



**Executive Committee Meeting**

2180 North Main Street, Belton, Texas

March 26, 2026

**Hybrid Meeting: 12:00 PM**

**MEETING MINUTES:**

The March 26 2026, Central Texas Council of Governments Annual Executive Committee Meeting was called to order by the Commissioner Russell Schneider, Bell County, President at 12:10 P.M.

**Executive Committee Officers in Attendance:**

President	Commissioner Russell Schneider	Bell County
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	City Manager Ryan Haverlah	City of Copperas Cove
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Judge Jody Fauley	San Saba County
Secretary/Treasurer	Commissioner Bobby Whitson	Bell County
Parliamentarian	Judge James Yates	Hamilton County

**Executive Committee Members in Attendance:**

Kristina Ramirez, City of Harker Heights	Mayor Gary Chumley, City of Gatesville	Keith Sledd, Heart of Texas Defense Alliance
Dr. Michelle Carter, Central Texas College	Mayor Riakos Adams, City Of Killeen	Major Nathan Fuchs, City of Cameron
City Manager Ricky Tow, City of Cameron	Judge David Blackburn, Bell County	

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

Jim Reed, CTCOG

Michael Irvine, CTCOG

Cyndy Wells, CTCOG

Vorakarn Saipornchai, CTCOG

Uryan Nelson, CTCOG

Hank Roraback, CTCOG

Kylee Young, CTCOG

Hank Roraback, CTCOG

Ricky Garrett, CTX Water Alliance

Alissa Bright, CTCOG

Jesse Hennage, CTCOG

Greg Cassey, City of Gatesville

Helen Hill Yancey, CTCOG

George Losoya, CTCOG

Brian Dosa, Fort Hood DPW

### **Oath of Office**

No Oath of Office was administered.

### **Public Comment**

There was no Public Comment.

### **Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Mayor Riakos Adams, City Of Killeen, to accept the Consent Agenda, which included the February 26, 2026 Meeting Minutes, February 2026 Expenditure Report, A Resolution Approving Housing Program Changes to Administrative Plan Effective April 1, 2026, A Resolution Authorizing FY27 Central Texas Council of Governments Community Preparedness Project, and A Resolution Authorizing FY26 State Criminal Justice Planning Funds – Regional Law Enforcement Training Academy Grant Program. Mayor Gary Chumley, City of Gatesville, seconded the motion. All were in favor; none opposed.

### **Action Items**

- A motion was made by Mayor Adams Riakos, City of Killeen, to approve Proclamation 03-26-PRS001, which sought to Proclamation Declaring April 2026 as Distracted Driving Awareness Month in the Central Texas Region. Kieth Slead, Heart of Texas Defense Alliance, seconded the motion. All were in favor; none opposed.
- A motion was made by Mayor Adams Riakos, City of Killeen, to approve Resolution 03-26-PRS004, which sought to Resolution Authorizing Central Texas Council of Governments Regional Mass Notification System. Judge Jody Fauley, San Saba County, seconded the motion. All were in favor; none opposed.

## **Reports**

**Area Agency on Aging:** George Losoya, Director of the Area Agency on Aging/ADVRC, provided the Committee with updates on current initiatives and upcoming activities. The Senior Needs Survey for 2026–2029 is ongoing, and FY25 carryforward funds total \$867,168. Implementation of the new client management system has been completed and is performing well. The grand opening of the Copperas Cove Senior Center was held on March 16, with recognition given to City Manager Ryan Haverlah, City of Copperas Cove; the Area Agency on Aging contributed furnishings and equipment, including a stove, chairs, and tables. Under the Homes for Texas Heroes program, nine applications are pending approval, nine have been approved for repair, and six projects have been completed. Upcoming events include the Parkinson's Symposium on March 28 at CTCOG, the Connect the Dots – Community Health Summit on April 9 at UMHB, the DEA National Take Back Event on April 25 in Gatesville, and the Partnering to Protect Symposium on June 18 at CTCOG.

**Housing:** Hank Roraback, Director of Housing, provided an update to the Board on current Housing activities and program operations. Efforts to clear the waiting list are ongoing through four weekly briefings, and a third inspector has been hired to accelerate housing inspections. Cross training initiatives are being implemented to improve staff coverage and operational efficiency, and additional security measures, including CCTV installation, are being introduced. Appeal denials continue to occur primarily due to missing or late documentation. In February, a total of 2,093 clients were served, with the majority located in Bell and Coryell Counties; outreach efforts are underway to increase participation in San Saba, Mills, and Hamilton Counties. Total tenant payments for the month of February amounted to \$1,719,176.

**Planning and Regional Services:** Uryan Nelson, Director of Planning and Regional Services, provided the Committee with several updates across program areas. The next HSAC meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2026, in Bell County, followed by Homeland Security grant application prioritization. The Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure (SERI) grant has been submitted, and staff are working on updates to Mutual Aid Agreements and the Mass Casualty Plan. HSAC recommended transitioning the mass notification system from CodeRed to Everbridge. In Criminal Justice, staff are developing a grant prioritization policy, FY26 grants have been awarded, and training efforts included four classes in February, three in March, and six upcoming in April. In Economic Development, the first CEDS Steering Committee met on February 25 to

review data for the Background Summary, and the next BDO Community Roundtable is scheduled for March 5 to discuss the Texas Regional Broadband Program. CTCOG hosted the Texas Department of Agriculture's Community Development Block Grant Regional Outreach Meeting on February 24. Additionally, the 2027–2031 CEDS update is underway, with the first Background Summary drafted, reviewed, and revised ahead of the SWOT workshop held on March 11.

**Executive Directors Report:** Jim Reed, AICP, Executive Director of CTCOG, provided an update on economic development activities. CTCOG is part of the Southwest Regional District, which includes New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana. The current Executive Director of the Southwest Region, Jorge Ayala, will retire at the end of April, and there are discussions at the federal level to merge the five-state region with the Southern Region based in Atlanta, Georgia, which would result in the closure of the Austin office. Concerns were expressed that this change may not be in the best interest of Texas. Mr. Reed will participate in an upcoming meeting with regional representatives and the U.S. Secretary of Commerce to discuss the proposed merger. Recognition was also given to Mayor Adams of the City of Killeen for leadership in hosting the Sustainable Communities Partnership program.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 P.M. by Commissioner Russell Schneider, President.

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Commissioner Russell Schneider, President

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Commissioner Bobby Whitson, Secretary/Treasurer