian
Councilmember Jim Holmes	City of Waco

Staff Present

Russell Devorsky	Executive Director
John C. Minnix	Director of Administration
Gary Luft	Director of Health & Human Services
Mary McDow	Personnel Manager
Harold Ferguson	Homeland Security Manager
Rep Pledger	Transportation Manager
Dorothy Jackson	Community/Economic Dev Manager
Falen Bohannon	Environment Planner

Visitors Present

I. Call to Order and Determination of a Quorum

President Don Pool called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and determined that a quorum was present at the meeting.

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 of the meeting was confirmed by Mary McDow.

III. Introduction of Guests

Guests and staff members were introduced. Ms. Angelia Orr from Representative Cody Harris' office presented a Resolution recognizing and congratulating Judge Justin Lewis on becoming the Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) President.

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

A. Approval of the January 23, 2020 meeting minutes

A motion was made by Judge Jay Elliott and seconded by Councilmember John Kinnaird to approve the January 23, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

B. New Business

1. HOTCOG FY2019-2020 Budget Amendment #1

Mr. John Minnix presented an amendment of the FY2019-2020 Budget. Mr. Minnix noted the equipment line item and estimated revenues were adjusted to reflect recent 911 equipment replacement purchases and the purchase of 8 rural transportation buses for \$621,616. In addition, the miscellaneous income is being adjusted \$20,000 to account for the Air Quality project.

A motion was made by Judge Elliott and seconded by Judge Justin Lewis to approve the FY2019-2020 HOTCOG Budget Amendment #1 as presented. Motion passed.

2. FY20/21 HOTCOG Solid Waste Advisory Committee Implementation Projects

Mrs. Falen Bohannon stated that HOTCOG staff recently requested local and regional projects for FY20/21 Solid Waste Implementation Projects from all jurisdictions. Mrs. Bohannon noted that allowable projects address one of the

following areas: local enforcement, litter and illegal dumping, source reduction and recycling, local solid waste management plans, citizens collection stations, HHW, technical studies, educational studies and “other” related projects for Solid Waste. The Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) reviewed and ranked the 8 projects submitted at their meeting on February 18th. The funding allocation was \$91,056 towards regional projects. The projects and their recommended funding is below:

Rank	Applicant	Project Title	Amount Requested by Applicant	SWAC Recommended Amount	FY20	FY21
1	Waco	HHW	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	
2	Falls	Litter & Ill Dumping	\$27,400	\$13,700	\$6,850	\$6,850
3	McLennan	Litter & Ill Dumping	\$26,820	\$13,410	\$6,705	\$6,705
4	Fairfield	Litter & Ill Dumping	\$5,501	\$5,501	\$2,750	\$2,750
5	Walnut Springs	Litter & Ill Dumping	\$7,165	\$7,165	\$7,165	
6	Clifton	Source Reduction	\$8,260	\$8,260		\$8,260
7	Freestone	Source Reduction	\$33,080	\$21,720		\$21,720
8	Rosebud	Local Enforcement	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300	

A motion was made by Judge Elliott and seconded by Freestone County Treasurer Jeannie Keeney to approve the Solid Waste Advisory Committee’s funding recommendations for FY20/21 Solid Waste Implementation Project List. Motion passed.

3. Recommended revision of the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee and Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee Bylaws

Mr. Russell Devorsky presented a recommendation for a change to the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Bylaws and the Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee Bylaws as follows:

CJAC Bylaws Change:

Section 2:

- A. All members shall be appointed for ~~a one-year~~ two-year term. Members may be reappointed.

EPAC Bylaws change:

Section 4:

- B. Terms of service shall begin on ~~November~~ **January** 1st and end on ~~October~~ **December** 31st.

A motion was made by Judge Scott Felton and seconded by Commissioner Kelly Snell to approve the changes to the bylaws with correction made. Motion passed.

