

**JOINT MINUTES
NORTHEAST TEXAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, AND
ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
June 30, 2022**

The Northeast Texas Economic Development District (NETEDD) and the Board of Directors of the Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) met at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, June 30, 2022, at the Northeast Texas Small Business Development Center (SBDC), 2nd Floor, located at 105 North Riddle Avenue, Mt. Pleasant, Texas, as well as, via teleconference/webinar.

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

Item 2. Travis Ransom, Judge, Cass County, gave the invocation.

Item 3. Public Comment.

No members of the public made a comment.

NETEDD Agenda Items

Item 4. The next order of business was to review and consider approval of the minutes as submitted for the NETEDD meeting held Thursday, March 31, 2021.

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

Item 5. Mr. Brown invited staff member, Ms. Brianna O'Shaughnessy, to present for consideration approval of the 2018-2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) - 2022 update.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Ransom and seconded by Judge Scott Lee. It was approved.

This concluded all NETEDD Agenda Items.

ATCOG Board of Directors Agenda Items

Item 6. Mr. Brown presented the following agenda items:

- Approval of the minutes as submitted for the ATCOG Board of Directors meeting held Thursday, March 31, 2022.
- Acceptance of the minutes as submitted for the Homeland Security Advisory Committee meeting held Thursday, May 26, 2022.
- Acceptance of the minutes as submitted for the Area Agency on Aging Regional Advisory Council meeting held Thursday, June 3, 2022.

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

General Comment

Item 7. Ms. Toni Lindsey presented for review a grant application from the Detroit

Independent School District, to be submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start, for supplemental/COLA Funding of Head Start.

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

Item 8. Ms. Lindsey presented for review and comment on a grant application by the Salvation Army Texarkana, Arkansas, to be submitted to the State of Arkansas Department of Human Services for an Emergency Solutions Grant FY2022-2023.

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

Regular Business

Item 9. Ms. Whitney Fezell presented for review and consideration approval to adopt the updated Regional Interoperable Communications Plan (RICP).

Motion to approve was made by Judge Scott Lee and seconded by Judge Ransom. It was approved.

Item 10. Ms. Leslie McBride presented for review and consideration approval authorizing the Executive Director to sign the Rerate and Benefit Verification Form with Texas Municipal League Health to continue to provide health, dental, and life insurance benefits to staff for Plan Year 2022-2023.

ATCOG proposed to make a defined contribution of \$845.12 to each employee per month, a 7% increase, or a \$55.30 increase per month. The staff has the option to "buy up" to a more expensive plan at their own expense. Also, a high deductible plan is available at a rate of \$744.78 per month, allowing staff to contribute the remaining defined contribution to a health savings account.

Ms. McBride noted the Rerate Notice for FY 2023 includes an increase in health premiums; however, dental and life insurance rates remain the same as FY 2022.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Ransom and seconded by Judge Scott Lee. It was approved.

Item 11. Ms. Melinda Tickle presented for review and consideration annual approval of the Investment Policy that establishes procedures to be followed in investing funds for ATCOG.

Ms. Tickle stated that the ATCOG Investment Policy has no new updates at this time.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Scott Lee and seconded by Judge Ransom. It was approved.

Item 12. Ms. Tickle presented for review and consideration approval of the proposed Salary Schedule for ATCOG for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023.

Ms. Tickle reviewed the proposed 2023 Salary Schedule, which included a 5% COLA for ATCOG employees. All ATCOG employees are paid lower than State employees or are on the low end of the State salary scale. There are no positions at ATCOG that exceed the pay of State employees in equivalent positions.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Scott Lee and seconded by Judge Ransom. It was approved.

Item 13. Ms. Mae Lewis presented for review and consideration approval of the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Housing Community Affairs (TDHCA) for 2022 Emergency Solution Grant program funds (ESG).

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

Item 14. Ms. Veronica Williams presented for review and consideration approval of the Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) 5-year Regionally Coordinating Public Transportation Plan (RCTP)

Motion to approve was made by Judge Ransom and seconded by Judge Scott Lee. It was approved.

Item 15. Ms. Rea Allen presented for review and consideration approval of the addition of LifeNet Emergency Medical Services (EMS) as a secondary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) on the ATCOG 9-1-1 network to include the purchase of appropriate backing equipment.

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

Item 16. Mr. Brown presented for review and consideration approval to cancel the July ATCOG Executive Committee Meeting.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Ransom and seconded by Judge Scott Lee. It was approved.

Announcements

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on August 25, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., at the Northeast Texas Small Business Development Center (SBDC), 2nd Floor, located at 105 North Riddle Avenue, Mt. Pleasant, Texas, and via teleconference/webinar.

With no other announcements, a motion to adjourn was made by Judge Scott Lee and seconded by Judge Ransom. The meeting adjourned.

NETEDD BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Bobby Howell, Judge, Bowie County
Scott Lee, Judge, Franklin County
Robert Newsom, Judge, Hopkins County
Scott Norton, Executive Director/CEO, TexAmericas Center
Travis Ransom, Judge, Cass County
Doug Reeder, Judge, Morris County
Marc Reiter, Mayor, City of Hooks
Ann Rushing, Mayor, City of Clarksville
L.D. Williamson, Judge, Red River County

ATCOG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Bobby Howell, Judge, Bowie County
Scott Lee, Judge, Franklin County
Robert Newsom, Judge, Hopkins County
Scott Norton, Executive Director/CEO, TexAmericas Center
Travis Ransom, Judge, Cass County
Doug Reeder, Judge, Morris County
Marc Reiter, Mayor, City of Hooks
Ann Rushing, Mayor, City of Clarksville
L.D. Williamson, Judge, Red River County

ATCOG BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ron Humphry, Mayor, City of New Boston
Gary Spraggins, Councilman, City of Sulphur Springs

GUESTS PRESENT

Gaye Beard, Office of United States Representative Pat Fallon
Kathy Comer, Office of United States Senator John Cornyn
Jo Anne Gray, Planner, Texarkana Metropolitan Planner Organization
Whitney Hale, City Secretary, City of Hooks

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Rea Allen, 9-1-1 Program Director
Chris Brown, Executive Director
Mark Compton, Transportation Director
Whitney Fezell, Homeland Security Coordinator
Patricia Haley, Criminal Justice Coordinator
Mae Lewis, Housing Director
Toni Lindsey, Regional Development Director
Marla Matthews, Executive Assistant
Leslie McBride, Human Resources Director
Brianna O'Shaughnessy, Development Specialist
Paul Prange, Environmental Resources Coordinator
Lisa Reeve, Area Agency on Aging Director
Sheena Record, Transportation Coordinator
Mary Beth Rudel, Deputy Director
Melinda Tickle, Finance Director
Veronica Williams, Transportation Planner



L.D. Williamson, President
Northeast Texas Economic Development District

ATTEST:


