

# Minutes: May 27, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Central Texas Council of Governments 2180 North Main Street Belton, Texas 76513 (Zoom Conference Call)

The May 2021 Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Committee Meeting was called to Order by The Honorable Byron Theodosis, President at 12:00 p.m.

## **Executive Committee Officers in Attendance:**

President	Judge Byron Theodosis	San Saba County
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Judge David Blackburn	Bell County
Secretary/Treasurer	Mayor Jose Segarra	City of Killeen
Parliamentarian	Judge Steve Young	Milam County

## **Executive Committee Members in Attendance:**

Commissioner Bobby Whitson, Bell County	Judge Roger Miller, Coryell County	Commissioner Kyle Matthews, Coryell County
Commissioner Llyod Huggins, Hamilton County	Judge Randy Hoyer, Lampasas County	Commissioner Jeff Muegge, Milam County
Mayor Bill Harris, City of Cameron	Mayor Bradi Diaz, City of Copperas Cove	Mayor Gary Chumley, City of Gatesville
William Parry, III, City of Gatesville	Mr. Otis Evans, City of Killeen	Councilmember Mellisa Brown, City of Killeen
Mayor Mike Coggins, City of Salado	Mr. Jim. Yeonopolus, Central Texas College Chancellor	Mrs. Martha Tyroch, Citizen Representative

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

George Losoya, CTCOG Louis LeDoux, Workforce Anna Olvera, CTCOG Anna Barge, CTCOG Diana Rodriguez, CTCOG Carmen Lim, CTCOG Michael Irvine, CTCOG Jwana Sartor, CTCOG Jesse Hennage, CTCOG Uryan Nelson, CTCOG Jim Reed, CTCOG Sue Jordan, CTCOG Commissioner Dickie Clary

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

#### **Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Commissioner Bobby Whitson of Bell County to accept the minutes of April 22, 2021 meeting, and April 2021 Expenditure Reports, and the appointment to discuss and take appropriate action on nomination of Commissioner Dickey Clary to CTCOG Executive Committee to fill Hamilton County Board Seat. Judge Roger Miller of Coryell County second the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

### **Action Items**

A motion was made by Mayor Bradi Diaz of City of Copperas Cove to approve Resolution 05-21-PRS01 authorizing FY22 State Criminal Justice Planning Funds - Regional Law Enforcement Training Academy Grant Program, and to approve Resolution 05-21-PRS02 Authorizing Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program-Killeen COVID Relief Project. Councilmember Mellisa Brown of City of Killeen second the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

#### **Reports**

#### Area Agency on Aging

George Losoya, Director of Area Agency on Aging gave a brief update on AAACT Programs regarding the Veterans Agencies monthly meeting to discuss how to engage landlords to assist the homeless into permanent supportive housing. New funding from Administration for Community Living (ACL) for ADRC and Area Agencies on Aging to assist elderly and individuals with disability. This funding is used to educate, connect, and assist those interested in receiving the COVID-19 Vaccination. Mr. Losoya briefed on the Save Our Seniors Initiative. This initiative has identified 36 homebound senior recipients that will be scheduled a home visit and receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

### **Planning & Regional Services**

Uryan Nelson, Director of Planning and Regional Services gave a briefing on Emergency Services. The homeland security propagation study is mostly complete in Bell County, and Milam County will begin the study soon. Killeen was the only jurisdiction to apply for the second round of CESF funding and received a total allocation of \$25,000. 9-1-1 NexGen projected implementation date is July 2021. There are 18,818 critical errors across the region that can cause routing issues in the system if not corrected.

In April 2021, 9-1-1 received 19,570 calls and 142 text messages. GIS added a total of 196 new addresses to the region in April 2021. Planning is accepting applications for Leadership Central Texas and 2021 Rural Internship Program until June 1, 2021, and a few of the counties have undergone a broadband study with Connected Nation Texas. The American Rescue Act had given all counties and cities an estimated allocation and other federal agencies are to receive allocations as well.

### Housing

Carmen Lim, Director of Housing Division gave a briefing on April 2021 Activities. In April, Previous Lease Up had 2,224, New Lease Up had 34, and 59 in Vouchers Issued Looking. Mrs. Lim stated the Waitlist is opening in mid-June. Under the American Rescue Plan Act 40 Emergency Housing Vouchers were awarded. An additional funding amount of \$255,864 was initially awarded and will be reported separately like the mainstream vouchers. There are waivers in place to speed up the placing process of a family into the program. Housing will be hosting an event on June 22<sup>nd</sup> to engage landlord's that are interested into becoming part of the housing program.

### Workforce Development Board and Workforce Center

Susan Kamas, Workforce Development Board Executive Director stated in the last month, Workforce has received additional funding that is going towards Texas Industry Partnerships administered by Texas Workforce Commission. This funding requires a matching grant of \$16,500 and was matched from a few companies that donated tools and equipment to the Temple ISD Continuing Career and Technical Education Programs. \$106,300 with a matched grant by Ford Motor Company for the Career Skills Program on Fort Hood and Technician for Tomorrow for Ford. Mass Tech funded \$47,300 to match the Career Skills Program to train current soldiers in electrical alignment and that want to become linemen when they transition out of the military. Ms. Kamas stated the biggest issues Workforce is having, is helping employers find people to work, and people are coming into Workforce stating someone has stolen their identity and filed for unemployment.

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 6.7 adjusted percent compared to the state. The Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Programs will be ending June 26, 2021. Those affected the most will be self-employed individuals and a total of 1.9 million Texans will be affected. Unemployment claims during the month of April 2021 was significantly less than the prior year. Mr. LeDoux stated the Workforce Center held a virtual hiring event in April 2021 that offered 200 job openings from 2 different employers to 55 job seekers. During the month of April 2021, Workforce offered 11,895 individual services.

### **Executive Director**

Jim Reed, Executive Director of CTCOG gave a briefing on the legislative update. If House Bill 2911 is passed, it will allow wireless 9-1-1 to increase fees from .50 cents to .75 cents to implement NexGen 9-1-1 deployment and allow funds to assist towards radio communications. This bill was not passed and proposed as COVID-19 funds of the amount of \$100 Million. This amount will help in the short-term, but it will not offset the long-term expense of operating the new network. Rider 11 will allow members of the legislative to add members. On Rider 11 there was a legislative fix to add Killeen-Temple back onto this rider due to an administrative maneuver. They assured us that after it is passed the language for Rider 11 is permissive enough to add them back into that designated funding. Bell County Judge request CTCOG to staff the Regional Broadband study and to seek funding through the Economic Development Administration and connect plans that are being done in the region and create a Regional Broadband Plan. This will leverage private investments, Rescue Act funds for those communities that want to target improvement and serve as a document with which we can see funding through Capital Projects Funds. We believe a Regional Plan will look more appealing for grant funding than as individuals.

#### Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by The Honorable Byron Theodosis at 1:03 p.m.

Byron Tuodosis The Hanasable Byron Theodosis, President

DocuSigned by:

<u>Jose Sugarra</u> Theophonophotoe Jose Segarra, Secretary/Treasurer