

**MINUTES**  
**ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**April 28, 2022**

The Executive Committee of the Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) met at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, April 28, 2022, at the Northeast Texas Small Business Development Center (SBDC), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, located at 105 North Riddle Avenue, Mt. Pleasant, Texas, as well as, via teleconference/webinar.

Item 1. Brian Lee, Judge, Titus County, called the meeting to order.

Item 2. Judge Brian Lee gave the invocation.

Item 3. Public Comment.

No members of the public made a comment.

Item 4. Judge Brian Lee recognized the Honorable Becky Wilbanks and expressed the Board's appreciation of her years of service on the ATCOG Board of Directors and Executive Committee. A plaque was presented to Honorable Wilbanks by Judge Brian Lee and Mr. Chris Brown, Executive Director.

Item 5. Mr. Brown, Executive Director, presented the following consent agenda items.

- Approval of the minutes as submitted for the ATCOG Executive Committee meeting held Thursday, February 24, 2022.
- Acceptance of the minutes as submitted for the Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee meeting held Thursday, March 31, 2022.
- Acceptance of the minutes as submitted for the Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee meeting held Tuesday, April 5, 2022.

Motion to approve was made by Marc Reiter, Mayor, City of Hooks, and seconded by Bobby Howell, Judge, Bowie County. It was approved.

**Review and Comment**

Item 6. Mr. Brown presented, for information only, the Executive Director Report.

Mr. Brown presented the indirect finance reports, followed by updates and statistics on all ATCOG programs. ATCOG finances are on target, and all programs are operating efficiently.

Item 7. Marla Matthews presented for review and comment on a grant application by the City of Clarksville to be submitted to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Development Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program.

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

### **Regular Business**

Item 8. Patricia Haley presented for review and consideration approval of the priorities/recommendations established by the Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee concerning projects being submitted to the Office of the Governor Criminal Justice Division for funding consideration.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Scott Norton, Executive Director/CEO, TexAmericas, and seconded by Mayor Reiter. It was approved.

Item 9. Ms. Haley presented for the adoption of a resolution authorizing recognition of National Police Week, May 11 – 17, 2022, with May 15 historically designated as the Peace Officers Memorial Day.

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

Item 10. Jenny Butler presented for the adoption of a resolution authorizing recognition of Older Americans' Month in May 2022.

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

### **Other Business**

Item 11. Kathy McCollum provided the Regional Flood Planning Presentation.

Ms. McCollum informed the Board that the State of Texas is preparing a State Flood Plan, with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) administering the project. She provided the Board with the Region 2 Flood Planning website information and stated the website is open for community representatives and public comments. Ms. McCollum encouraged the Board and the public to review the flood plain maps within their perspective areas and provide comments.

Item 12. Rea Allen presented Ms. Amber James, 9-1-1 Operator of the Mt. Pleasant Police Department, with the ATCOG Telecommunicator of the Year Award. Chief Mark Buhman, Mt. Pleasant Police Department, was in attendance supporting Ms. James' recognition.

### **Announcements**

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on May 26, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., at the Northeast Texas Small Business Development Center (SBDC), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, located at 105 North Riddle Avenue, Mt. Pleasant, Texas and via teleconference/webinar.

With no other announcements, the meeting adjourned.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Becky Wilbanks, Judge, Cass County  
Bobby Howell, Judge, Bowie County  
Brandon Bell, Judge, Lamar County  
Brian Lee, Judge, Titus County  
Doug Reeder, Judge, Morris County  
Marc Reiter, Mayor, City of Hooks  
Scott Lee, Judge, Franklin County  
Scott Norton, Executive Director/CEO, TexAmericas Center  
Travis Ransom, Mayor, City of Atlanta

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT


Ronald Humphry, Mayor, City of New Boston  
Harold Nash, Councilman, City of Sulphur Springs  
Lynn Reynolds, Mayor, City of Linden  
Lowell Walker, Mayor, City of DeKalb

GUESTS PRESENT

Robbin Bass, Director of Business Retention & Expansion, Texarkana USA Chamber of Commerce  
Mark Buhman, Chief of Police Mt. Pleasant Police Department  
Kathy Comer, Office of United States Senator John Cornyn  
April Corbit, Northeast Texas Workforce Solutions  
Amber James, 9-1-1 Dispatch, Mt. Pleasant Police Department  
KiAnn Richardson, Northeast Texas Workforce Solutions  
Bart Spivey, Northeast Texas Workforce Solutions  
Nathan Tafoya, Executive Director, Mt. Pleasant Economic Development Corporation  
Ray Wilson, Office of United States Senator Bryan Hughes

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Rea Allen, 911 Program Director  
Chris Brown, Executive Director  
Jenny Butler, Area Agency on Aging Coordinator  
Whitney Fezell, Homeland Security Coordinator  
Patricia Haley, Criminal Justice Coordinator  
Mae Lewis, Housing Director  
Merle Luster, 9-1-1 PSAP Operations Coordinator  
Marla Matthews, Executive Assistant  
Leslie McBride, Human Resources Director  
Kathy McCollum, Hazard Mitigation/Environmental Specialist  
Paul Prange, Environmental Resources Coordinator  
Melinda Tickle, Finance Director

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

ATTEST:

