

MINUTES
ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
April 27, 2023

The Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) Executive Committee met at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, April 27, 2023, at the Northeast Texas Small Business Development Center (SBDC), 2nd Floor, located at 105 North Riddle Avenue, Mount Pleasant, Texas, and via teleconference/webinar.

Item 1. Bobby Howell, Judge, Bowie County, called the meeting to order.

Item 2. Kent Cooper, Judge, Titus County, gave the invocation.

Item 3. Public Comment.

No member of the public made a comment.

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, February 23, 2023.
- Acceptance of the minutes as submitted for the ATCOG Homeland Security Advisory Committee meeting held Thursday, November 17, 2022, and Thursday, February 16, 2023.
- Acceptance of the minutes as submitted for the ATCOG Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (RCJAC) meeting held Tuesday, March 28, 2023, and Wednesday, April 5, 2023.

Motion to approve was made by Scott Lee, Judge, Franklin County, and seconded by Doug Reeder, Judge, Morris County. It was approved.

Review and Comment

Item 5. Mr. Brown presented, for information only, the Executive Director Report. He reviewed the indirect finance reports and provided updates and statistics for ATCOG Programs.

Mr. Brown introduced Ms. Mary Wormington, ATCOG's new Housing Program Director, to the Executive Committee.

Executive Closed Session

Item 6. Judge Howell announced that the Open Session would recess and go into Executive Closed Session as allowed in the Texas Open Meeting Act, Section 551.074, discussion of personnel matters regarding the Operations Coordinator.

Open Session/Regular Business

Item 7. The Executive Committee reconvened in Open Session. No action was taken on Item 6 during the Executive Closed Session.

Item 8. Mr. Brown presented for review and consideration approval of the revised FY2023 Indirect Rate as recommended by Texas Health and Human Services (HHS).

The ATCOG Board of Directors approved an Indirect Rate of 23.15% at the September Board meeting when the FY2023 Financial Workplan was presented. ATCOG had requested HHS to review the indirect rate calculations and provide feedback. Upon review, HHS recommended a revised indirect cost rate of 26.27%.

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

Item 9. Mr. Brown presented for review and consideration approval of the utilization of ATCOG's indirect cost rate for ATCOG employees working on behalf of the Texarkana Urban Transit District (TUTD).

TUTD piggybacks on ATCOG's indirect cost rate because ATCOG has signed a contract with TUTD to provide service.

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

Item 10. Mr. Brown presented for review and consideration approval of authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Concord Commercial Services, Inc., not to exceed \$525,000, to complete renovations at the Paris office building.

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

Item 11. Ms. Roni Williams presented for review and approval of the purchase of one (1) Dodge Ram ProMaster 3500 vehicle for the ATCOG Transportation Program.

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

Item 12. Ms. Roni Williams presented for review and consideration approval of the purchase of two (2) ADA Minivans for ATCOG expansion of Non-Emergency Medical Transportation.

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

Item 13. Ms. Patricia Haley presented for review and approval of the priorities and 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.

The RCJAC met on March 28, 2023, and applicants gave a brief presentation about their project. Applications were scored, and the RCJAC had a follow-up meeting on April 5, 2023, to review the scoring results and discuss/determine funding recommendations for all funding categories. Ms. Haley presented the projects and their scores.

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

Item 14. Ms. Mary Beth Rudel presented for review and consideration approval of the removal of a current signature authority for Guaranty Bank and Trust.

At the ATCOG Board of Directors' meeting in March 2023, revisions to the ATCOG policies were approved. The revisions included removing the ATCOG Finance Director as a signature authority to ensure better controls. Guaranty Bank has requested a resolution to reflect the approval of the signature authority removal.

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

- Item 15. Ms. Patricia Haley presented for review and consideration the adoption of a resolution authorizing recognition of National Police Week.

The President of the United States has historically acknowledged May 15 of each year as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which it falls as National Police Week. National Police Week will be recognized May 14 - 20, 2023.

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

- Item 16. Ms. Lisa Reeve presented for review and consideration the adoption of a resolution authorizing recognition of Older Americans' Month.

The President of the United States has historically acknowledged the month of May as Older Americans Month.

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

Other Business

- Item 17. Ms. Patricia Haley presented the Computerized Criminal History (CCH) update for information only.

Announcements

Judge Howell announced that the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will host a meeting regarding *Connecting Texas 2050*, the ongoing update to the statewide long-range transportation plan, at the TxDOT Paris District office, with a Microsoft Teams link available, on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. An in-person public meeting will be held that evening starting at 5:30 p.m. at a location within the TxDOT district.

Judge Howell announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) had announced the availability of \$20 million to deliver broadband technical assistance resources for rural communities and to support the development and expansion of broadband cooperatives. [Broadband Technical Assistance Program](#)

Judge Howell stated that a Workforce CEOs meeting would be held immediately following this meeting. Judges, please reconvene at the front of the room or remain on Zoom. All others, please move into the hallway or exit the Zoom meeting.

Judge Howell announced that the next ATCOG Executive Committee meeting would be held on May 25, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the Northeast Texas Small Business Development Center (SBDC), 2nd Floor, 105 North Riddle Avenue, Mt. Pleasant, Texas, as well as via teleconference/webinar.

With no further business, Judge Howell adjourned the meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Bobby Howell, Judge, Bowie County
Scott Lee, Judge, Franklin County
Robert Newsom, Judge, Hopkins County
Travis Ransom, Judge, Cass County

Doug Reeder, Judge, Morris County
Marc Reiter, Mayor, City of Hooks
Ann Rushing, Mayor, City of Clarksville
John Sellers, Mayor, City of Sulphur Springs

ATCOG BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Kent Cooper, Judge, Titus County
Rosina Duckworth, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Cumby
Juan Duenez, Mt. Pleasant Independent School District
Shannon McGuire, Paris Junior College

GUESTS PRESENT

April Corbit, Workforce Solutions Northeast Texas
Reece DeWoody, Office of United States Senator John Cornyn
Sherie Houff, Texas Department of State Health Services
Ryan Jewell, McKinstry
ReaDonna Jones, Texarkana Metropolitan Planning Organization
Katie Martin, Texas Department of Transportation
Calvin Nicholson, Texas Department of State Health Services
KiAnn Richardson, Workforce Solutions Northeast Texas
Randy Reed, Workforce Solutions Northeast Texas

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Rea Allen, 9-1-1 Director
Chris Brown, Executive Director
Whitney Fezell, Homeland Security Coordinator
Patricia Haley, Criminal Justice Coordinator
Melody Harmon, Economic Development Director
Toni Lindsey, Regional Development Director
Marla Matthews, Executive Assistant
Leslie McBride, Human Resources Director
Debbie Purifoy, Compliance and Purchasing Officer
Lisa Reeve, Area Agency on Aging Director
Mary Beth Rudel, Deputy Director
Melinda Tickle, Finance Director
Roni Williams, Transportation Planner
Bobby Williams, Transportation Operations Manager
Mary Wormington, Housing Director



Bobby Howell, President
Board of Directors
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

