



**Executive Committee Meeting**

2180 North Main Street, Belton, Texas

August 21, 2025

**Hybrid Meeting: 12:00 PM**

**MEETING MINUTES:**

The August 21, 2025, Central Texas Council of Governments Annual Executive Committee Meeting was called to order by the Councilman Jose Segarra, City of Killeen, President at 12:12 pm.

**Executive Committee Officers in Attendance:**

President	Councilman Jose Segarra	City of Killeen Councilmember
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Russell Schneider	Precinct 3, Bell County
Secretary/Treasurer	Judge Jody Fauley	San Saba County
Parliamentarian	Commissioner Bobby Whitson	Precinct 2, Bell County

**Executive Committee Members in Attendance:**

Mayor Michael Blomquist, City of Harker Heights	Mayor Nathan Fuchs, City of Cameron	Keith Sledd, Heart of Texas Defense Alliance
Councilmember Stephanie O'Banion, City of Belton	Mayor Debbie Nash-King, City Of Killeen	Ricky Tow, City of Cameron
Martha Tyroch, General Land Office	Judge Bill Whitmire, Milam County	Judge James Yates, Hamilton County
Judge Roger Miller, Coryell County	Judge David Blackburn, Bell County	Commissioner Dickie Clary, Hamilton County
Mayor Gary Chumley, City of Gatesville	Judge Jett Johnson, Mills County	City Manager Brad Hunt, City of Gatesville

**CTCOG Staff Members and Guests in Attendance:**

Jim Reed, CTCOG	Uryan Nelson, CTCOG	Helen Hill Yancey, CTCOG
Jesse Henage, CTCOG	Louis LeDoux, WFSCT	Anita Janke, CTCOG
Vorakarn Saipornchai, CTCOG	Linda Angel, WFCT	Jwana Sartor, CTCOG*
Kylee Young, CTCOG	Carmen Lim, CTCOG	

**Oath of Office**

No Oath of Office was administered.

**Public Comment**

There was no Public Comment.

**Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Mayor Michael Blomquist, City of Harker Heights, to accept the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda included the August 2025 Expenditure Report, the May 2025 Meeting Minutes, the July 2025 Meeting Minutes, Approval of Amendments to the Development District of Central Texas (DDCT) Bylaws, Approval of the Development District of Central Texas (DDCT) Members, Approval of Central Texas Regional Transportation Advisory Group Membership, and the ratification of resolutions from July 24, 2025 meeting. These resolutions included: 07-25-PRS001 a Resolution Authorizing Participation in Investment Pools Utilizing Central Texas Emergency Communications District; and 07-25-PRS002 a Resolution Authorizing Central Texas Emergency Communications District Participation in the Texas 9-1-1 Alliance; 07-25-ADM001 a Resolution Authorizing Indebtedness – CTCOG Credit Cards. Martha Tyroch, General Land Office, seconded the motion. All were in favor; none opposed.

**Action Items**

- A motion was made by Councilmember Stephanie O'Banion, City of Belton, to approve Resolution 08-25-PRS001, which sought to Resolution Approving the Central Texas Emergency Communications District Policy, Procedures, and Performance Measures. Keith Sledd, Heart of Texas Defense Alliance, seconded the motion. All were in favor; none opposed.

- A motion was made by Mayor Nathan Fuchs, City of Cameron, to approve Resolution 08-25-PRS002, which sought to Approving Declaring the Establishment of the Central Texas Emergency Communications District. Mayor Debbie Nash-King, City of Killeen, seconded the motion. All were in favor; none opposed.

## **Reports**

**Workforce Development Board:** Dr. Linda Angel, Executive Director of CTWB, provided the committee with an update on recent federal and state workforce developments. A 27% reduction was reported in the supplemental nutrition (food stamp) program, along with a 12% reduction across other programs. In contrast, childcare program funding increased by 19%, with an additional 10% increase allocated for program management. Without the childcare funding, the Workforce budget would have faced a shortfall of approximately half a million dollars. The next Workforce Board meeting will be held in September at A&M Central Texas, and the annual Workforce Awards Luncheon is scheduled for October 30th, with invitations to be distributed by email. The 2nd Chance Employment Pathways program continues to be highly successful, gaining significant media attention and resulting in job offers for participants across multiple counties, including offers at higher wage levels. Additionally, the Wrenches to Wheels program remains a strong success, providing middle school students with the opportunity to build and take home a bicycle—many of whom are experiencing bike ownership or learning to ride for the first time.

**Workforce Solution Central Texas:** Louis LeDoux, Chief Operating Officer of WFSCT, provided the committee with an update on regional unemployment and workforce activity. For the week ending July 26, 2025, a total of 19,009 UI claims were filed, resulting in a regional unemployment rate of 4.7%, slightly lower than last year's rate of 4.9%. At the Summer Surge Job Fair held in July in Bell County, 41 employers and 82 recruiters engaged with 411 job seekers, including 183 veterans, with 50 individuals receiving on-site job offers. Looking ahead, the largest hiring event of the year, the Red, White, and Blue Job Fair, will take place on November 5 at Fort Hood and is expected to attract approximately 1,400 job seekers and 140 employers. Additional employer participation is still being encouraged for this event. In July, Workforce Centers also served 10,791 customers, providing a total of 27,710 services. Mr. LeDoux noted that while

advancements in artificial intelligence may influence the job market, they cannot fully replace human workers at this time.

**Area Agency on Aging:** Jim Reed, AICP, Executive Director of CTCOG, delivered the Area Agency on Aging update on behalf of George Losoya, Director of the AAA/ADRC. The update included HHSC site visits on August 4 and 21 and highlighted the Fall Prevention Partnership, which collaborates with the statewide Texas Takes on Falls Coalition and local partners such as Baylor Scott & White and the Central Texas Regional Advisory Council. The FY26 ADRC Contract and Budget have been approved by the state, and disaster relief initiatives continue, including Grab-and-Go meal services in San Saba County through September 30, 2025, \$200 gift card assistance for income support, accessibility improvements, and \$60,000 in veteran home repair grants. Additionally, the TVC Grant has been extended through December 31, 2025, with a \$200,000 budget and a goal of serving 175 individuals, with the potential for additional funds through July 2026 if targets are met. Upcoming events include the Coryell Senior Expo in Gatesville, AS+K About Suicide training at CTCOG, the Bell County Senior Expo on September 23, the Alzheimer's Walk on September 27, and the Caregiver Conference on November 4.

**Housing:** Housing: Carmen Lim, Director of HAP, provided the committee with an update on program participation and funding distribution. Currently, approximately 2,170 families are enrolled, with the majority residing in Bell County, followed by Coryell, Lampasas, and Milam counties. Efforts continue to reach families in San Saba, Mills, and Hamilton counties, where no clients are currently being served. Funding distribution for the month showed the highest payments to Bell County at \$171,404, followed by Coryell at \$71,195, Lampasas at \$4,042, and Milam at \$1,526. Additionally, the Veteran Assistance Support of Housing (VASH) Program has requested 25 additional vouchers to support eligible veterans.

**Planning and Regional Services:** Uryan Nelson, Director of PRS, provided the committee with several updates. The next Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) meeting is scheduled for September 4, 2025, in San Saba County. The FY26 NOFO has been released to the OOG, with regional grant applications totaling approximately \$300,000 and an interlocal agreement between CTCOG and OOG PSO for \$24,675. Peace Officers Training Classes included 5 sessions in June, 4 in July, and 6 scheduled for August. 9-1-1 addressing requests in July increased 2.1

times over June, totaling 554 requests due to large subdivisions in Bell County, while the 9-1-1 system recorded 25,078 calls and 194 texts. The 2025 Leadership Central Texas Program successfully completed its first two days, with graduation scheduled for September 25, and the next DDCT meeting is set for October 2, with staff continuing to distribute newsletters on upcoming activities and funding opportunities. Several EDA and USDOT grant projects are underway, including the Belton Rockwool EDA Grant to redevelop the former Rockwool Insulation site, the Rockdale ISD EDA Grant of \$5.2 million for a College and Career Academy (with bid documents approved and initial reimbursement requested), and a \$6 million EDA Economic Adjustment Assistance grant for Rockdale to develop an industrial park. Additionally, an \$8.12 million USDOT RAISE grant for Cameron will establish a Quiet Zone, complete streets improvements, and downtown revitalization. The Safe Streets & Roads for All initiative identified 109 projects, with the grant ending July 18, 2025, and closeout and in-kind follow-ups currently in progress.

**Executive Directors Report:** Jim Reed, AICP, Executive Director of CTCOG, provided an overview of how CTCOG determines engagement in projects, categorizing activities into three types. The first, "Must Do," includes statutorily designated responsibilities such as the Development District of Central Texas, Criminal Justice, 9-1-1, Resource Conservation, Air Quality, Planning, CDBG Administration, Homeland Security, TCEQ Solid Waste Program, Criminal Justice Training, 9-1-1 Emergency Communications, and Technical Assistance. The second, "Chosen to Do," comprises activities assigned by member entities, including the Killeen-Temple Metropolitan Planning Organization (KTMPPO), Area Agency on Aging (AAA), Central Texas Aging, Disability & Veterans Resource Center (ADVRC), Workforce programs, Section 8 Housing, Veterans Assisted Supportive Housing, Veterans Directed Healthcare, and Safe Streets for All; once chosen, these become essential CTCOG responsibilities. The third, "Asked to Do," includes member-requested initiatives such as Texas Veterans Commission grants, CDBG Grant Administration, Killeen Housing Authority, City Management Contracts, Housing Self-Sufficiency Program, Contract Staffing, EDA Grants, GIS Mapping Projects, CARES Act, ARPA, Broadband Planning, and Fiscal Agent Activities, which are evaluated based on staffing capacity, timing, and completion of Categories 1 and 2. Mr. Reed also updated the committee on Emergency Communications District resolutions, noting that all counties and cities have passed them except Bell County; once Bell County passes the resolution on September 2, 2025, 9-1-1 operations will transition to CTCOG. Invitations will be sent for both the CTCOG Executive Committee Meeting and the

Emergency Communications District Board meeting, with officers and members being the same for both. Mr. Reed concluded by reminding attendees of the upcoming Executive Committee meeting on September 25, 2025.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 01:06 PM by Councilman Jose Segarra, President.

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Councilman Jose Segarra, President

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Judge Jody Fauley, Secretary/Treasurer