



**Minutes: August 26, 2021
Executive Committee Meeting
Central Texas Council of Governments
2180 North Main Street Belton, TX 76513
(Zoom Conference Call)**

The August 2021 Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Committee Meeting was called to Order by The Honorable Commissioner Daren Moore, 1st Vice President at 12:00 p.m.

Executive Committee Officers in Attendance:

1 st Vice President	Commissioner Daren Moore	Coryell County
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Executive Committee Members in Attendance:

Commissioner John Driver, Bell County	Commissioner Bobby Whitson, Bell County	Judge Roger Miller, Coryell County
Commissioner Dickie Clary, Hamilton County	Judge Randy Hoyer, Lampasas County	Commissioner Jeff Muegge, Milam County
Mayor Bill Harris, Milam County	Judge Ed Smith, Mills County	Mayor Bradi Diaz, City of Copperas Cove
Mr. Ryan Haverlah, City of Copperas Cove	Mayor Gary Chumley, City of Gatesville	Mr. William Parry III, City of Gatesville
Mayor Spencer Smith, City of Harker Heights	Councilmember Mellisa Brown, City of Killeen	Mayor Mike Coggin, Village of Salado
Chancellor Jim Yeonopolus, Central Texas College	Ms. Martha Tyroch, Citizen Representative	

CTCOG Staff Members and Guests in Attendance:

Jim Reed, CTCOG	Carmen Lim, CTCOG	Uryan Nelson, CTCOG
Anna Olvera, CTCOG	Diana Rodriguez, CTCOG	Michael Irvine, CTCOG
Jesse Hennage, CTCOG	Jwana Sartor, CTCOG	Sue Jordan, CTCOG
Helen Hill-Yancey, CTCOG	Anna Barge, CTCOG	Hope Geiger, CTCOG
Sunshine Martinez, CTCOG	Louis LeDoux, Workforce	Susan Kamas, Workforce
Kendra Coufal, CTCOG	Becky Cooley, CTCOG	Jared Porritt, Workforce
Steven Robinson, Attorney General's Office	Suzanne Hupp, Attorney General's Office	Bill Gibbs, Clean Air Force of Central Texas
Sarah Leon	Mike Harmon	

Invocation was led by Jim Reed, Executive Director, CTCOG.

Oath of Office

Executive Director, Jim Reed administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Dickie Clary, Hamilton County, Mayor Michael Coggin, Village of Salado, and Mayor William Harris, City of Cameron.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Jim Yeonopolus, Chancellor of Central Texas College to accept the minutes of July 22, 2021 meeting and July 2021 Expenditure Reports, and to discuss and take appropriate action on nomination of Superintendent John Craft of Killeen ISD to CTCOG Executive Committee to fill Special Purpose Schools District Board Seat, and the approval of Proclamation 08-21-PRS01 Declaring September 2021 as Environmental Awareness Month in the Central Texas Region. Mayor Michael Coggin of the Village of Salado second the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

Action Item

A motion was made by Mayor Bill Harris, Milam County to accept the approval of Resolution 08-21-PRS02 Authorizing Emergency Water Trailer Project. Mr. Jim Yeonopolus, Chancellor of Central Texas College second the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

A motion was made by Councilmember Mellisa Brown, City of Killeen to accept the approval of Resolution 08-21-HAP01 approving Housing Assistance Program changes to Payment Standards effective 08/01/2021.

Guest Speaker

Bill Gibbs, the Executive Director of Clean Air Force of Central Texas gave a brief presentation on what the non-profit organization does. Clean Air Force works to reduce air polluting emissions, increase awareness of air quality issues, and keep our region in compliance with strict EPA air quality standards. Mr. Gibbs also encouraged CTCOG and cities to become partners of Clean Air Force to contribute to better air quality for our region.

Ms. Suzanne Hupp and Mr. Steve Robinson, Attorney General of Texas Representatives, gave a brief presentation on the Global Opioids Settlement. The representatives stated in order for Texas to maximize the funds will all depend on how many subdivisions such as counties, cities, school and hospital districts

participate in the settlement, and encouraged CTCOG entities to partner in their effort to join the Opioids Settlements.

Reports

Area Agency on Aging

George Losoya, Director of Area Agency on Aging gave an update on the activities that are going on in the AACT/CTADVRC Program. The final FY21 Working budget was submitted August 9,2021, and the State Audit of Nutrition Program by HHSC was conducted. Ombudsman vacant position has completed interviews and will be selecting a candidate, and the AACT Congregate Meal Sites monitoring were schedule throughout the month of August 2021. COVID-19 Vaccine Initiative is ongoing and still partnering with local and county health districts, medical clinic pharmacies, and health plans. The program is also preparing for the booster vaccine and educating and assisting to access the vaccine. The collaboration between Baylor Scott and White, Texas Healthy Living and the AACT is finding ways to support families with members of the family that have dementia and plan to offer a 3-part virtual caregiver interactive training in late November or early December. HHSC ADVRC Leadership will be merging with the Area Agency on Aging, and CTADVRC is continuing the improve community mapping resources for coordinate entry for homelessness population.

Planning & Regional Services

Uryan Nelson, Director of Planning and Regional Services gave a briefing on Emergency Services. The Homeland Security will have a HSAC meeting of September 9th. The Peace Officer Training has 8 classes scheduled in September, and the next Peace Officer Training Board meeting will be held in September. 9-1-1 NexGen core services are 79 percent complete, the testing for the migration to NG9-1-1 is currently underway and the implementation projected by the end of August. CSEC Meeting was conducted, and staff attended. The commissioners were briefed on fund balance discrepancy and took action to remove funding that had been allocated for equipment and information security from all RPC budgets. 9-1-1 shared the monthly critical errors across the region, totaling 7,294 and the region is working to minimize these errors. In July 2021, 9-1-1 received 28,231 calls and 146 text messages. GIS added a total of 435 new addresses to the region in July 2021. In the Economic Development, the final day of Leadership Central Texas 2021 was August 19th, and participants will graduate from the program on September 23rd. Utilizing Cares Act funding, staff will be soliciting consultants to develop a regional travel/ tourism site communities will be able to add information to. DDCT needs members; those wishing to serve need to

submit a letter of interest to staff with a letter of support from a local elected official. An RFP for a regional broadband study has been developed and provided to members of the RFP workgroup. This RFP has 3 scopes with different levels of data gathering and the workgroup met on August 23rd. Under the American Rescue Act, TDEM will be administering these funds, Texas has requested funds and started distributing, and must obligate all funding by December 31, 2024, but can be used through December 31, 2026. Only 2 Jurisdictions in the CTCOG region declined the funding. The following are the eligible uses of the funds. It can be used to respond to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality, Premium Pay for eligible workers, for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction of revenue and to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

Housing

Carmen Lim, Director of Housing Division gave a briefing on July 2021 Activities. In July, Previous Lease Up had 2,252, New Lease Up had 66, and 32 in Vouchers Issued Looking. Mrs. Lim also briefed on the Landlord activity. The update in July, Housing hosted a Landlord Engagement Event on August 25, 2021, they issued 40 Emergency Housing Vouchers, 6 participants leased up and 6 currently are on the waiting list. Housing has implemented a new waiting list software, which streamlines application process and allows applicants to check status online.

Workforce Development Board and Workforce Center

Susan Kamas, Workforce Development Board Executive Director reported Workforce Solutions of Central Texas is focusing on CRRSA COVID Child Care Relief Funding. They have \$790 Million for direct grants to eligible childcare providers. This funding is available to all providers. As of July 31st, 57 percent of Central Texas providers have applied. The state has awarded \$502 million across Texas. Under Child Care and Job Search, Ms. Kamas reported there is a program that helps pay childcare for employees that are in the service industry. There is a \$500 million budget for the SIR Child Care Program. Also, there is an initial job search childcare program that eligible families receive no cost child care for 3 months.

Louis LeDoux, Workforce Chief Operating Officer gave a briefing on unemployment rates in Central Texas Region and an overall unemployment rate in the State of Texas. Central Texas was 5.9 percent and 6.2 adjusted percent compared to the state. Texas UI Claims for July 2021 had a total of 25,374 with Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services being the highest UI Claim

category at 3,332. Unemployment claims for each county during the month of July 2021 was significantly less than the prior year due to many returning to work from the pandemic. Mr. LeDoux stated the Workforce Center held 2 virtual hiring events in July 2021 that offered 2,859 job openings from 68 different employers to 459 job seekers. During the month of July 2021, Workforce offered service to 8,929 individuals.

Executive Director

Jim Reed, Executive Director of CTCOG gave an update on the Regional Broadband RFP development, the final draft will be sent to the committee for viewing and input. During this process it will allow us to collect data from areas that are truly in need of broadband and to help with areas in the region to apply for grants to improve broadband in the cities. Under 9-1-1 District Creation activities, we have received 23 resolutions, and in contact with those we have not received a resolution from. We are currently meeting with Dallas, Houston and Austin 9-1-1 Districts for input and mentorship on how to make the transition with ease. We will also be reviewing bylaws and budget document for consideration to present to the committee in September or October. Mr. Reed gave a briefing on the National, State and Local Partnership and Membership Organizations. At the following conference he will discuss the creation of the 9-1-1 Creation and Regional Broadband Project, and infrastructure projects.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Daren Moore at 1:17 pm.

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Byron Theodosis

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The Honorable Byron Theodosis, President

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Jose Segarra

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The Honorable Jose Segarra, Secretary/Treasurer