

MINUTES
ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
May 25, 2023

The Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) Executive Committee met at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, May 25, 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. Travis Ransom, Judge, Cass County, gave the invocation.

Item 3. Public Comment.

No member of the public made a comment.

Item 4. Chris Brown, Executive Director, presented for review and consideration approval of the minutes as submitted for the ATCOG Executive Committee meeting held on April 27, 2023.

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

Review and Comment

Item 5. Ms. Toni Lindsey presented for review and comment on a grant application by the Detroit Independent School District to be submitted to the Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start, for Cost-of-Living (COLA) and Quality Improvement Funding of Head Start.

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

Item 6. Mr. Brown presented for review and comment on a proposition to assist with the maintenance of hazard mitigation plans.

For many years, ATCOG had opportunities to apply for and administer Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hazard mitigation grants through the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) to assist cities and counties in developing, revising, updating, and submitting hazard mitigation plans for approval. These grants have become unavailable to our region, but the requirement to maintain current hazard mitigation plans remains.

Therefore, ATCOG proposed entering into a 5-year interlocal agreement with each jurisdiction that includes a fixed price per year to update and maintain jurisdictions' hazard mitigation plans. The total price of the agreement would be dependent upon the size of the plan and the amount of work required to maintain the plan, which would vary for each jurisdiction.

ATCOG will visit each county to discuss the interlocal agreement and hazard mitigation plans.

Regular Business

Item 7. Ms. Debbie Purifoy presented for review and consideration to authorize the Executive Director to

enter into an interlocal agreement with Region 8 Education Service Center (ESC) to participate in The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Program.

Motion to approve was made by Brandon Bell, Judge, Lamar County, and seconded by Mr. Scott Norton, Executive Director/CEO, TexAmericas Center. It was approved.

Item 8. Ms. Sheena Record presented for review and consideration approval of a grant application to be submitted to the United Way of Lamar County in the amount of \$1,020 for the Paris Metro Bus System.

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

Item 9. Ms. Rea Allen presented for review and consideration approval of an amendment to the existing Eagleview (Pictometry) contract for region-wide aerial imagery and the purchase of the second imagery project.

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

Item 10. Ms. Allen presented for review and consideration approval of the addition of Hopkins County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) as a secondary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) on the ATCOG 9-1-1 network to include the purchase of applicable call-taking equipment.

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

Other Business

Item 11. Ms. Allen presented Ms. Kelie Smith, 9-1-1 Dispatch Operator of the Red River County Sheriff Department, with the ATCOG Telecommunicator of the Year Award. Sheriff Jim Caldwell of the Red River County Sheriff's Department attended, supporting Ms. Smith's recognition.

Announcements

Judge Howell announced that the next Joint NETEDD and ATCOG Board of Directors meeting would be held on June 29, 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

Brandon Bell, Judge, Lamar County
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
Ann Rushing, Mayor, City of Clarksville

ATCOG BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Juan Duenez, Mt. Pleasant Independent School District

Ronald Humphry, Mayor, City of New Boston
Brad Johnson, Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District
Shannon McGuire, Paris Junior College
Harold Nash, Sr., Councilman, City of Sulphur Springs
Dana Reeves, Franklin County Water District

GUESTS PRESENT

Katie Martin, Texas Department of Transportation

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Rea Allen, 9-1-1 Program 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:

