

*HIDALGO COUNTY MPO
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, July 16, 2009*

1 **Roll Call**

Chairman Angie Garza called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. The Policy Committee Meeting was held at the HCMPO office, 510 South Pleasantview Drive, Weslaco, Texas. Present were representatives from The Cities of: Alamo, Edcouch, Edinburg, Hidalgo, La Joya, McAllen, Palmhurst, Pharr, San Juan, TxDOT, Hidalgo County RMA and LRGVDC Transit.

2 **Citizen Input**

Chairman Angie Garza asked if there was any citizen input. Their being none, the chairman proceeded to the next item.

3 **Adoption of Minutes from May 21, 2009**

(ACTION ITEM)

The City of Alamo made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The City of Edinburg seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

4 **Discussion of Scenario Planning**

Mr. Andrew Howard, Kimley-Horn gave a brief update on Scenario Planning. He advised the board that several public meetings have been scheduled for August. He stated that MPO staff was going to send out information regarding the meetings. Mr. Canon stated that due to so many citizens confirming their attendance; he requested approval to move the August 20th Policy Meeting to another bigger location. He advised the members that two public forum meetings have been scheduled for August 20th. One is scheduled for 1:30 pm and the other will begin promptly after the policy meeting. Ms. Champine stated that Mr. Ed Taylor, City of McAllen, was helping staff acquire permission to use the McAllen Convention Center. Ms. Champine stated that another alternative will be the Lark Community Center in McAllen. The Board members were in agreement to go ahead and relocated the August 20th Policy Meeting to McAllen. *Reports only, no action taken at this time.*

5 **Adoption of FY2008-09 UPWP Amendment #5**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Canon stated that due to the on-going 2010-2035 MTP Contract, budget adjustments, and the with the delay of the modal, MPO staff will need to de-obligate \$300,000 from Fy08-09 UPWP and transfer it to the FY2010 UPWP. *The City of Edinburg made a motion to Adopt the FY08-09 UPWP Amendment #5. The City of Alamo seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

6 **Adoption of FY2010-2011 UPWP**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Canon stated that staff is requesting Adoption of the FY2010-11 UPWP. He stated that this is our two year budgetary document which describes and provides guidance as to the tasks that the HCMPO staff hope to undertake in the coming years. *TxDOT made a motion to Adopt the FY2010-11 UPWP as presented. The City of Hidalgo seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

7 **Approval of Bylaw Amendment for Ethics Policy**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Canon stated that staff is requesting to approve the revised Bylaw Amendment for Ethics Policy. He stated this amendment would incorporate the guidance provided in SB 585 of the 81st Texas Legislative session. He stated that the transportation code will prohibit a policy board members or employee of an MPO from accepting or soliciting any gift, favor or service that might reasonably tend to influence the member or employee in the discharge of their official duties. *The City of Edcouch made a motion to approve the Bylaw Amendment for Ethics Policy. The City of San Juan seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

8 **Approval of TIP Amendment**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Canon stated that TIP will need to be revised in two parts. 1) need to address projects that were advanced by Rio Metro, for expenditures of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. 2) will need to address the project CSJ 0921-02-173 which is Border Safety Inspection Facility (BSIF). The project description needs to read from: U.S. Customs Port of Entry Exit to U.S. 281. *The City of San Juan made a motion to approve the TIP Amendment as presented. The City of Edcouch seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

9 **Approval of Out of State Travel - AMPO Conference**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Canon stated that staff is seeking approval to attend the AMPO Conference scheduled to meet in Savannah, GA in October. He stated that Maria and him would like to attend the AMPO Conference; which is held once a year in different locations. He noted that the conference is being held in conjunction with NADO and will host many workshops and peer exchange programs on Transportation Planning. *The City of Edinburg made a motion to approve the Out of State Travel - AMPO Conference as presented. The City of Edcouch seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

10 Executive Session - Director Evaluation

(ACTION ITEM)

Chairman Angie Garza requested for a motion to go into Executive Session. *The City of Edinburg made a motion to go into Executive Session. The City of Edcouch seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.* Chairman Angie Garza requested for a motion to come back from Executive Session. *The City of Edinburg made a motion to come back from Executive Session. The City of McAllen seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.* Chairman Angie Garza stated for the record that it was 8:13 p.m. The City of Edinburg asked for the motion on the recommendation. Ms. Angie Garza stated the Policy Committee needed to come back in six (6) months for an evaluation. Mr. Noe Garza, City of Edinburg, stated that the motion needed to include Mr. Canon to work with Ken Jones and Anna Hernandez, LRGVDC on a growth plan to include the Dale Carnegie book mentioned by Commissioner Crane, City of McAllen, take some classes on Anger Management/People Skills and to have HR have monthly reviews with the MPO staff. *The Motion was made by the City of Edinburg, and seconded by the City of Edcouch.*

11 Follow Up from Federal Certification-handout

Mr. Canon stated that a final certification review report was given out for everyone to review. He stated that the MPO meets the requirements of 23 CFR 450 and 49 CFR 613 and the Hidalgo County MPO is certified. *Reports only, no action taken at this time.*

12 Staff Update

A. Calendar: July & August 2009

Mr. Canon stated that a meeting has been scheduled for August 5th in Austin regarding the UTP and TIP. He stated that Maria and himself will be attending this meeting. He also noted that he will be taking Annual leave on August 27th and 28th. He also reminded the members that the August Policy Meeting will be taken place in another location. *Reports only, no action taken at this time.*

B. HCMPO Budget Report

Mr. Canon briefly went the HCMPO budget report. *Reports only, no action taken at this time.*

C. Legislative Update

No report was given at this time.

D. Microsoft Access 2007 Training

Mr. Canon stated that the MPO will be hosting a Microsoft Access 2007 Training at our offices. Everyone is welcome to attend. He noted that the training will be given by Skills Path Training. He advised everyone that the fee for attending the two-day training was \$350.00

13 Off System Report

None at this time

14 Letting Report

Reports only, no action taken at this time.

15 HCRMA Update

Mr. Behrooz Badiozamani gave a brief update on the Hidalgo County Loop Project. *Reports only, no action taken at this time.*

16 Old Or New Business

None at this time.

17 Adjournment

The City of Edinburg made a motion to adjourn. The City of Edcouch seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

Attest: