

**ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
April 29, 2021**

The Executive Committee of the Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) will meet at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, April 29, 2021, at the Titus County Extension Office, located at 1708 Industrial Road, Mt. Pleasant, Texas, as well as, via teleconference/webinar.

Use the following information to register for the meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMtcuyqqTosGdytqvvs91r9m8RbmkZFHM9>

If you experience issues while registering or do not have access to a computer, please contact Erin Chewning no less than two (2) workdays prior to the meeting at 903.255.3555 or echewning@atcog.org.

Item 1. Call to order – Quorum Determination.

Item 2. Invocation.

Item 3. Public Comment.

ATCOG invites members of the public to provide oral comment on any item included on this agenda under this item. Each person wishing to make a public comment shall be limited to 3 minutes with comments directed to the Board as a whole. Reasonable accommodation shall be made for members of the public utilizing a translator for public comment.

Item 4. Review and consider consent agenda items. (To be presented by Executive Director Chris Brown)

- Approval of the minutes as submitted for the ATCOG Executive Committee meeting held Thursday, February 25, 2021. (Page 3)
- Acceptance of the minutes as submitted for the Homeland Security Advisory Committee meeting held Thursday, March 18, 2021. (Page 7)
- Acceptance of the minutes as submitted for the Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee meeting held Tuesday, April 6, 2021. (Page 9)

Review and Comment

Item 5. Executive Director Report (For information only; see page 14; to be presented by Mr. Brown)

- Indirect Finance Quarterly Report
- Quarterly Program Reports

Item 6. Review and comment on an application by the City of Winfield to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew its permit. (See page 36; to be presented by staff member Paul Prange)

Item 7. Review and comment on an application by Adrian Van Der Jagt to TCEQ to expand an existing dairy cattle facility. (See page 37; to be presented by Mr. Prange)

Item 8. Review and comment on a grant application by Detroit Independent School District in the amount of \$12,886 to be submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start, for continuation/refunding of Head Start programs. (See page 38; to be presented by staff member Toni Lindsey)

Regular Business

- Item 9. Review and consider approval for the Executive Director to submit an application to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, for a grant to purchase supplies and PPE to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus in the ATCOG region for the project's grant period for the remaining FY2021. (See page 41; to be presented by staff member Patricia Haley)
- Item 10. Review and consider approval of priorities/recommendations established by the Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (RCJAC) concerning projects being submitted to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, for funding consideration. (See page 43; to be presented by Ms. Haley)
- Item 11. Review and consider approval of prioritization of 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program funds as recommended by the ATCOG Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC). (See page 54; to be presented by staff member Whitney Fezell)
- Item 12. Review and consider approval of the submission of an Older Adult Home Modification Program application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (See page 57; to be presented by staff member Lisa Reeve)

Other Business

- Item 13. Presentation of the 2021 ATCOG Telecommunicator of the Year. (To be presented by staff member Rea Allen)
- Item 14. Presentation of Busline Magazine's article featuring Bobby Williams, Transportation Coordinator. (See page 59; to be presented by Mr. Brown)

Announcements

A Workforce CEOs meeting will be held immediately following this meeting. Judges please reconvene at the front of the room or remain on Zoom. All others please move towards the back or exit the Zoom meeting.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on May 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m., at the Titus County Extension Office in Mt. Pleasant, Texas, as well as, via teleconference/webinar.

Pursuant to the Texas Open Meeting Act, Government Code Chapter 551 one or more of the above items may be considered in executive session closed to the public, including but not limited to consultation with attorney pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 and Section 551.074 arising out of the attorney's ethical duty to advise ATCOG concerning legal issues arising from an agenda item. Any decision held on such matter will be taken or conducted in open session following the conclusion of the executive session.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services are requested to contact Administration at 903-832-8636 two (2) work days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

All agendas are sent electronically and available at www.atcog.org. Should any Board Member need a copy printed and available at the meeting, please call 903.255.3555 or email echewning@atcog.org.

**MINUTES
ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
February 25, 2021**

The Executive Committee of the Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) met at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, February 25, 2021, via teleconference/webinar.

Item 1. L.D. Williamson, Judge, Red River County, called the meeting to order.

Item 2. Brian Lee, Judge, Titus County, gave the invocation.

Item 3. Public Comment.

No members of the public were present.

Item 4. Chris Brown, Executive Director, presented the following consent agenda items:

- Approval of the minutes as submitted for the ATCOG Executive Committee meeting held Thursday, January 28, 2021, via teleconference/webinar.
- Acceptance of the minutes as submitted for the Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Meeting held Thursday, February 11, 2021, via teleconference/webinar.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Brian Lee, and seconded by John Sellers, Mayor, City of Sulphur Springs. It was approved.

Review and Comment

Item 5. Paul Prange, Environmental Resources Coordinator, presented for review and comment on an application by the City of Deport to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew its permit.

Motion to approve was made by Scott Lee, Judge, Franklin County, and seconded by Bobby Howell, Judge, Bowie County. It was approved.

Item 6. Mr. Prange presented for review and comment on an application by Petrus Adrianus Boekhorst to TCEQ to amend its permit to authorize decreasing the total headcount and milk production.

Motion to approve was made by Brandon Bell, Judge, Lamar County, and seconded by Judge Scott Lee. It was approved.

Item 7. Mr. Prange presented for review and comment on an application by U.S. Department of the Army, Red River Army Depot, to TCEQ to amend its permit to authorize revisions to the final closure plan.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Brian Lee and seconded by Ann Rushing, Mayor, City of Clarksville. It was approved.

Executive Closed Session

Item 8. At this time, Judge Williamson announced the Open Session would recess and go into Executive Closed Session as allowed in the Texas Open Meetings Act, Section 551.072, Deliberations about Real Property.

Motion to recess was made by Robert Newsom, Judge, Hopkins County, and seconded by Mayor Rushing. It was approved.

Regular Business/Open Session

- Item 9. The Executive Committee reconvened in Open Session. Judge Williamson presented for consideration approval for the ATCOG Executive Director to proceed with acquiring property for a Paris Metro/TRAX Transportation office in Paris, Texas.

Motion to approve was made by Mayor Sellers and seconded by Judge Brian Lee. It was approved.

- Item 10. Mary Beth Rudel, Deputy Director, presented for consideration approval of the appointment of a new officer to the Ark-Tex Urban Transit, Inc. (ATUT) Board of Directors.

Judge Williamson asked Ms. Rudel if approval of the appointment would remove Owetta Walton, Director and Secretary/Treasurer, from the ATUT Board of Directors. Ms. Rudel answered yes, that approval of Item 10 would remove Ms. Walton from the ATUT Board of Directors.

Motion to approve was made by Marc Reiter, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Hooks, and seconded by Judge Brian Lee. It was approved.

- Item 11. Mae Lewis, Housing Director, presented for consideration approval of amending the Ark-Tex Council of Governments Housing Choice Voucher Program Annual and 5-year Plan effective October 1, 2020.

Motion to approve was made by Travis Ransom, Mayor, City of Atlanta, and seconded by Judge Bell. It was approved.

- Item 12. Patricia Haley, Criminal Justice Coordinator, presented for consideration approval of revisions to the Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (RCJAC) Bylaws.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Brian Lee and seconded by Judge Bell. It was approved.

- Item 13. Ms. Haley presented for consideration approval of the Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (RCJAC) grant application scoring instrument to be used for Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth (CSEY) applications.

Motion to approve was made by Mayor Pro Tem Reiter and seconded by Judge Scott Lee. It was approved.

- Item 14. Mark Compton, Transportation Director, presented for consideration approval of the purchase of 45 Aeroclave Vehicle Decontamination Systems for the TRAX Transportation transit fleet.

Judge Brian Lee asked Mr. Compton if the Aeroclave Vehicle Decontamination Systems would be used following the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Compton answered yes, the decontamination systems would be used permanently following the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Compton added that the Aeroclave Vehicle Decontamination Systems would replace manual decontamination, and would be capable of decontaminating TRAX buses within 5 minutes.

Mayor Ransom asked Mr. Compton if the Aeroclave Vehicle Contamination Systems would be purchased through a local vendor, and if there was competitive bidding for the purchase. Mr. Compton answered that the decontamination systems would be purchased utilizing the Oklahoma Transit Contract through Creative Bus Sales, which is where TRAX buses are purchased from.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Newsom and seconded by Judge Howell. It was approved.

Other Business

Item 15. Brianna O'Shaughnessy, Development Specialist, presented the Development Newsletter.

Ms. O'Shaughnessy shared that this quarter's newsletter will include information on regional development, economic development and local resources. She added that the goal of the Development Newsletter is to provide comprehensive information to community members and businesses at least once a quarter. The Development Newsletter will be sent at the end of each quarter beginning in March 2021.

Announcements

Judge Williamson announced that the next Board of Directors meeting will be held March 25, 2021 at 10:00 a.m., via teleconference/webinar.

Mr. Brown added that Ryan Weiseman, Texas Cable Association, is looking to schedule a meeting with the county judges and city mayors to discuss providing rural broadband to unserved areas in the ATCOG region. Funds for the rural broadband project are available through the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund; however, the Texas Cable Association needs Texas Legislation to supplement the project. Mr. Brown added that he will contact the county judges and city mayors on scheduling the meeting.

Mr. Brown shared that ATCOG's Area Agency on Aging has been successful in assisting seniors with registering to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. He asked that Executive Committee members please advise additional seniors in the region to contact the Area Agency on Aging if they need assistance with registration.

Motion to adjourn was made by Judge Scott Lee and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Reiter. The meeting was adjourned.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Ann Rushing, Mayor, City of Clarksville
Becky Wilbanks, Judge, Cass County
Bobby Howell, Judge, Bowie County
Brandon Bell, Judge, Lamar County
Brian Lee, Judge, Titus County
John Sellers, Mayor, City of Sulphur Springs
L.D. Williamson, Judge, Red River County
Marc Reiter, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Hooks
Robert Newsom, Judge, Hopkins County
Scott Lee, Judge, Franklin County
Travis Ransom, Mayor, City of Atlanta

ATCOG BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Jean Matlock, Councilwoman, City of Texarkana
Lowell Walker, Mayor, City of DeKalb

GUESTS PRESENT

Rea Donna Jones, MPO

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Brown, Executive Director
Brianna O'Shaughnessy, Development Specialist
Erin Chewing, Executive Assistant
Lisa Reeve, Area Agency on Aging Director

Leslie McBride, Human Resources Director
Mae Lewis, Housing Director
Mark Compton, Transportation Director
Mary Beth Rudel, Deputy Director
Melinda Tickle, Finance Director
Melody Harmon, Economic Development Manager
Paul Prange, Environmental Resources Coordinator
Patricia Haley, Criminal Justice Coordinator
Toni Lindsey, Regional Development Manager
Whitney Fezell, Homeland Security Coordinator

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

**ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

March 18, 2021

MINUTES

The meeting of the Ark-Tex Council of Governments Homeland Security Advisory Committee was called to order by **Whitney Fezell** at 10:04 a.m., March 18, 2021, via conference call.

Whitney Fezell provided the minutes from December 18, 2020 meeting, **Andy Endsly** made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by **Jason Ricketson**.

Whitney Fezell provided the committee with a homeland security update. The committee was informed with FY2020 project expenditures, as well as grants that needed to be closed. The committee was notified of the recent THIRA feedback scores. Whitney Fezell informed the committee of cybersecurity funds available for training. The committee was also informed of the online active shooter training opportunities. Whitney Fezell updated the committee regarding the changes to the OOG and Fema funding. The committee was informed that the region will receive a allocation as they have in previous year. The committee was also informed of the states 4% decrease in funding.

The first voting item on the agenda was chair and vice chair elections. The committee was advised of the current chair and vice chair as well as past officers. Danny Richard made to motion to elect Becky Wilbanks as chair and Andy Endsley as Vice Chair. Motion seconded by Jason Ricketson and approved by majority.

The next voting item on the agenda was to discuss and approve date and logistics of the Annual Communication Exercise. Whitney Fezell advised the committee that we did not complete the annual communication exercise last year and that it would be beneficial to go through with the exercise this year. Dates were proposed for March 18- June 30. No vote was taken.

The last voting item is to prioritize FY2021 State Homeland Security Program funding projects via ballot. Whitney Fezell gave the committee voting instruction and discuss components of the ballots/ Risk Methodology/ scoring process. Whitney Fezell proposed that each attending member complete their ballot and submit it back via email at the end of the meeting. Scores will be calculated by ATCOG (including risk score and bonus points) and prioritization listing will be sent out once all ballots are verified and scores calculated. Jason Ricketson made a motion to accept the ballots submitted as the prioritization, motion seconded by Danny Richard and approved by majority.

Becky Wilbanks opened the floor for questions and discussion.

Whitney Fezell informed the committee of a vendor that wanted to provide an iPaws software demonstration.

iPaws demonstration with Frank Williams and Jeff Greer.

Becky Wilbanks opened the floor for announcements.

Whitney Fezell announced that the next cog repeater test will be April 6, 2021.

Whitney Fezell announced that the next HSAC meeting will be May 20th, 2021.

Motion to adjourn was made by **Jason Ricketson** and seconded by **Danny Richard**.

ATTENDING:

Whitney Fezell – ATCOG Homeland Security Coordinator

Jason Ricketson- EMC- City of Sulphur Springs Police Department

Nathan Carroll- TDEM

Becky Wilbanks- Cass County Judge

Tanner Crump- Sheriff's Captain- Hopkins County

Lance Hall- EMC- Bowie County

Danny Richard-VFD-City of Daingerfield

Reggie Douis- EMC-Red River County

Tanner Crump-Hopkins County SO

Tanner Crutcher- EMC- Delta County

Ann Rushing- Mayor- Clarksville

Tracey Litton-Guest

Frank Williams-Guest

Jeff Greer- Guest

Signature

Title

Date

**ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (ATCOG)
REGIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RCJAC)**

April 6, 2021

Teleconference via ZOOM

MINUTES

The Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (RCJAC) met April 6, 2021 1:00 p.m., by teleconference via ZOOM.

Patricia Haley welcomed everyone on the call and allowed extra time for others to join before calling the meeting to order.

Darrell Bruce, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

Patricia Haley performed a roll call to record those present on the teleconference. First, a roll card of RCJAC members was performed, followed by applicants and then other visitors. There were a total of 40 present on the teleconference. A quorum was confirmed.

Darrell Bruce introduced and welcomed Mark Buhman as a new member on the committee.

The minutes from the February 11, 2021 meeting were reviewed and a motion was made by Sherry Edwards and seconded by Bob Hundley to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried.

Patricia Haley gave an update of CJD's funding allocations for the ATCOG region, according to each fund source. An explanation was given regarding the separate fund sources for the Juvenile Justice and Truancy Prevention categories. The CSEY scoring category (only 1 application) was explained as a new funding category with a different scoring sheet and scoring instructions.

Patricia Haley emphasized the step-by-step instructions previously sent to RCJAC members regarding how to complete, save, compress score sheet files to a zip folder, and then how to send them to her by email. Also reviewed were the maximum points allowed for each question, the local priorities, conflict of interest policy, and the fact that there were no applicants on vendor hold. It was also mentioned that if recommending a different funding amount from the original amount requested by the applicant, that RCJAC member would need to enter the amount on the second page of the score sheet with their explanation, and any RCJAC member recommending a different amount must present that amount for discussion/review and it must be approved by a consensus vote of those RCJAC members present. She also gave a reminder for each RCJAC member to review the verification statement located above the signature space on each score sheet and include their name/electronic signature on each score sheet. Ms. Haley also

emphasized for the RCJAC members to electronically submit their score sheets as soon as possible after meeting, and if anyone had any issues with submitting electronically, please call Ms. Haley as soon as possible and a solution would be found to get their score sheets submitted successfully.

Darrell Bruce announced that each presenter would have a maximum of 5 minutes to speak about their project, followed by an opportunity for RCJAC members to ask questions about their project. There would be a pause between applicant presenters to allow the committee members time to complete each score sheet. All applicants were present and spoke about their project(s) in the following categories:

Violent Crimes Against Women Criminal Justice & Training Projects (VAWA) (2) were presented as listed on the attached page.

General Victim Assistance – Direct Services Programs (VOCA) (3) were presented as listed on the attached page.

Juvenile Justice & Truancy Prevention Programs (3) was presented as listed on the attached page.

Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG) (12) were presented as listed on the attached page.

Residential & Community Based Services for Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Youth Grant Program (CSEY) (1) was presented as listed on the attached page.

Darrell Bruce, Chairman, asked Patricia Haley if any notarized letters with absentee scores were submitted prior to the meeting, and Ms. Haley said there were no absentee scores submitted.

Patricia Haley announced that she hoped to have the scores/rankings available to the grant applicants by the end of the following day, but would have them sent within 2 days.

Patricia Haley asked if there was anyone else on the call who was not recorded during the original roll call and there were no additional responses.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Hundley and seconded by Sherry Edwards. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Cynthia Humphries, Delta County DA Office
Roy Barker, Cass County Sheriff's Office
Robert McGee, Queen City Police Department
Sherry Edwards, Red River County Juvenile Probation
Phillip Hayes, Cass County Juvenile Probation
Bob Hundley, Paris Police Department
Tracey Climer, Daingerfield Police Department
Vivian Rhoades, Franklin County Concerned Citizen
Robert Newsom, Hopkins County Judge
Darrell Bruce, Lamar County Juvenile Probation
Max Cannaday, Mt. Vernon ISD Police Department
Scott Cass, Lamar County Sheriff's Office
Michael Henry, Texarkana Texas Police Department
Tom Whitten, Bowie County Commissioner
Harold Martin, City of Queen City
Jason Ricketson, Morris County Sheriff
Mark Buhman, Mt. Pleasant Police Department
Samantha Sellers, Red River County Sheriff's Office

GUESTS PRESENT

Michael Pace, Red River County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Jimmy Caldwell, Red River County Sheriff's Office
Susan Fisher, Hopkins County DA's Office
Will Ramsey, Hopkins County DA
Ryan Shriver, SAFE-T
Ricky Woodard, Hooks Police Department
Leah Thomas, Mt. Vernon Police Department
Mark Gable, Clarksville Police Department
Misty Patterson, Domestic Violence Prevention, Inc.
Jerry Goodson, Naples Police Department
Todd Aultman, Wake Village Police Department
Josh Daily, Franklin County Sheriff's Office
Ricky Jones, Franklin County Sheriff's Office
Tommy Moore, Lamar County Sheriff's Office
Redgie Daus, Red River County EMC
Melissa Simpson, Bowie County Juvenile Probation
Randy Tuttle, Paris Police Department
Ricky Shelton, Morris County DA's Office
Nelda Shavers, Elijah's House
Nikka Matthews, Elijah's House
Rashida Francis, Elijah's House

STAFF PRESENT

Patricia Haley, ATCOG staff

**RCJAC MEETING
April 6, 2021**

**VIOLENT CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN JUSTICE & TRAINING PROGRAM
APPLICANT REPRESENTATIVES**

1.	City of Mt. Pleasant – Violence Against Women Investigator	Mark Buhman
2.	Red River County – S/A/F/V Investigations program	Samantha Sellers

**GENERAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE – DIRECT SERVICES PROGRAM
APPLICANT REPRESENTATIVES**

1.	Domestic Violence Prevention, Inc. – Comprehensive Victim Restoration Program	Misty Patterson
2.	Hopkins County – Victim Assistance Coordinator/Legal Assistant	Will Ramsey
3.	SAFE-T - Children & Youth Services/Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Transitional Housing	Ryan Shriver

**JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM (JAG)
APPLICANT REPRESENTATIVES**

1.	Cass County – In-Car Video Camera	Roy Barker
2.	City of Clarksville – Less than Lethal Equipment Project	Mark Gable
3.	City of Daingerfield – P-25 Compliant In Car Radios Project	Tracey Climer
4.	City of Hooks – Handheld Portable Radio Project	Ricky Woodard
5.	City of Mt. Pleasant – Officer Load Bearing Vests Equipment	Mark Buhman
6.	City of Mt. Vernon – Speeders	Leah Thomas
7.	City of Naples – Work Stations	Jerry Goodson
8.	City of Paris – Police VHF Radio Grant	Randy Tuttle
9.	City of Wake Village – Speed Awareness and Safety Trailer Program	Todd Aultman
10.	Franklin County – Franklin County Mobile Radios	Ricky Jones
11.	Lamar County – Evidence Processing Room Upgrade	Tommy Moore
12.	Red River County – Vehicle Equipment Upgrade	Redgie Daus

**JUVENILE JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAM
APPLICANT REPRESENTATIVES**

1.	Ark-Tex Council of Governments – Purchase of Juvenile Justice Services	Patricia Haley
2.	Bowie County – Truancy Prevention and Intervention Program	Melissa Simpson

3.	Morris County – Juvenile Justice and Truancy Prevention Program	Ricky Shelton
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CSEY

APPLICANT REPRESENTATIVES

1.	NSM Int. Women's Ministries dba Elijah's House – FY22 Residential & Community Based Services for Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation	Nelda Shavers
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ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
DIRECTORS REPORT

3/31/2021

Fiscal year thru period ending 09/30/2021

0010 - Executive

Description	Quarter to date	Year to date	Ytd encumbrnce	Annual budget	Annual variance	% used
50110 SALARIES	56,371.51	98,249.38	-	208,250.00	(110,000.62)	0.47
50210 BENEFITS	26,991.62	45,642.97	-	97,725.00	(52,082.03)	0.47
50225 COVID LEAVE	37.20	701.58	-	-	701.58	-
50310 STAFF TRAVEL	-	110.52	-	12,000.00	(11,889.48)	0.01
50312 REGISTRATION	-	558.33	-	1,500.00	(941.67)	0.37
50319 TRAINING	1,893.00	2,280.44	-	-	2,280.44	-
50410 RENT/SPACE	2,184.11	7,186.30	-	13,500.00	(6,313.70)	0.53
50420 TELEPHONE	1,028.20	1,620.12	-	7,000.00	(5,379.88)	0.23
50430 POSTAGE	-	39.89	-	600.00	(560.11)	0.07
50440 COPIER	41.11	117.63	-	675.00	(557.37)	0.17
50510 OTHER INDIRECT	35.00	995.14	-	12,000.00	(11,004.86)	0.08
50511 OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,480.28	5,513.06	-	6,200.00	(686.94)	0.89
50512 REPRODUCTION & PUBLICATIONS	195.37	195.37	-	250.00	(54.63)	0.78
50514 PERIODICALS	-	-	-	650.00	(650.00)	-
50515 MEMBERSHIP DUES	260.00	385.00	-	5,500.00	(5,115.00)	0.07
50515 MEMBERSHIP DUES - LOCAL	-	-	-	-	-	-
50518 BUILDING/GROUNDS MAINT	950.00	950.00	-	-	950.00	-
50523 SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE	39.44	39.44	-	5,500.00	-	0.01
50525 INTEREST	-	-	-	3,200.00	(3,200.00)	-
50531 DRUG TESTING	810.00	810.00	-	-	810.00	-
50612 COMPUTER SOFTWARE	679.30	679.30	-	-	679.30	-
Total EXPENSE	93,996.14	166,074.47	-	374,550.00	(203,014.97)	0.24

ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
DIRECTORS REPORT

Bus date: 03/31/2021

Fiscal year thru period ending 09/30/2021

0020 - Administrative

Description	Quarter to date	Year to date	Ytd encumbrnce	Annual budget	Annual variance	% used
50110 SALARIES	32,515.01	58,839.84	-	77,059.00	(18,219.16)	0.76
50210 BENEFITS	15,558.46	27,458.63	-	38,414.00	(10,955.37)	0.71
50225 COVID LEAVE	-	217.02	-	-	-	-
50310 STAFF TRAVEL	198.23	328.09	-	6,000.00	(5,671.91)	0.05
50312 REGISTRATION	-	104.17	-	1,850.00	(1,745.83)	0.06
50319 TRAINING	960.00	960.00	-	-	960.00	-
50410 RENT/SPACE	1,527.39	4,783.80	-	7,100.00	(2,316.20)	0.67
50420 TELEPHONE	581.69	1,026.33	-	3,000.00	(1,973.67)	0.34
50430 POSTAGE	14.16	47.94	-	275.00	(227.06)	0.17
50440 COPIER	389.05	1,052.53	-	2,000.00	(947.47)	0.53
50510 OTHER INDIRECT	1,495.84	3,013.84	-	7,500.00	(4,486.16)	0.40
50511 OFFICE SUPPLIES	18.89	18.89	-	1,150.00	(1,131.11)	0.02
50512 PERIODICALS & PUBLICATIONS	-	-	-	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	-
50514 MEMBERSHIP DUES	7,434.00	7,434.00	-	7,500.00	(66.00)	0.99
50515 ADVERTISEMENT	-	-	-	200.00	(200.00)	-
50521 LEGAL & ACCT FEES	64.54	64.54	-	-	64.54	-
50522 INSURANCE/BONDING	10,892.70	10,892.70	-	12,000.00	(1,107.30)	0.91
50523 SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE	2,948.00	2,948.00	-	1,200.00	1,748.00	2.46
50524 BANKING SERVICES	1,288.24	1,288.24	-	-	1,288.24	-
50525 INTEREST	-	-	-	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	-
50540 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	231.00	695.50	-	-	695.50	-
Total EXPENSE	76,117.20	121,174.06	-	170,248.00	(49,290.96)	0.50

ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
DIRECTORS REPORT

Bus date: 03/31/2021

Fiscal year thru period ending 09/30/2021

0030 - Board

Description	Quarter to date	Year to date	Ytd encumbrnce	Annual budget	Annual variance	% used
50310 BOARD TRAVEL				1,000.00	(1,000.00)	
50312 BOARD REGISTRATION	-	-	-	3,500.00	(3,500.00)	-
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Total EXPENSE	-	-	-	4,500.00	(4,500.00)	-
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ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
DIRECTORS REPORT

Bus date: 03/31/2021

Fiscal year thru period ending 09/30/2021

0040 - Finance

Description	Month to date	Year to date	Ytd encumbrnce	Annual budget	Annual variance	% used
50110 SALARIES	32,262.13	59,612.18	-	154,196.00	(94,583.82)	0.39
50210 BENEFITS	15,437.45	27,269.35	-	72,359.00	(45,089.65)	0.38
50225 COVID LEAVE	-	246.29				
50310 TRAVEL			-	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	-
50312 REGISTRATION/TRAINING	-	104.17	-	15,500.00	(15,395.83)	0.01
50410 RENT/SPACE	1,480.75	4,756.21	-	6,000.00	(1,243.79)	0.79
50420 TELEPHONE	576.35	1,157.68	-	2,600.00	(1,442.32)	0.45
50430 POSTAGE	565.25	1,645.39	-	3,000.00	(1,354.61)	0.55
50440 COPIER			-	575.00	(575.00)	-
50510 OTHER INDIRECT	334.48	458.99	-	1,500.00	(1,041.01)	0.31
50511 OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,661.28	13,345.71	-	15,000.00	(1,654.29)	0.89
50512 PERIODICALS & PUBLICATIONS				550.00	(550.00)	-
50515 MEMBERSHIP DUES	150.00	150.00	-	325.00	(175.00)	0.46
50516 ADVERTISING			-	200.00	(200.00)	-
50520 AUDIT & ACCOUNTING	32,125.00	32,125.00	-	38,000.00	(5,875.00)	0.85
50523 SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE			-	10,000.00	(10,000.00)	-
50525 INTEREST			-	1,600.00	(1,600.00)	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total EXPENSE	86,592.69	140,870.97	-	323,405.00	(182,780.32)	0.32
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ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
DIRECTORS REPORT

Bus date:03/31/2021

Fiscal year thru period ending 09/30/2021

0050 - Regional Development

Description	Quarter to date	Year to date	Ytd encumbrnce	Annual budget	Annual var	% used
50110 SALARIES	-	-	-	49,400.00	(49,400.00)	
50210 BENEFITS	-	-	-	23,182.00	(23,182.00)	
50410 RENT/SPACE	-	-	-	2,500.00	(2,500.00)	
50420 TELEPHONE	-	-	-	1,020.00	(1,020.00)	
50430 POSTAGE	-	-	-	-	-	
50440 COPIER	-	-	-	-	-	
50510 OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	
50515 MEMBERSHIP DUES	-	-	-	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	
50523 COMPUTER SOFTWARE	-	-	-	-	-	
50525 INTEREST	-	-	-	-	-	
Total EXPENSE	-	-	-	79,102.00	(79,102.00)	

ARK TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
DIRECTORS REPORT

Bus date: 03/31/2021

Fiscal year thru period ending 09/30/2021

0070 - Avery

Description	Month to date	Year to date	Ytd encumbrnce	Annual budget	Annual var	% used
50110 SALARIES	311.75	711.98	-	2,000.00	(1,288.02)	0.36
50210 BENEFITS	149.15	320.42	-	700.00	(379.58)	0.46
50410 RENT/SPACE	17.90	66.59	-	200.00	(133.41)	0.33
50420 TELEPHONE	6.71	14.13	-	25.00	(10.87)	0.57
50525 INTEREST			-	25.00	(25.00)	-
Total EXPENSE	485.51	1,113.12	-	2,950.00	(1,836.88)	0.34

**Ark-Tex Area Agency on Aging Quarterly Report
January 2021 – March 2021**

<i>Bowie County</i>	<i>Quarter</i>	<i>FY2021 Total</i>
Transportation	943 (\$6,204.94)	2,009 (\$13,219.22)
Home Delivered Meals	7,270 (\$38,603.70)	15,121 (\$80,292.51)
Congregate Meals (Grab & Go)	3,453 (\$25,068.78)	7,753 (\$56,286.78)
<i>Cass County</i>		
Transportation	749 (\$4,928.42)	1,381 (\$9,086.98)
Home Delivered Meals	2,031 (\$10,784.61)	4,081 (\$21,670.11)
Congregate Meals (Grab & Go)	853 (\$6,192.78)	1,764 (\$12,806.64)
<i>Delta County</i>		
Transportation	12 (\$78.96)	28 (\$184.24)
Home Delivered Meals	1,669 (\$8,862.39)	3,580 (\$19,009.80)
Congregate Meals (Grab & Go)	723 (\$5,032.08)	1,443 (\$10,043.28)
<i>Franklin County</i>		
Transportation	38 (\$250.04)	57 (\$375.06)
Home Delivered Meals	382 (\$2,028.42)	653 (\$3,467.43)
Congregate Meals	-	-
<i>Hopkins County</i>		
Transportation	881 (\$5,796.98)	1,942 (\$12,778.36)
Home Delivered Meals	1,933 (\$10,264.23)	3,580 (\$19,009.80)
Congregate Meals	-	-
<i>Lamar County</i>		
Transportation	50 (\$329.00)	104 (\$684.32)
Home Delivered Meals	10,508 (\$55,797.48)	22,011 (\$116,878.41)
Congregate Meals (Grab & Go)	1,003 (\$6,980.88)	2,303 (\$16,028.88)
<i>Morris County</i>		
Transportation	191 (\$1,256.78)	519 (\$3,415.02)
Home Delivered Meals	1,967 (\$10,444.77)	4,369 (\$23,199.39)
Congregate Meals (Grab & Go)	734 (\$5,328.84)	1,384 (\$10,047.84)
<i>Red River County</i>		
Transportation	206 (\$1,355.48)	410 (\$2,697.80)
Home Delivered Meals	3,454 (\$18,340.74)	6,968 (\$37,000.08)
Congregate Meals (Grab & Go)	664 (\$4,621.44)	1,298 (\$9,034.08)
<i>Titus County</i>		
Transportation	591 (\$3,888.78)	1,643 (\$10,810.94)
Home Delivered Meals	2,191 (\$11,634.21)	4,098 (\$21,760.38)
Congregate Meals (Grab & Go)	442 (\$3,208.92)	1,026 (\$7,448.76)
<hr/>		
<i>TOTALS</i>		
Transportation	3,661 (\$24,089.38)	8,093 (\$53,251.94)
Home Delivered Meals	31,405 (\$166,760.55)	64,461 (\$342,287.91)
Congregate Meals (Grab & Go)	7,872 (\$56,433.72)	16,971 (\$121,696.26)

**Ark-Tex Area Agency on Aging Quarterly Report
January 2021 – March 2021**

<i>Other Services</i>	<i>Quarter</i>	<i>FY2021 Total</i>
Homemaker (Estimated)	796/hrs (\$13,000)	2,000/hrs (\$32,000)
Caregiver Respite (Estimated)	700/hrs (\$9,500)	1,400/hrs (\$20,600)
Evidence-Based Intervention (HomeMeds, Tai Ji Quan)	128	256

COVID-19 funds received January 14, 2021.

Amount awarded: \$11,018 Home Delivered Meals (Title III-C2)

CARES Act funds received January 14, 2021

Amount awarded: \$98,497 Title III-B (Supportive Services)

\$196,167 Title III-C (Nutrition Services)

\$10,085 Title III-E (Caregiver Services)

\$10,323 Title VII (Ombudsman Program)

Training for 2nd Quarter:

A Matter of Balance – January 2021
(Evidence-Based Intervention)

Jenny Butler, AAA Coordinator
DeVon Wilson, AAA Aging Specialist
Mel Luebbert, AAA Tai Ji Quan Instructor

Training for the Fiscal Year 2021

A Matter of Balance (Evidence-Based Intervention)

Lisa Reeve, AAA Director
Jenny Butler, AAA Coordinator
DeVon Wilson, AAA Aging Specialist
Mel Luebbert, AAA Tai Ji Quan Instructor

Housing Programs Quarterly Report

Jan.- March 2021

Housing Choice Voucher Program

County	Total Tenants	Contract Rent	Tenant Rent	HAP to Landlords
Bowie	551	\$388,318	\$121,612	\$262,168
Camp	24	\$15,738	\$5,654	\$9,696
Cass	54	32,657	\$8,126	\$23,711
Delta	13	7613	\$2354	\$5,132
Franklin	22	\$12,581	\$3034	\$9,547
Hopkins	104	\$59,648	\$22,608	\$36,394
Lamar	123	\$71,151	\$29,800	\$40,757
Morris	46	\$27,780 \$	\$6,805	\$20,274
Red River	34	\$16,622	\$3,164	\$12,237
Titus	187	\$110,936	\$36,254	\$73,449
Upshur	61	\$41,471	\$13,116	\$28,047
Wood	12	\$7,739	\$1,663	\$5,871
Port Outs	16	\$144,400	\$43,200	\$101,200
Issued	160	\$128,000	\$38,400	\$89,600
Monthly Totals	1625	1,064,654	\$335,790	\$718,083

ESG Homeless Prevention Grant

\$42,880.89

ESG HP and RRH Cares Grant

\$128,264.71

Family Self Sufficiency Grant

87 Contracts of Participation
37 escrowing
1 graduated

VASH Vouchers

5

The average dollar **increase** in annual household income? \$9477.61

Grants submitted for Jan.-March 2021

Texas Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program Grant

Trainings During the Quarter: NONE

Housing Quality Inspections Certifications -

Earned Income Verification Certification -

Leadership Training-

Economic Development Quarterly Report
January 2021 – March 2021

RLF Program Information:

Loan Projects in Application Process

- NETEDD: 7H Meat Market
- COVID: Truck N Awesome
- COVID: Fitness Center

Loans Funded

- CHAPMAN: DeKalb

Loan Prospects

RLF (Still pending)

- Daycare secondary location (on hold due to COVID)
- Secondary location for existing borrower for a carryout restaurant in Central TX area (on hold due to COVID)

Loan Paid Off

-

Note: Many borrowers have deferred payments or paid interest only during COVID. We continue to adjust their schedules and/or payments as they stabilize.

Revolving Loan Funds (RLF) Program Active Loans October through December 2020:

NETEDD Original Loans - 4

ESNR

Longhorn Tire

Coppertop

KNB Music

ETRAP Loans -6

Marroquin

Leigh Water Supply

City of Leary

Coppertop

Rowe Casa

Longhorn Tire

CHAPMAN - 4

Clarksville EDC

City of Deport

City of Avery

Bowie County ESD #6

DeKalb

New COVID RLF Loans - 2

Coppertop

Caffe Crema

NETEDD (former CTEDD) Loans - 12

Vo-Tech/Bambino's day care
Gardener/Valvoline Express-Hector
Kevin & Monita Keathley
Anderson Schoel Developments, LP
Superior Performance
Dolsby Enterprises, LLC
Fire Street Pizza
Little Lambs Learning Academy
Skate Waco, Inc.
First Rate Brewers
Grace Discovery
Thakor Eclectic Food Concepts

FmHA RLF acquired from CTEDD - 1

Gap Tractor Parts

ATRDC Program Information:

- Total Loans in SBA 504 Portfolio – 16
- Total Original Issued Loan Amount - \$7,714,000
- Balance on Books as of 12/31/20 - \$5,284,702.79

***All SBA 504 loans resumed payments as of October 1st as the CARES ACT payments ended; however, per new legislation, another round of assistance is anticipated soon.**

ATRDC 504 Loan Program Income from Fees - \$2614.59

Loans Approved by SBA

- Slim Chickens
- Starr Rail

Loans in Process (Pending SBA Approval)

ATRDC

- New Assisted Living (secondary location to business on the books), ATRDC approved and submitted for SBA approval
- New Assisted Living, (secondary location to business on the books different project/owner than above), in application phase

Loan Prospects

ATRDC

- Refi on Atlanta Project

Training During the Quarter:

- Attended NADCO Training on Underwriting with staff
- Attended TARC - Information Reviewed
- Emails and conversations with Regional Bankers and Community to discuss Economic funding options and after COVID funding
- Various Webinars by SBA – Economic Development re: Covid-19
- Arkansas and Texas SBDC webinars re: Covid-19 and Regional impact
- Legislative and Federal Update Re: Covid-19 and impact to area
- SBDC Mt. Pleasant/Paris collaboration for businesses and recent COVID funding information
- EDA training for COVID RLF
- Attended NADCO webinars

Site visits with Paris SBDC:

New project

Visit to project funded in 2020.

Updated information for the Quarter:

NEW INVESTMENT PRIORITIES FOR EDA GRANTS:

EDA's investment priorities provide an overarching framework to ensure its grant investment portfolio – ranging from planning to infrastructure construction -- contributes to local efforts to build, improve, or better leverage economic assets that allow businesses to succeed and regional economies to prosper and become more resilient. Competitive grant applications will be responsive to the evaluation criteria listed under each individual funding announcement, including at least one of the following investment priorities:

1. **Equity:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that advance equity across America through investments that directly benefit 1) one or more traditionally underserved populations, including but not limited to women, Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders or 2) underserved communities within geographies that have been systemically and/or systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic prosperity such as Tribal Lands, Persistent Poverty Counties, and rural areas with demonstrated, historical underservice. For more information on these populations and geographies see: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-advancing-racial-equity-and-support-for-underserved-communities-through-the-federal-government/>.
2. **Recovery & Resilience:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that build economic resilience to and long-term recovery from economic shocks, like those experienced by coal and power plant communities, or other communities impacted by the decline of an important industry or a natural disaster, that may benefit from economic diversification-focused resilience.
3. **Workforce Development:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that support workforce education and skills training activities directly connected to the hiring and skills needs of the business community and that result in well-paying, quality jobs.
4. **Manufacturing:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that encourage job creation, business expansion, technology and capital upgrades, and productivity growth in manufacturing, including efforts that contribute to the competitiveness and growth of domestic suppliers or to the domestic production of innovative, high-value products and production technologies.
5. **Technology-Based Economic Development:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that foster regional knowledge ecosystems that support entrepreneurs and startups, including the commercialization of new technologies, that are creating technology-driven businesses and high-skilled, well-paying jobs of the future.
6. **Environmentally-Sustainable Development:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that help address the climate crisis including through the development and implementation of green products, processes (including green infrastructure), places, and buildings.
7. **Exports & FDI:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that enhance or build community assets to support growth in US exports or increased foreign direct investment.

Online TxCDBG Certified Administrator Workshop

TDA is pleased to announce the first virtual training opportunity for TxCDBG Grant Recipients and their service providers. Rather than conducting a series of implementation workshops around the state, TDA has created an online presentation covering key program material. Once an individual has reviewed the Online Workshop, they may take the certification test to become a Certified Administrator for the TxCDBG program for the coming year. The list of certified administrators posted to the TDA website will be updated in November, and periodically thereafter as additional persons become certified.

To begin the Online TxCDBG Certified Administrator Workshop & Test, click [HERE](#)

For additional information about Professional Services for the TxCDBG program, click [HERE](#)

To access the full TxCDBG Implementation Manual, click [HERE](#)

Full access is found on the Texas Department of Agriculture website.

GRANTS:

Grants in Process:

*City of Hooks
Bowie County*

2021/2022 CDBG Community Development Fund
Sewer Infrastructure

\$350,000.00

\$35,000.00 match

Submitted Grants:

*TexAmericas Center,
Bowie County*

2020 EDA Public Works & Economic Adjustment
Assistance Programs

Rail & Jobs

\$864,550.00

80/20 Match

\$216,138.00 match

Approved – waiting on formal award notice!

Denied Grants:

None at this time

Active Grants:

*City of Sulphur Springs,
Hopkins County*

2017 Texas Capital Fund: Infrastructure
\$750,000.00 ***\$50,000,000.00 match***
In Construction phase

**City of Lone Star,
Morris County**

**2019 CDBG Fire, Ambulance & Service Truck
(FAST) Fund**
\$342,148.00 ***\$5,000.00 match***
Vehicle in final stages – Equipment purchased

NETEDD

2021 3 Year Planning Grant
\$210,000.00 ***\$52,5000.00 match***
EDA GRANT # ED21AUS3020017

**City of DeKalb,
Bowie County**

**2020 EDA Public Works & Economic Adjustment Assistance
Programs** ***80/20 Match***
Wastewater, Sewer, Water Lines & Meters Easement & Jobs
\$2,000,000.00 ***\$559,858.00 match***
EDA GRANT # 08-01-05486

**Hopkins County Sulphur Springs EDC
Sulphur Springs**

**2018 EDA Public Works & Economic Adjustment
Assistance Programs**
\$1,500,000.00 ***\$1,000,000.00 match***
EDA GRANT # 08-79-05222

**City of Hooks,
Bowie County**

**2020 EDA Public Works & Economic Adjustment
Assistance Programs**
Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade
\$850,000.00 ***\$212,500.00 match***
EDA GRANT # 08-01-05371

**Ark-Tex COG
NETEDD**

**2020 EDA Public Works & Economic Adjustment
Assistance Programs**
\$400,000.00 ***\$0.00 match***
EDA GRANT # ED20AUS3070061

**Ark-Tex COG
NETEDD**

**2020 EDA RLF SUPPLEMENT - COVID
CARES ACT**
\$550,000.00 ***\$0.00 match***
EDA GRANT # 08-79-05424

**Central Texas EDD to
Northeast Texas EDD**

**2020 EDA Public Works & Economic Adjustment
Assistance Programs**
\$3,186,179.31 ***\$1,059,109.81 match***
NETEDD GRANT # 08-57-02889

TRAINING:

NTIA Region 6 Economic Workgroup
TDA-GO Remote Training – Texas Department of Agriculture
North Texas Association of Government Guaranteed Lenders Quarterly Meeting
Zoom Meeting with USED A Kirsten McGregor
AEP Kickoff Webinar Weatherization
Meeting to coordinate services with SBDC staff Texarkana
NADO webinar on EDA
Remote training for: Rural Community Development Initiative
EDA Peer Review with SW Oklahoma and EDA
Zoom meeting: Rural Broadband Presentation
Grant Writing USA – 2 Day Training
TxCDBG Environmental Training
Broadband Connected Nations Webinar Presentation
USDA Listening Sessions for Comments on Coronavirus Response Grants
TxCDBG Annual Action Plan webinar
Grant Management 2 Day Training
TARC Spring 2021 Economic Development Online

CERTIFICATIONS:

2020 TxCDBG Pre-Qualified Professional Administrative Services

Ark-Tex Council of Governments
Toni Lindsey – Contact Information Texas Department of Agriculture website

2020 TxCDBG Grant Administrators & Environmental Certificate:

Toni Lindsey, Regional Development Manager
Melody Harmon, Economic Development Manager
Don Shipp, Environmental/Hazard Mitigation Specialist
Sarah James, Development Specialist
Brianna O'Shaughnessy, Development Specialist
Anthony DelGiorno, Development Specialist

FBI Background Clearances for SBA to assist Economic Development Manager:

Toni Lindsey, Regional Development Manager
Sarah James, Development Specialist

911 Program Statistics - January - March 2021

	BUSN	CNTX	COIN	No Class of Service	OTHER	PAYP	PBX	RESD	TLMA	Unparsed 911	VOIP	WPH0	WPH1	WPH2	TEXT	Total
ATCOG Training Center	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	6
Atlanta PD	160	0	0	7	0	0	0	95	2	0	136	7	377	1074	63	1921
Bi State Justice Center	1288	80	0	293	8	0	63	2430	31	0	1201	0	4438	18361	234	28427
Cass CO SO	303	0	0	46	35	0	1	251	2	0	14	0	411	1404	90	2557
Delta CO SO	54	0	0	8	3	0	0	51	1	0	14	0	109	450	8	698
Franklin CO SO	21	0	0	29	1	0	0	31	1	0	207	0	261	901	124	1578
Hopkins CO SO	125	0	0	15	4	0	1	199	3	0	15	0	434	1818	84	2698
Morris CO SO	106	0	0	18	2	0	0	382	3	0	169	0	358	1420	80	2538
Mt Pleasant PD	358	0	0	28	0	0	19	112	7	0	330	0	714	3108	73	4749
New Boston PD	126	0	0	19	8	0	0	987	8	0	218	1	114	708	83	2271
Paris PD	281	1	0	27	3	0	32	271	4	0	567	0	1309	4303	23	6821
Red River County Sheriff's Office	197	1	0	152	14	0	0	855	4	0	12	0	337	977	55	2604
Sulphur Springs PD	277	1	0	30	59	0	21	31	3	0	264	0	487	1942	70	3185
Total	3297	83	0	672	140	0	137	5695	69	0	3147	7	9349	36467	988	59063

TOTAL

Wireless Total = 45,823

Total Call Volume = 59,063

GIS Statistics –

Critical Errors – 0

GeoMSAG routing

ESInet Conversion

VPN routers installed at host locations

Complete conversion scheduled for third quarter 2021 calendar year.

CLASS OF SERVICE KEY

BUSN - Business Number

CNTX - Central Exchange phone system

COIN - Pay Phone

No Class of Service - Type not indicated

Other - Any Class of Service not stored in the Customer Premise Equipment PAYP - Pay Phone

PBX - Private Branch Exchange phone system

RESD - Residential phone line

TLMA - Telematics

Unparsed 911 - no distinction in Raw ALI data

VOIP - Voice over internet protocol

WPH0 - Wireless Phase 0 - (Voice Only)

WPH1 - Wireless Phase 1 - (Voice + Cell Tower Location Data)

WPH2 - Wireless Phase 2 - (Voice Call + calling location xy coordinate TEXT - Text to 9-1-1

FY2021 JAG Projects						
Grantee	Project Title	Grant Number	Grant Status	Current Award	Expended	Project Period
Cass County	Body-Worn Camera Acquisition	3991201	Pending Close-Out (Vendor Hold)	\$33,840.00	\$33,730.00	10/1/2020-9/30/2021
Daingerfield, City of	Protect Officer, Public, and Prosecution Project	3956201	Closed	\$24,100.00	\$24,100.00	10/1/2020-9/30/2021
Delta County	Body Armor Replacement	4039601	Grant - Active	\$16,758.00	\$16,000.00	10/1/2020-9/30/2021
Franklin County	Handheld Radios	3992801	Grant - Active (Vendor Hold)	\$18,000.00	\$17,973.48	10/1/2020-9/30/2021
Mt. Vernon, City of	Patrol Computers/Tablet	3988301	Closed	\$28,861.70	\$28,861.70	10/1/2020-9/30/2021
Red River County	Mobile Technology Upgrade	3953101	Closed	\$13,400.00	\$13,400.00	10/1/2020-9/30/2021
Wake Village, City of	Scene Response Trailer	4041101	Grant - Active	\$12,611.00	\$0.00	10/1/2020-9/30/2021

FY2021 VOCA Projects						
Grantee	Project Title	Grant Number	Grant Status	Current Award	Expended	Project Period
Domestic Violence Prevention, Inc.	Comprehensive Victim Restoration Program	2907004	Grant - Release Adjustment to Grantee	\$317,484.26	\$144,639.21	10/1/2020-9/30/2021
Hopkins County (District Attorney's Office)	Victim Assistance Coordinator/Legal Assistant	2813905	Grant - Active	\$75,146.84	\$38,981.81	10/1/2020-9/30/2021

FY2021 VAWA Projects						
Grantee	Project Title	Grant Number	Grant Status	Current Award	Expended	Project Period
Mount Pleasant, City of (Police Dept.)	Violence Against Women Investigator	3631603	Grant - Active	\$16,237.27	\$16,237.27	10/1/2020-9/30/2021
Red River County (Sheriff's Office)	Violence Against Women Investigator	3953201	Grant - Active	\$36,487.02	\$8,047.20	10/1/2020-9/30/2021

FY2021 Juvenile Justice Projects						
Grantee	Project Title	Grant Number	Grant Status	Current Award	Expended	Project Period
Ark-Tex Council of Governments	Purchase of Juvenile Services	1426622	Grant - Active (Blind Hold - Indirect Approval)	\$45,416.00	\$9,235.86	10/1/2020-9/30/2021

Qtr. 1 Financial Status Reports for these grants are due to CJD Jan.22nd. After the 22nd, many of these applicants will then show expenditures in the eGrants system.

FY2020/2021 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funds (CESF grant) Projects (as of 1/19/21)						
Grantee	Project Title	Grant Number	Grant Status	Current Award	Expended	Project Period
Daingerfield, City of	Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental	4140201	Closed	\$9,715.77	\$9,715.77	2/1/2020-1/31/2021
Dekalb, City of	COVID19	4172901	Grant - Active	\$35,098.40	\$34,138.77	2/1/2020-1/31/2021
Mount Pleasant, City of	COVID-19	4152201	Grant - Active	\$76,452.50	\$76,452.50	3/1/2020-2/28/2021
Mount Vernon, City of	Covid-19 Safety	4160501	Closed	\$12,576.35	\$12,576.35	6/1/2020-5/31/2021
Delta County	COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment	4170801	Grant - Active	\$25,825.00	\$24,394.00	10/1/2020-9/30/2021
Franklin County	COVID-19 Emergency Funds	4159201	Pending Close-Out (Vendor Hold)	\$20,651.70	\$20,651.70	2/1/2020-1/31/2021
Lamar County	Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Fund	4172101	Closed	\$35,650.00	\$35,650.00	3/1/2020-2/28/2021
Red River County	Public Health Supplemental Project	4134901	Grant - Active	\$45,133.06	\$31,679.95	5/1/2020-4/30/2021

Qtr. 1 Financial Status Reports for these grants are due to CJD Jan.22nd. After the 22nd, many of these applicants will then show expenditures in the eGrants system.

FY2020 Purchase of Juvenile Justice Services Grant / ATCOG Contract with Counties (\$45,416.00 Total for 1-YR Grant)							
County	Scope of Services	Original Contract Amount	Amended Contract Amount	Expended Amount	Juveniles Served with Contracted Amount	Start Date	End Date
Bowie County	Juvenile Mental Health Services	\$ 11,840.00	N/A	\$0.00	2	10/1/2020	9/30/2021
Cass County	Juvenile Mental Health Services	\$ 3,774.00	N/A	\$1,118.60	2	10/1/2020	9/30/2021
Hopkins County (also covers Delta, Franklin)	Juvenile Mental Health Services	\$ 7,178.00	N/A	\$0.00	No invoices received to date	10/1/2020	9/30/2021
Lamar County	Juvenile Mental Health Services	\$ 6,179.00	N/A	\$3,600.00	7	10/1/2020	9/30/2021
Red River County	Juvenile Mental Health Services	\$ 1,406.00	N/A	\$1,406.00	9	10/1/2020	9/30/2021
Titus County (also covers Morris)	Juvenile Mental Health Services	\$ 6,623.00	N/A	\$0.00	No invoices received to date	10/1/2020	9/30/2021
	TOTAL	\$ 37,000.00	N/A	\$6,124.60	No invoices received to date		

FY2020/2021 Regional Law Enforcement Training Grant (\$154,267 Total for 2-Year Grant - FY20 & FY21)	
FY20/21 Total # Students to Attend Law Enforcement Training (Provided w/ ATCOG Grant Funds or Free Through ATCOG Coordination With Certain Training Providers)	505
FY20/21 Courses Held (Provided w/ ATCOG Grant Funds or Free Through ATCOG Coordination With Certain Training Providers)	85

Homeland Security Quarterly Report January - March 2021

Grantee	Project Title	Grant Number	Grant Status	Current Award	Expended	Project Period
Ark-Tex Council of Governments	ATCOG Planning, Training and Exercises Project	2946006	Grant - Active	\$88,000.00	\$24,854.43	9/1/2020-8/31/2021
Ark-Tex Council of Governments	ATCOG Cyber-security Planning and Training Project	4067001	Grant - Active	\$12,800.00	\$775.69	9/1/2020-8/31/2021
Ark-Tex Council of Governments	ATCOG-Franklin County Emergency Radio Infrastructure	3979301	Grant - Active	\$127,328.59	\$0.00	9/1/2020-8/31/2021
Ark-Tex Council of Governments	ATCOG-Red River County Emergency Radio Infrastructure	4110101	Grant - Active	\$134,794.85	\$0.00	9/1/2020-8/31/2022
Ark-Tex Council of Governments	ATCOG-Lamar County Emergency Radio Infrastructure	4115701	Grant - Active	\$163,652.17	\$0.00	9/1/2020-8/31/2021
Texarkana, City of	City of Texarkana, Texas - Special Response Teams Drone Project	3634803	Grant - Active	\$17,691.54	\$0.00	10/1/20-09/30/2021
Franklin County	Mobile License Plate Reader	3977101	Grant - Active	\$23,899.81	\$0.00	9/1/2020-8/31/2021
Mount Vernon, City of	Radio's Portable Communication	3988501	Grant - Active	\$6,060.00	\$0.00	10/1/20-09/30/2021
Sulphur Springs, City of	Thermal Imaging Project	4004701	Grant - Closed	\$10,406.25	\$10,406.25	11/1/20-10/31/2021
Wake Village, City of	Emergency Power	4012101	Grant - Active	\$9,480.00	\$0.00	9/1/2020-8/31/2021
Lamar County	License Plate Reader	4062501	Grant - Active	\$34,891.00	\$0.00	10/1/20-09/30/2021
Lamar County	Regional Hazmat Response Team-WMD/TIC Detector	4080401	Grant - Active	\$10,000	\$0.00	10/1/20-09/30/2021
Lamar County	Mobile Command Post Camera System	4080601	Grant - Active	\$15,000	\$0.00	10/1/20-09/30/2021
Hopkins County	Hopkins County Regional Communication Response Trailer	4081201	Grant – pending closeout	\$18,562.50	\$18,562.50	11/1/20-10/31/2021
Naples, City of	Cybersecurity Project	4107401	Grant - Active	\$6,375.50	\$0.00	10/1/2020-04/30/2021
Red River County	Red River County Communication Upgrades	3632002	Grant-Pending closeout	\$8,502.92	\$8,502.92	11/1/2019-10/31/2020

Environmental Quarterly Report

January – March 2021

- Illegal Dumping Surveillance Camera Loan Program – 10 camera systems and 20 “No Dumping Signs have been loaned out in Bowie County, and are deployed in the cities of Nash, DeKalb, Simms and in rural areas of the county. ATCOG currently has 14 camera systems and 65 signs are available for illegal dumping enforcement.
- FY21 Solid Waste Grant Funds, in the amount of \$40,500.00, are being equally divided between each of the nine counties within the ATCOG region for illegal dumping cleanup / community collection events, including tire collection events. Each county has access to \$4,500.00, once memorandums of understanding are signed and executed. ATCOG is also in the process of updating the 20 Year Regional Solid Waste Management Plan and has contracted with Texas State University to provide the updates. This plan is due to TCEQ by 2022 for review and approval.
- FY 21 Water Quality Grant Funds, in the amount of \$13,475.00, are being utilized to conduct non-point source pollution activities within the ATCOG region. Activities include: Providing educational materials to the public relating to water pollution and conservation practices, composting and gardening techniques, proper lawn care methods and pet waste disposal. Compost bins have been provided to local Master Gardener Associations within the region to help promote the utilization of natural fertilizers, and 2,000 disposable nitrile gloves have been distributed to local volunteer water quality monitors associated with the Texas Stream Team. These volunteers monitor the condition of local waterbodies including creeks, rivers and lakes on a weekly basis, utilizing chemical test kits and electronic meters. The results are provided to Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University, to be compiled and presented to TCEQ on an annual basis.
- ATCOG has joined the Texarkana Brownfields Regional Environmental Coalition which submitted an application to the Environmental Protection Agency for a Hazardous Substances and Petroleum Assessment Grant in the amount of \$600,000.00 to be utilized at various sites located within Bowie County, Texas and Miller County, Arkansas. Coalition members include ATCOG, TexAmericas Center, the City of Texarkana, AR and the applicant, the City of Texarkana, TX. This funding, if awarded, will help boost redevelopment activities at key locations which are currently underutilized due to perceived or actual environmental contamination. Awards are expected to be announced in April or May.
- ATCOG has been selected to administer the Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress Regional Flood Planning Group grant program funded by the Texas Water Development Board. Funding, in the amount of 910,400.00, will be utilized to develop a flood plan in a region comprised of 20 counties located in northeast Texas. The plan is due to the TWDB in January of 2023 and is required to be updated every 5 years.

ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
APPLICATION / PROJECT STAFF REVIEW FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project SAI No: N/A	Date Received: 3-23-21	Staff Assignment: Paul Prange
Applicant: City of Winfield, Texas		
Project Description: The City of Winfield has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for renewal of Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0012146001, to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 84,000 gallons per day. The domestic wastewater treatment facility is located approximately 400 feet north of IH-30 access road and 1,500 feet west of FM 1734 in the City of Winfield, Titus County, Texas. The discharge route is from the plant site to an unnamed tributary of Smith Creek; thence to Smith Creek; thence to Lake Monticello; thence to Lake Bob Sandlin.		
PROJECT/EA REVIEW:		
Area to be served: Winfield, Titus County, Texas.		
Does the project comply or furnish reasonable assurances of compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances? Yes. The TCEQ executive director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit.		
Is the project consistent with state, area wide, and/or local planning or does it contribute toward goals or objectives identified at one or more of governmental levels? Yes. This permit application meets all statutory and regulatory requirements.		
Has this project been coordinated through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality? Yes, coordination is in progress.		
Does the project address a clearly defined need and does the project take into account preservation of the environment? There is a clearly defined need for the renewal of this TPDES Permit to allow the continued operation of the domestic wastewater treatment facility. This facility serves the needs of all residents living within the City of Winfield. All guidelines required by TCEQ to protect the environment are being followed, thus minimal disruption of the environment is expected.		
Is the project likely to produce any significant adverse effects on the environment? No. The renewal of this permit will not authorize an increase in the number gallons of treated wastewater that can be discharged into the environment. This facility is in good operational condition. Before being discharged, the water passes through particulate filters and is then piped to a sedimentation pond located at this facility.		
Do the anticipated accomplishments of the project justify the disruption to the environment? Yes. The renewal of this permit will allow the continued operation of this facility, which directly serves the needs of all citizens living within the City of Winfield. The disruption of the environment is minimal compared to the accomplishments.		
STAFF ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: The permit renewal will not create any significant detrimental impact to the environment, as determined by TCEQ.		
RECOMMENDED COMMENT: Staff recommends support of this permit renewal application by the City of Winfield, TX.		

ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
APPLICATION / PROJECT STAFF REVIEW FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project SAI No: N/A	Date Received: 4-12-21	Staff Assignment: Paul Prange
Applicant: Adrian Van Der Jagt		
<p>Project Description: Adrian Van Der Jagt has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) under General Permit No. TXG920000 for authorization to expand an existing dairy cattle facility from 1,200 head to 1,500 head, all of which are milking cows and increase the total land application area from 174 to 243 acres in Hopkins County, Texas. No discharge of pollutants into the waters in the state is authorized by this general permit except under chronic or catastrophic rainfall conditions or events. All manure and wastewater will be beneficially used on agricultural land. The facility is located at 1741 County Road 1109, Sulphur Springs, Hopkins County, Texas.</p>		
PROJECT/EA REVIEW:		
Area to be served: Hopkins County, Texas.		
<p>Does the project comply or furnish reasonable assurances of compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances? Yes. The TCEQ executive director has determined that the application is administratively complete and has made a preliminary decision to approve coverage of this facility.</p>		
<p>Is the project consistent with state, area wide, and/or local planning or does it contribute toward goals or objectives identified at one or more of governmental levels? Yes. This permit application meets all statutory and regulatory requirements.</p>		
<p>Has this project been coordinated through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality? Yes, coordination is in progress.</p>		
<p>Does the project address a clearly defined need and does the project take into account preservation of the environment? There is a clearly defined need for the operation of this cattle facility by Mr. Van Der Jagt, as it provides employment and high quality food products to the citizens within our region. All guidelines required by TCEQ to protect the environment are being followed, thus minimal disruption of the environment is expected.</p>		
<p>Is the project likely to produce any significant adverse effects on the environment? No. The authorization to operate this facility will not allow any discharge of pollutants into the waters of the State of Texas. Additionally, all waste and wastewater will be beneficially applied to agricultural land.</p>		
<p>Do the anticipated accomplishments of the project justify the disruption to the environment? Yes. The issuance of this permit will allow the operation of this facility, which provides various dairy food items. The disruption of the environment is minimal compared to the accomplishments.</p>		
<p>STAFF ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: The permit will not create any significant detrimental impact to the environment, as determined by TCEQ.</p>		
<p>RECOMMENDED COMMENT: Staff recommends support of this permit application Adrian Van Der Jagt.</p>		

ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
APPLICATION / PROJECT STAFF REVIEW

Project SAI No:	Date Received: 04/21/2021	Staff Assignment: Toni Lindsey								
Applicant: Detroit Independent School District Head Start										
Project Title: Head Start Supplemental Application/COLA 2021-22		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Loan</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>Grant</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>Pre-Application</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>Continuation</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> </table>	Loan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pre-Application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Continuation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Loan	<input type="checkbox"/>									
Grant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>									
Pre-Application	<input type="checkbox"/>									
Continuation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>									

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Proposed Activity: Continue to provide Project Head Start for 54 three and four year olds.

Budget:	Amount	Source / Funding Agency
Federal	\$ 12,886	Department of Health and Human Services/Office of Head Start
State		
Local		
Applicant	\$0	Requesting a waiver for the non-federal share match requirement
Other		
Total	\$ 12,866	

Personnel Required:

The program employs managers/coordinators with the following credentials: 1 with a master degree, 3 with bachelor degrees, 1 registered nurse, 2 associate degrees, and 1 with a high school diploma. Instructional and other staff include: 2 teachers with bachelor/teaching certification, 1 teacher with a bachelor/teaching certification and 1 teacher working on her certification provided by Clarksville ISD at no cost to Head Start; 1 teachers with bachelor degree/probationary certificate, 1 teacher with a bachelor degree, 1 teacher with associate degree, 1 teacher assistant with a bachelor degree, 1 teacher assistant enrolled in a bachelor degree program, 1 teacher with the equivalent course work to an associate degree; 1 teacher assistance with the equivalent of an associate degree, 4 teacher assistants with associate degrees, 4 teacher assistants with CDA's, 1 cook/custodian with a CDA; and 9 bus monitors.

PROJECT REVIEW: (PROVIDE ADEQUATE DETAIL)

Area to be served:

Cities of Detroit and Clarksville, Texas.

Does the project comply or furnish reasonable assurances of compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances?

Assurances included with application.

Is the project consistent with state, areawide, and / or local planning or does it contribute toward goals or objectives identified at one or more of governmental levels?

Application approved by the Red River County Head Start Policy Council in April 2021 and Detroit ISD Board of Trustees approved the pay scales.

Does the project address a clearly defined need?

This supplemental application will provide for a cost of living adjustment (COLA) in the amount of \$6,613 for 2021-2022 school year in accordance with the established pay schedule as per Head Start guidelines based on the table provided by Administration for Children & Families to include Cost of Living Adjustment and Quality Improvement as well as annual step increase for employees according to their pay schedule in the amount of \$6,273 for a total combined COLA and step increase amount of \$12,886

<p>Is the project likely to produce any significant adverse effects on the environment? No</p>
<p>Are the project's goals identified, specific, measurable, and achievable? Yes. Detroit Head Start program is utilizing an increase in funding to provide a COLA increase to retain qualified staff and increase salaries as indicated and approved.</p>
<p>Does the proposal demonstrate a feasible delivery strategy? Yes. Detroit ISD has compared compensation in their district to surrounding, comparable districts to ensure employees are not compensated at a rate which is in excess of the average rate of compensation for the area.</p>
<p>Does the project contribute to a balanced delivery of services among political subdivisions covered by the application? Yes. All eligible employees will receive the COLA and appropriate step increases and/or salary increase to meet quality improvement increases.</p>
<p>Do the anticipated accomplishments of the project justify the amount of funds requested? (Cost / Benefit Analysis) Yes. Detroit Head Start employs quality employees eligible for quality improvement increases..</p>
<p>Does the applicant's prior performance indicate high probability that the proposed objectives will be accomplished? Yes. The program has been in operation since 1993. Currently, Head Start serves 136 students in two centers. They maintain successful program operations by hiring degreed/certified teachers and qualified, experienced management staff.</p>
<p>Additional Information:</p>

<p>STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Staff recommends a favorable review.</p>
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RESOLUTION NO. AEC21-16

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WITH REVIEW AND COMMENT ON AN APPLICATION BY DETROIT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, OFFICE OF HEAD START, FOR A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,886.00, FOR CONTINUATION /REFUNDING OF HEAD START.

WHEREAS, under Section 204 of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 and Title IV of the Intergovernmental Cooperative Act of 1968, the Ark-Tex Council of Governments has been designated as the area wide agency to review certain applications for which federal financial assistance is requested, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that certain development plans be reviewed by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments for their consistency with the overall development of the Region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Section 1 - That the submission of an application by Detroit Independent School District to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start, for a supplemental grant in the amount of \$12,886.00 for cost of living adjustments and step increases as provided in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 has been reviewed by the Executive Committee and can reasonably be expected to become part of the overall regional plan.

Section 2 – That the above-mentioned services are desirable and urgently needed for quality of services.

REVIEWED THIS 29TH DAY OF APRIL, 2021.

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

BRIEFING PAPER

ITEM 9:

Review and consider authorizing the Executive Director, as the ATCOG Authorized Official, to submit an application to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, for a grant to purchase supplies and PPE to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus in the Ark-Tex Council of Governments Region for the project's grant period of February 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021.

BACKGROUND:

The Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office (OOG/PSO/CJD), has announced that ATCOG will receive a direct allocation of \$25,000 in Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funds (CESF), which will be used to purchase supplies and PPE to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. ATCOG will apply for the grant, which is due May 11th, and then the formal award will be issued sometime after that date. After receiving the award notification, ATCOG will be able to purchase and distribute items to those local governments that responded with their list of requested items needed.

DISCUSSION:

The total proposed budget of \$25,000 includes approximately \$22,000 for CESF supplies and approximately \$3,000 in administrative/operating expenses.

RECOMMENDATION:

The staff recommends approval of authorization for the Executive Director, as the Authorized Official, to submit the application for CESF supplies to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division.

RESOLUTION NO. AEC21-17

RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION, FOR A GRANT TO PROVIDE SUPPLIES AND PPE TO PREVENT, PREPARE FOR, AND RESPOND TO THE CORONAVIRUS IN BOWIE, CASS, DELTA, FRANKLIN, HOPKINS, LAMAR, MORRIS, RED RIVER, AND TITUS COUNTIES IN TEXAS. THIS RESOLUTION IS EFFECTIVE FOR THE PROJECT'S GRANT PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2021.

WHEREAS, the rules and regulations of the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, require that this application be reviewed and approved by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments Board of Directors.

WHEREAS, the Ark-Tex Council of Governments finds it in the best interest of the citizens of the Region that the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funds (CESF) Project be operated for the project's grant period of February 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:

- Section 1 - That the Board of Directors recognizes the Executive Director as the Authorized Official, and he has been given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter, or terminate a grant with the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division; for a grant to provide the supplies and PPE to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus in Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus Counties in Texas. This grant project has been reviewed by the Board of Directors and is approved for submission to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division.
- Section 2 - That the above mentioned services are desirable and urgently needed for the public safety and welfare.
- Section 3 - That the Board of Directors agrees that, in the event of loss or misuse of funds, that the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED THIS 29th DAY OF APRIL, 2021

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

BRIEFING PAPER

ITEM 10:

Review applications and approve priorities/recommendations established by the Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (RCJAC) concerning projects being submitted to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division (CJD), for funding consideration.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, applications are submitted to CJD through eGrants by agencies/organizations in the ATCOG region. After the applications have been submitted, CJD requires ATCOG to distribute the applications to the RCJAC to be reviewed and scored.

DISCUSSION:

The Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (RCJAC) met by teleconference on April 6, 2021 and applicants gave a brief presentation about their project. RCJAC members then had an opportunity to ask questions to each presenter regarding their application/project. Applications were scored by the 18 RCJAC members present, using the previously approved scoring instruments and those scores were averaged and ranked.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the priorities/recommendations of the VAWA/VOCA/JJTP/JAG categories as presented, based on the scores and rankings of the Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (RCJAC), and also recommends approval of the RCJAC's priorities/recommendations of the CSEY based on the CJD/CSEY core elements presented by the CSEY applicant and the 1-5 scoring scale required by the OOG/CJD. Upon approval, these priorities/recommendations will be submitted to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division (CJD), and OOG/CJD will evaluate the projects for funding consideration.

ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF YOUTH (CSEY) FISCAL YEAR 2022

RCJAC SCORING RESULTS

Rank	Grantee	Title	Project Details	Total Amount Requested	<i>Scored on CJD's 1-5 scale based on CJD's core elements presented in the project (for CSEY app only)</i> Averaged Score
1	NSM Int. Women's Ministries-Elijah's House	FY22 Residential & Community Based Services for Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation	Enhancement of services for youth. Will provide activities, increase therapy, and reorganize the program. Various personnel positions and operating expenses.	\$1,189,905.72	4.414

**No Estimated Regional Allocation Amount for the CSEY funding category has been given by OOG/CJD at this time.*

**RCJAC score will be presented to the ATCOG Board of Directors/Executive Committee for their approval and then sent to the Office of the Governor (OOG) – Criminal Justice Division (CJD), where the final funding decisions will be made.*

RESOLUTION NO. AEC21-18

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WITH REVIEW AND APPROVAL ON SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR (OOG), CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION (CJD), FOR FUNDING CONSIDERATION THROUGH THE RESIDENTIAL AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF YOUTH (CSEY) CATEGORY FOR FY2022.

WHEREAS, the rules and regulations of the Office of the Governor - Criminal Justice Division require that these applications be reviewed and priorities be established by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that certain projects/programs be reviewed by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments for their consistency with the overall plans of the Region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Section 1 - That the applications being submitted to the Officer of the Governor - Criminal Justice Division for funding consideration through the CSEY category for FY2022 have been reviewed.

Section 2 - That the applications be given priority (as indicated on the Attachment) based on the CJD/CSEY core elements presented by the CSEY applicant and the 1-5 scoring scale required by the OOG/CJD.

REVIEWED THIS 29TH DAY OF APRIL, 2021.

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

**ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2022**

RCJAC SCORING RESULTS

Rank	Grantee	Title	Project Details	Total Amount Requested	Funding Amount Available	SCORE
1	City of Hooks– (Police Dept.)	Handheld Portable Radio Project	7 Handheld Portable Radios	\$22,596.77	\$22,596.77	95.250
2	Cass County – (Sheriff’s Office)	In-Car Video Camera	6 In-Car Video Systems	\$27,400.00	\$27,400.00	95.067
3	City of Daingerfield (Police Dept.)	P-25 Compliant In Car Radios Project	4 - P25 radios for patrol vehicles	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	94.800
4	Franklin County – (Sheriff’s Office)	Franklin County Mobile Radios	6 In-Car Radios	\$24,500.00	\$24,500.00	94.500
5	City of Clarksville – (Police Dept.)	Less than Lethal Equipment Project	5 Tasers, video cameras, accessories	\$12,598.45	\$12,598.45	94.200
6	City of Paris – (Police Dept.)	Police VHF Radio Grant	Replacing 10 mobile radios in police vehicles	\$11,475.00	\$11,475.00	93.938
7	Red River County – (Sheriff’s Office)	Vehicle Equipment Upgrade	16 Mobile laptops, 16 electronic gun racks	\$16,580.48	\$16,580.48	92.667
8	City of Naples – (Police Dept.)	Work Stations	4 Desktop work stations, 3 laptops for patrol officers	\$12,957.62	\$12,957.62	91.063
9	City of Mt. Vernon – (Police Dept.)	Speeders	6 Stalker dual radar units for patrol units, 12 Antenna, with remotes	\$14,661.00	\$9,746.31 (partial funding)	87.875
10	City of Mt. Pleasant – (Police Dept.)	Officer Load Bearing Vests Equipment	Load bearing vests, equipment holders, shirts for officers (33)	\$20,130.00	\$0 (no funds avail)	85.800
11	Lamar County – (Sheriff’s Office)	Evidence Processing Room Upgrade	DRYSAFE unit for dry evidence storage, latent finger print testing station, crime scene processing kit	\$12,178.63	\$0 (no funds avail)	85.667
12	City of Wake Village – (Police Dept.)	Speed Awareness and Safety Trailer Program	Speed trailer equipped with radar and flashing speed displayed	\$10,000.00	\$0 (no funds avail)	83.938

**Total Estimated Regional Allocation Amount is \$152,854.63.*

**RCJAC funding recommendations will be presented to the ATCOG Board of Directors/Executive Committee for their approval and then sent to the Office of the Governor (OOG) – Criminal Justice Division (CJD), where the final funding decisions will be made.*

RESOLUTION NO. AEC21-19

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WITH REVIEW AND APPROVAL ON SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR (OOG), CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION (CJD), FOR FUNDING CONSIDERATION THROUGH THE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM CATEGORY FOR FY2022.

WHEREAS, the rules and regulations of the Office of the Governor - Criminal Justice Division require that these applications be reviewed and priorities be established by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that certain projects/programs be reviewed by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments for their consistency with the overall plans of the Region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Section 1 - That the applications being submitted to the Officer of the Governor - Criminal Justice Division for funding consideration through the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program category for FY2022 have been reviewed.

Section 2 - That the applications be given priority as indicated on the Attachment.

REVIEWED THIS 29TH DAY OF APRIL, 2021.

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

**ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
JUVENILE JUSTICE & TRUANCY PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAMS
FISCAL YEAR 2022**

RCJAC SCORING RESULTS

JUVENILE JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAM

Rank	Grantee	Title	Project Details	Total Amount Requested	Funding Amount Available	SCORE
1	Ark-Tex Council of Governments	Purchase of Juvenile Justice Services	Mental Health Services	\$55,000.00	\$35,180.75 (partial funding)	99.125

Juvenile Justice Total Estimated Regional Allocation Amount is \$35,180.75. It is possible that more funding could be added by CJD, if funds are left over by other COG regions.

TRUANCY PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM

Rank	Grantee	Title	Project Details	Total Amount Requested	Funding Amount Available	SCORE
1	Morris County	Juvenile Justice and Truancy Prevention Program	Truancy Prosecutor (1), Administrative clerical position (supplementing the part-time JP clerk for Truancy Court clerical duties), training for Truancy Prosecutor, mileage	\$52,500.00	\$52,500.00	94.563
2	Bowie County	Truancy Prevention and Intervention Program	Juvenile Case Managers (2), Project Coordinators (2) and necessary operating expenses	\$129,143.13	\$49,883.69 (partial)	93.133

Truancy Prevention Total Estimated Regional Allocation Amount is \$102,383.69. It is possible that more funding could be added by CJD, if funds are left over by other COG regions.

**RCJAC funding recommendations will be presented to the ATCOG Board of Directors/Executive Committee for their approval and then sent to the Office of the Governor (OOG) – Criminal Justice Division (CJD), where the final funding decisions will be made.*

RESOLUTION NO. AEC21-20

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WITH REVIEW AND APPROVAL ON SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR (OOG), CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION (CJD), FOR FUNDING CONSIDERATION THROUGH THE JUVENILE JUSTICE & TRUANCY PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM CATEGORY FOR FY2022.

WHEREAS, the rules and regulations of the Office of the Governor - Criminal Justice Division require that these applications be reviewed and priorities be established by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that certain projects/programs be reviewed by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments for their consistency with the overall plans of the Region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Section 1 - That the applications being submitted to the Officer of the Governor - Criminal Justice Division for funding consideration through the Juvenile Justice & Truancy Prevention category for FY2022 have been reviewed.

Section 2 - That the applications be given priority as indicated on the Attachment.

REVIEWED THIS 29TH DAY OF APRIL, 2021.

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

**ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
VIOLENT CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN JUSTICE & TRAINING PROGRAM (VAWA)
FISCAL YEAR 2022**

RCJAC SCORING RESULTS

Rank	Grantee	Title	Project Details	Total Amount Requested	Funding Amount Available	SCORE
1	Red River County (Sheriff's Office)	S/A/F/V Investigations program	Investigator Position	\$29,582.16	\$29,582.16	94.600
2	City of Mt. Pleasant (Police Dept.)	Violence Against Women Investigator	Investigator Position	\$57,079.00	\$10,976.55 (partial funding)	92.133

**Total Estimated Regional Allocation Amount is \$40,558.71.*

**RCJAC funding recommendations will be presented to the ATCOG Board of Directors/Executive Committee for their approval and then sent to the Office of the Governor (OOG) – Criminal Justice Division (CJD), where the final funding decisions will be made.*

RESOLUTION NO. AEC21-21

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WITH REVIEW AND APPROVAL ON SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR (OOG), CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION (CJD), FOR FUNDING CONSIDERATION THROUGH THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN JUSTICE & TRAINING PROJECTS (VAWA) CATEGORY FOR FY2022.

WHEREAS, the rules and regulations of the Office of the Governor - Criminal Justice Division require that these applications be reviewed and priorities be established by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that certain projects/programs be reviewed by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments for their consistency with the overall plans of the Region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Section 1 - That the applications being submitted to the Officer of the Governor - Criminal Justice Division for funding consideration through the Violence Against Women Justice & Training Projects (VAWA) category for FY2022 have been reviewed.

Section 2 - That the applications be given priority as indicated on the Attachment.

REVIEWED THIS 29TH DAY OF APRIL, 2021.

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

**ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
GENERAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE – DIRECT SERVICES (VOCA)
FISCAL YEAR 2022**

RCJAC SCORING RESULTS

Rank	Grantee	Title	Project Details	Total Amount Requested	Funding Amount Available	SCORE
1	Shelter Agencies For Families in East Texas (SAFE-T)	Children & Youth Services/Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Transitional Housing	Various Personnel Positions and operating expenses	\$827,980.46	\$827,980.46	95.063
2	Domestic Violence Prevention, Inc.	Comprehensive Victim Restoration Program	Various Personnel Positions and operating expenses	\$361,773.82	\$57,212.11 (partial funding)	94.906
3	Hopkins County (District Attorney's Office)	Victim Assistance Coordinator/Legal Assistant	Victim Assistance Coordinator/Legal Assistant Position and operating expenses	\$76,958.05	\$0 (no funding avail)	94.387

**Total Estimated Regional Allocation Amount is \$885,192.57.*

**RCJAC funding recommendations will be presented to the ATCOG Board of Directors/Executive Committee for their approval and then sent to the Office of the Governor (OOG) – Criminal Justice Division (CJD), where the final funding decisions will be made.*

RESOLUTION NO. AEC21-22

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WITH REVIEW AND APPROVAL ON SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR (OOG), CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION (CJD), FOR FUNDING CONSIDERATION THROUGH THE GENERAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE – DIRECT SERVICES (VOCA) CATEGORY FOR FY2022.

WHEREAS, the rules and regulations of the Office of the Governor - Criminal Justice Division require that these applications be reviewed and priorities be established by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that certain projects/programs be reviewed by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments for their consistency with the overall plans of the Region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Section 1 - That the applications being submitted to the Officer of the Governor - Criminal Justice Division for funding consideration through the General Victim Assistance – Direct Services (VOCA) category for FY2022 have been reviewed.

Section 2 - That the applications be given priority as indicated on the Attachment.

REVIEWED THIS 29TH DAY OF APRIL, 2021.

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

BRIEFING PAPER

ITEM 11:

Review and consider approval of prioritization of 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program funds as recommended by the ATCOG Homeland Security Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND:

The State instructs regions to consider and prioritize all grant applications received under the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP). ATCOG region has submitted roughly \$1.4 million in projects. Once the Federal guidance is released from FEMA and the State determines each regions' allocation, the State will then review each jurisdiction's project individually and approve or disapprove each one.

DISCUSSION:

The Homeland Security Advisory Committee met on March 18, 2020 and reviewed the 2021 funding requests. The HSAC scored the projects via ballot based on risk, reasonableness, and priority level. The Homeland Security Advisory Committee approved this item on March 18, 2021.

RECOMMENDATION:

ATCOG staff and the Homeland Security Advisory Committee recommend approval of this item.

**ATCOG Homeland Security Advisory Committee
FY21 Homeland Security Project Prioritization Results**

Priority Ranking	Score	Jurisdiction	Project Name	Amount
1		Ark-Tex Council of Governments	Planning, Training, and Exercise	\$88,000.00
2	208.3	Hopkins County	Thermal Imaging Project	\$18,314.00
3	200	City of Sulphur Springs	Ventilation Fan Project	\$7,590.00
4	193.3	Red River County	Red River County Communications upgrade	\$113,480.00
5	190	Morris County	Morris County Mobile Radio Project	\$30,589.08
6	182.5	Lamar County	Lamar County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Team Project	\$46,680.00
7	176.25	Lamar County	Lamar County Regional Hazmat Team Detector Project	\$97,440.00
8	176.25	Lamar County	Drone Project for the Lamar County Sherriff's Department	\$36,967.00
9	175	Lamar County	Paris Fire Department's Regional Hazmat Response Team Project	\$36,472.00
10	165	New Boston	FirstNet radio project	\$284,347.70
11	163.75	City of Mt Vernon	Radio's portable communication	\$23,351.44
12	162.5	Lamar County	License Plate Reader	\$41,161.00
13	157.5	Franklin County	Franklin County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Console	\$143,000.00
14	159.28	City of Dekalb	PD Radio Grant	\$19,827.43
15	156.25	Lamar County	Lamar County Critical Infrastructure Project	\$52,570.00
16	156.25	City of Daingerfield	Security Cameras Project	\$8,046.00
17	130	New Boston	Critical infrastructure security enhancements	\$167,621.73
18	125	Franklin County	Franklin County Mobile Radios	\$24,500.00
19	120	City of Wake Village	Unmanned Aircraft System (Drone) Program	\$5,940.00
20	116.42	Delta County	License Plate Reader	\$39,957.00
21	115	New Boston	Automatic License Plate Reader	\$47,935.38
22		Ark-Tex Council of Governments	ATCOG Regional Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Training Project	\$76,000.00

RESOLUTION NO. AEC21-23

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WITH APPROVAL OF THE PRIORITIZATION OF PROJECTS FOR 2021 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS.

WHEREAS, the ATCOG Board of Directors must approve the prioritization of projects for Homeland Security Grant Program funds to be allocated to the jurisdictions in the ATCOG region; and

WHEREAS, only jurisdictions that meet the 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program requirements are eligible to receive these funds;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THROUGH VOTE AND APPROVAL BY THE ATCOG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Section 1 - That the jurisdictions on the attached list meet the requirements of the 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program.

Section 2 - That the prioritization of projects on the attached list will be provided to the State by the set deadline.

REVIEWED THIS 29th DAY of April, 2021.

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

BRIEFING PAPER

ITEM 12:

Review and consider approval of the submission of an Older Adult Home Modification Program application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

BACKGROUND:

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has issued a Notice of Funding Availability to invite applications for the Older Adult Home Modification Program. The goal of the home modification program is to enable low-income elderly persons to remain in their homes through low-cost, low barrier, high impact home modifications to reduce older adults' risk of falling, improve general safety, increase accessibility and to improve their function abilities in their home. This will enable older adults to remain in their homes, that is, to "age in place," rather than moving to nursing homes or other assisted care facilities.

DISCUSSION:

ATCOG's goal is to utilize the funding for home modifications for homeowners who are low-income, to enable the homeowners to live in the home for as long as possible, safely. The Area Agency on Aging and the Housing Department staff will work together on this project. The application amount is \$500,000, and the funding will allow the AAA to provide home modification services that have not been allowed by State funding. There is a cap of \$5,000 per household, unless approved by HUD. The entire ATCOG region will be eligible for this service.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the submission of the HUD Older Adult Home Modification Program application.

RESOLUTION NO. AEC21-24

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (ATCOG) APPROVING THE ATCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR A 3-YEAR OLDER ADULTS HOME MODIFICATION GRANT THROUGH THE U.S DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000.

WHEREAS, ATCOG is applying for \$500,000 of federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the grant does not require cost sharing or matching funds; and

WHEREAS, this 3-year grant will allow low-income persons, age 62 and above, to receive home modifications that will assist to keep the client in their home to age in place; and

WHEREAS, both the ATCOG Area Agency on Aging and ATCOG Housing Department will work on this project together.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:

Section 1 - That the ATCOG Executive Committee approves submission of the grant application for the 3-YEAR Older Adults Home Modification Grant through the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Section 2 - That the ATCOC Executive Committee designates the Executive Director as the grantee's authorized official and gives the Executive Director the power to apply for, accept, reject, manage, alter or terminate the grant on the behalf of the applicant agency.

REVIEWED THIS 29TH DAY OF APRIL, 2021.

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

Busline

March/April 2021



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Operations
Coordinator
Bobby Williams

Texarkana, TX





"I think other transportation agencies would benefit greatly by what I call 'mingling' with community leaders who know everybody, especially in small cities and towns, such as the ones we service. We go to the main source, who are people who know people."



*Sensitivity And Understanding Keys
To Passenger Comfort And Safety*

Texas Transit Agency Has Battled Weather And COVID While Maintaining Service

By Rick Mullen, *Busline Magazine* Associate Editor

Bobby Williams, TRAX operations coordinator

Operating under the umbrella of the **Ark-Tex Council of Governments**, with its headquarters in **Texarkana, TX**, **TRAX Rural Public Transportation** services a nine-county area in northeastern Texas.

The Ark-Tex Council of Governments is a voluntary association of local governments established under state law to promote intergovernmental cooperation and strengthen units of local government. Its primary goal is to improve the quality of life for all citizens of the region by providing resources, programs, and services (including public transportation) and coordinating funding.

"TRAX's service region encompasses about 6,400 square miles," said **Bobby Williams, TRAX operations coordinator**, during a recent interview with *Busline Magazine*.

To put the agency's service region in perspective, 6,400 square miles is larger than, or nearly as large, as six states — Massachusetts, 7,838 square miles; New Jersey, 7,419 square miles; Hawaii, 6,423 square miles; Connecticut, 4,845 square miles; Delaware, 1,955 square miles; and Rhode Island, 1,034 square miles.

TRAX provides low-cost transportation for Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus counties from passengers' homes or other designated pickup points.

Texarkana is located in the far northeastern corner of Texas. The city straddles the Texas/Arkansas state line. TRAX's service region lies to the west, southwest, and northwest of Texarkana and

includes several smaller communities.

"Many of the counties in the region don't have hospitals or other service providers," Williams said. "TRAX is the only public transportation agency in the region that provides demand/response service."

TRAX vehicles travel a yearly average of about 104,000 miles. The average annual ridership is 114,000 trips, Williams said.

While not limited to, TRAX's primary ridership demographic is people 60 years old and older. Rural transportation's primary mission is to transport people to grocery shopping, pay bills, doctor appointments, dialysis centers, to the bank, to the beauty shop, to and from work, wherever riders need to go, Williams said.

"The majority of our riders are seniors," Williams said. "However, in Titus County, there is a large chicken processing plant. So, in that area, we take a lot of people to and from work. We go as far as taking people to the movies."

A separate agency, the T-Line Bus System, also operating under the Ark-Tex Council of Governments, provides fixed-route service in Texarkana.

In 2016, TRAX introduced the Paris Metro Service, located in Paris, TX, about 94 miles west of Texarkana, which operates four fixed-routes and paratransit service.

For its fixed-routes, Paris Metro daily operates four Freedom bus models from ARBOC Specialty Vehicles, with one Freedom bus in reserve, Williams said.



TRAX operates five ARBOC Freedom buses at Paris Metro, in Paris, TX, with four more on the way.

"In October 2019, **Mark Compton** and I were invited to visit ARBOC's manufacturing facility in Middlebury, IN," Williams said. "ARBOC representatives introduced us to the Freedom model. We liked the vehicles, and, not only that, we were impressed by the professionalism displayed by ARBOC's sales reps and managers."

In addition to the ARBOC buses currently in use in Paris, TRAX has four more buses on order, making nine Freedom buses in TRAX's fleet. The new buses are expected to arrive by the end of May or early June.

"We recently finished a route study for Paris. Also, we are in the process of purchasing a new transit facility in that location. Hopefully, we will have that transaction finished by April or May, and, after that, we are going to look at expanding service," Williams said.

THE STORM AND COVID

In mid-February, an unprecedented winter storm hit Texas and many other states. The storm caused the deaths of at least 26 people in Texas, according to *cnn.com*. Millions of people lost their power, forcing families to huddle over a fireplace, scavenge for firewood or spend nights in their car trying to stay warm. Others spent hours searching for food as shelves emptied and weather conditions led to food supply chain problems. The frigid temperatures caused pipes to burst, leading to water disruptions for roughly half the state's population.

COVID-19 relief efforts, including food banks, were shuttered. Vaccine shipments were delayed, and many canceled appointments, the CNN report said.

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Ultimately, the catastrophic weather event caused TRAX and the T-Line Bus System in Texarkana to pull their vehicles off the road.