4. Authorization of Executive Director to appoint a member to the State Regional Review Committee

Mr. Devorsky discussed changes being made to the Regional Review Committee process by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) that directly affects the Texas Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds that communities apply for every biennium. Mr. Devorsky noted that local Regional Review Committees are being eliminated and a State Regional Review Committee will be appointed to review and approve the CDBG grant applications for funding. Due to the time frame that TDA is requesting appointments to the State RRC, staff is recommending the Executive Committee authorize the Executive Director to make the appointment to the State RRC to ensure local representation. Mr. Devorsky noted there is specific criteria that is required for the appointee, one being that the appointee is an elected official. Mr. Devorsky stated that Councilmember Mike Thompson, City of Groesbeck, currently serving as HOTCOG vice-president and meets all of the criteria, is willing to serve as the representative for the State Regional Review Committee.

Mr. Devorsky stated that HOTCOG had just received the rules from the Texas Department of Agriculture the day before the Executive Committee meeting which indicates that the Governing Body of the COG is preferred to appoint the local representative to serve on the State RRC. HOTCOG did not receive the TDA rules until after the posting of the executive committee meeting.

A motion was made by Judge Jay Elliott and seconded by Commissioner Nita Wuebker to authorize the Executive Director to appoint the local representative to the State Regional Review Committee.

Judge Justin Lewis motioned for an amendment to the original motion that the HOTCOG Executive Committee be authorized to appoint a representative to serve on the State Regional Review Committee to represent the region and further to nominate Vice President Michael Thompson to serve as the representative to the State Regional Review Committee. Judge Linda Grant seconded the motion. Amendment was passed with no opposition. The amended motion by Judge Jay Elliott was passed with no opposition.

5. Presentation – Judge Cole Word – Stonegate Recovery Center

A presentation was made to the committee regarding the Stonegate Recovery Center, a substance use recovery program.

C. Report of the Executive Director and Staff

1. Department of Administration

a. Financial and Personnel Reports

Mr. Minnix gave the Financial and Personnel reports to the Executive Committee. Mr. Minnix noted the Audit for FY2019-2020 will be presented at next month's meeting.

2. Health & Human Services

a. Department Activities Report

Mr. Gary Luft presented the Health and Human Services program reports to the committee including the Area Agency on Aging, Heart of Texas Aging and Disability Resource Center, Heart of Texas 2-1-1 Call Center and Heart of Texas Rural Transit District. Highlights include:
-Mr. Luft noted work by staff on the Area Plan is going well and due at the end of March. --Mr. Luft noted that notification was given from the Texas Department of Transportation that money would be available to purchase 5 more new buses which would make a total of 13 buses purchased for the program.

3. Regional Services

a. Department Activities Report

Mrs. Dorthy Jackson gave the Economic and Community Development program activity report to the committee and noted that more detail is provided in the packet for review. Mrs. Jackson discussed the Regional Review Committee process that directly affects the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TCDBG) funds that communities apply for every biennium. These funds are typically the \$350,000 grant funds for critical water and sewer projects within the communities in our region that qualify for the CDBG funds. Mrs. Jackson handed out and discussed the TDA 2021-22 Community Development Fund Verified Scoring Criteria Guide Draft document. The Executive Committee will have the opportunity at the next meeting to establish priority needs for the HOTCOG region. Mr. Devorsky noted that traditionally priority needs have been water and sewer needs.

Mr. Harold Ferguson gave a report on the Homeland Security activities noting that grant applications for Homeland Security and Criminal Justice programs are due February 27, 2020. Mr. Ferguson also noted that staff is working on the new Texas Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure Grant which is due March 12, 2020. Only COGs and State agencies can apply for the initial \$20 million funding amount. Staff have been in contact with all six counties about what is needed to improve the communication structure in the counties.

4. Executive Director's Report – Mr. Devorsky noted that community and regional outreach continues to include attendance at Chamber of Commerce meetings as well as staff presentations to Chamber meetings in the region. Mr. Devorsky let the committee know that as of a few weeks ago, Judge Justin Lewis is now serving as President of the TARC Board of Directors.

V. Other Reports- none

VI. Public Comment - none

VII. Adjournment - the Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Don Pool, President
Bosque County Judge

Linda Grant, Secretary Treasurer
Freestone County Judge