"We heard on the news it was going to be pretty bad, but we didn't think it was going to be as bad as it was," Williams said. "Fortunately, our supervisors sprang into action right away. We contacted operators to inform them of what we might be facing and let them know we would pull them off the road if conditions worsened.

"It got worse, and we pulled them off the road for a week. Our employees are very valuable. We didn't want to endanger our operators' lives by having them on the road.

"On Monday, Feb. 22, at about 4:30 a.m., our supervisors checked service areas to make sure the bridges and overpasses were safe. Based on their reports, we gave the OK to put our vehicles back in service by 6:30 a.m.

"All office workers are continuing to work from home. Before the storm, the majority of us were already working from home because of COVID. We conducted all meetings via Zoom."

The winter storm crisis was a double whammy, as it occurred on top of the state's ongoing battle with the COVID-19 pandemic.



Lymon Samis has been a TRAX operator for 20 years.

Indeed, as of March 5, there have been at least 2,683,840 cases and 44,920 deaths in Texas, since the beginning of the pandemic, according to a *New York Times* database.

Similar to the storm, as the COVID-19 crisis began to ramp up, TRAX officials did not think the pandemic would become as serious as it did.

"We listened to reports saying COVID was not as bad in the U.S., as it was in other countries," Williams said. "When it hit us hard, a lot of things changed dramatically all over the country.

"In response to COVID-19, we had to step up cleaning and disinfecting procedures significantly. We had to spend money to install sanitizers in our stations. We followed CDC guidelines for social distancing and enforcing limited seating.

"We had to make some moves immediately because we still had passengers, especially those on dialysis, who needed to get to doctor's appointments. People also desperately needed to go to the grocery store.

"We provided protective equipment supplies to all of our operators. We ordered supplies before some other agencies even thought about it.

"Our transit director has a military background, and he insisted we

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had to act immediately, while, in the back of my mind, I was thinking, 'It hasn't even hit us that hard yet.'

"I am thankful for him, as it wasn't long before other agencies were running out of protective items. It wasn't good. People couldn't buy gloves and masks anywhere. However, we had enough supplies that we could give other agencies a few cases of gloves and masks. We were prepared and well stocked because (Compton) took action immediately."

In the ensuing weeks and months, as the pandemic continued to ravage the country, TRAX officials decided to ramp up their efforts in combating the virus.

"We really wanted to make sure our operation was safe. We purchased fiberglass barriers to protect operators. For our ARBOC city buses in Paris, we purchased ProAir HEPA-3 air filter systems, which filter the air for COVID, or any other type of virus," Williams said. "It is a wonderful product, and I'm hoping other agencies purchase them with the available funding."

"Also, we recently were approved to purchase AeroClave decontamination foggers to be placed in all of our vehicles. At the end of the day, when the operator gets ready to go home, he/she will turn on the fogger for five minutes, and it will decontaminate the entire vehicle. It is a really good system. It is expensive, but our operators and passengers are worth it."

In addition, every other seat in our Metro buses was blocked to



Debrah Waller is a dispatcher/scheduler for Paris Metro.

accomplish social distancing. To make up for the buses' limited capacity, supervisors in other vehicles do what the agency calls "following." That is, the supervisor will follow behind the city bus and pick up any overflow passengers at a bus stop.

Williams lauded the dedication and courage of TRAX operators as they service the riding public.

"There are undoubtedly passengers who are contagious, putting our operators' lives in danger every day," Williams said. "We decided to

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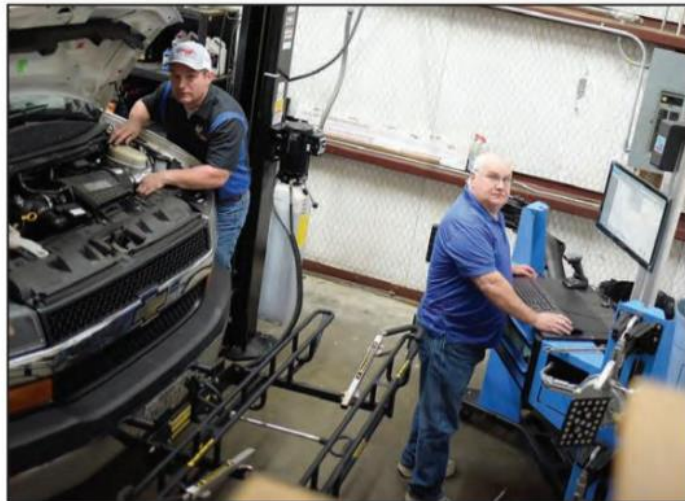
As more and more people become eligible for COVID-19 vaccine shots, TRAX is working on ramping up to run a “vaccine” route.

“There will be many more people who will want to be vaccinated. We are trying to hire enough part-time operators to start a vaccine route, so we can pick up people and take them to where they can be vaccinated,” Williams said. “Right now, it is kind of slow, but once they finish vaccinating seniors, I think it is going to explode, and people are going to need transportation more than ever.

“Ridership has decreased a lot because of COVID. There are many people who are afraid. I’m afraid. I was hospitalized with COVID for five days. I think once the pandemic starts dying down, people are going to want to start getting out, and I want us to be prepared. I hope we can regain the passengers we have lost during the pandemic.”

CUSTOMER-CENTERED SERVICE — A SAFE, COMFORTABLE RIDE

TRAX’s customer service philosophy is anchored in supplying the service riders want, while providing information and assistance to make reaching their destinations less complex, Williams said.



TRAX mechanic Garrett Lyons (left) and Maintenance Supervisor Scott Brock work in the transit agency’s maintenance facility.

“We have very professional drivers. We work hard to satisfy our passengers,” Williams said. “In fact, during training, we have the following posted on the wall — ‘We acknowledge that passengers are our business and that each person who contacts our organization is necessary. We treat them as guests, listen to their questions

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and provide them with excellent customer service. We understand that our mission is to provide safe, reliable and on-time service. We acknowledge that while the passenger may not always be right, (he/she) still deserves dignity and respect.'

"When we conduct training, we have our operators learn that message. Furthermore, at times, we drill them on that message. Our operators are highly trained to make sure passengers are safe and comfortable."

While many public transit agencies find public meetings are a good marketing tool to help grow ridership, Williams has found just conducting public meetings has not been particularly effective for TRAX. Indeed, in the agency's large service area, it can be difficult for people, especially senior citizens, to travel to meetings.

"We visit senior centers and talk with people about public transportation," Williams said. "The majority of riders using our demand and response service are elderly."

Another successful strategy has been to develop close relationships with community leaders. Once a year, in Texarkana, area ministers gather for a large meeting.

"I like to attend those meetings and talk about public transportation, TRAX routing and other related topics," Williams said. "Then,



TRAX Operations Coordinator Bobby Williams is pictured with an ARBOC Freedom bus.

at church, the ministers can help explain to their members what we do and what we offer, which has been a very successful undertaking. One result of building relationships with community leaders is, in Cass County, ridership has grown from 80 to 115 trips a month to 500 to 600 trips monthly.

Continued On Page 30



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"I think other transportation agencies would benefit greatly by what I call 'mingling' with community leaders who know everybody, especially in small cities and towns, such as the ones we service. We go to the main source, who are people who know people."

SENSITIVITY AND UNDERSTANDING

As TRAX services many elderly riders, some of whom also have medical and physical challenges, the foundation of an operator's training is based on "sensitivity" and "understanding," Williams said.

"One result of building relationships with community leaders is, in Cass County, ridership has grown from 80 to 115 trips a month to 500 to 600 trips monthly."

— Bobby Williams, TRAX operations coordinator

"Other agencies might focus their operator training on other topics, but the most important part of our training revolves around sensitivity and understanding," Williams said. "We service an area that is very family oriented, so we try to make sure people are happy. We could give riders quality service and still have operators with bad attitudes, but that is not what we want."

TRAX goes to great lengths in its operator training efforts to find

and cultivate people who are able to exhibit sensitivity and understanding, especially with its elderly riders.

"Sensitivity and understanding are the main aspects of our driver training because operators must be sensitive to, and understand, their passengers' needs and disabilities," Williams said. "If an operator doesn't understand what being disabled is, whether people have mental disabilities, or mobility issues, or whatever, how can he/she be a good driver?"

New drivers at TRAX begin their training in "as-needed" positions. The idea is to give drivers the "feel" of public transportation before they are put out on their own, Williams explained. After being on as-needed status for awhile, the driver trainee will move into a full-time position as one becomes available.

"I personally conduct a lot of the training. I've been in the business almost 23 years as a trainer," Williams said. A trainer must know and have experience in many aspects of the public transportation industry.

Williams explained, "I worked as an operator for seven years. After that, I worked in the maintenance department for three years. I left the maintenance department and became a dispatcher, and now I am the operations coordinator."

Once a driver finishes initial training, he/she goes out into the field, where a supervisor rides along for four or five days, after which, the driver will be on his/her own, Williams said. After three months, Williams will ride along with new drivers to make sure they are properly servicing passengers who are using wheelchairs.

"I will make sure the wheelchair passenger is secured the right way, and that the driver displays sensitivity and understanding while doing so," Williams said.

Once a year, TRAX has a special day-long driver-appreciation event, which includes recertification sessions in the morning. After a luncheon, award ceremonies are conducted.

"We have a really good time," Williams said. "Our employees look forward to the appreciation meeting each year."

In addition to operators, TRAX employs dispatchers, office personnel, supervisors and managers.

"We have offices in Paris and Texarkana," Williams said. "In Paris, we have three dispatchers, and there are dispatchers at our Texarkana facility, as well."

"In addition, we operate a maintenance facility in Mount Pleasant, located in the central part of our region."

WHAT MIGHT THE FUTURE BRING?

Any discussion about the future of public transportation will likely include the subject of how autonomous vehicles can be best utilized.

"I know, sooner or later, autonomous vehicles will be looked at by TRAX," Williams said. "I feel strongly that autonomous buses must have a transit employee on board. Computers respond to algorithms and binary codes. People act on impulses triggered by a particular situation. I rode in a vehicle that had sensors to keep it in the proper lane."




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"We train drivers to be sensitive and understanding, but if you don't have a person onboard, what good is that? I was transporting a lady who laid down in a seat. At first, I thought she was resting, but then I realized she was in a diabetic coma. How would a computer be able to react in an emergency situation like that?"

"Other agencies might focus their operator training on other topics, but the most important part of our training revolves around sensitivity and understanding."

In discussing the future of public transit, in general, Williams said it is still viewed by too many as a mode for economically disadvantaged people who can't afford a car. In contrast, it is Williams' hope that people will more and more realize the advantages of taking the bus, no matter their economic status.

"It saves money on gas, and a person doesn't have to sit in traffic jams all day," Williams said. "In addition, there are economic and environmental benefits to having a viable transportation alternative to cars."

Williams suggests that aggressive television and other media advertising campaigns, showing people what public transportation can offer, would help motivate people to give the bus a try. He spoke of a past "Meeting on the Bus" event.

"We parked one of our buses in a designated area and rolled out a red carpet. We offered some bulletins and tracts about public transportation," Williams said. "People showed up and asked, 'What is this about?' I told them, 'This bus goes to your community three times a day and takes people to Texarkana, to the doctor, or the Greyhound station — wherever they want to go.' Some people said, 'Wow. I thought you guys just picked up old people.'"

"Public transportation is a rewarding career. We make a difference. There are so many people who have nowhere to go — so many who have lost loved ones. Some people have absolutely no one. When I was a driver, I had passengers tell me I was the only face they would see that day. The reward is helping people. To be able to get them where they need to go, while understanding and being sensitive to their wants and needs."

Contact: TRAX Rural Public Transportation,
4808 Elizabeth St., Texarkana, TX 75503.
Phone: 866-575-9014.
Website: atcog.org.

Trans Air Announces The Arrival Of Premium 4-Layer Anti-Microbial Filters

"Trans/Air has recently joined forces with Freudenberg Filtration Technologies to provide world class proprietary filtration technology to the bus and transit markets. It proves to be 99.9 percent effective at inactivating viruses such as swine flu and Coronaviruses when in contact with the special active layer," said the company.

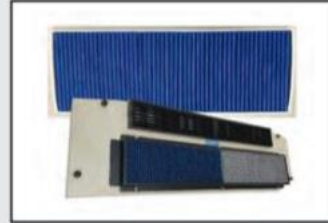
How does it work?

- Layers 1 & 2 — Top performance particle filter: Patented multilayer design, stops fine dust and microorganisms like fungal spores;
- Layer 3 — Top performance activated carbon: Carbon layer that protects against harmful gases and emissions; and,
- Layer 4: Functional layer — superior long-term effect against air floating allergens on unique fruit extract basis.

"Unlike HEPA filter-based systems, this design has minimal effect on air flow and cooling capacity. The filter is coated with a citrus-based organic extract.

"The filter comes in two sizes: Bus Cabin Air and Ford Transit OEM Air, which joins the Whiff! Chlorine Dioxide Generator in our **Safer/Aire** line of products that help keep air space, buses, and facilities clean."

Visit www.transairmfg.com for more information.



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