

**Minutes**  
**Alamo Area Council of Governments**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**2700 NE Loop 410, Suite 101**  
**San Antonio, TX 78217**  
**June 22, 2022**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Judge James Teal, Chair  
 Councilman Clayton Perry, Vice Chair  
 Commissioner Marialyn Barnard  
 Councilman James Blakey  
 Commissioner Tommy Calvert - excused @ 11:46 am  
 Commissioner Rebeca Clay-Flores  
 Mayor Victor Contreras  
 Mayor Suzanne de Leon  
 Mayor Mary Dennis  
 Judge Richard Evans  
 CW Adriana Rocha Garcia - excused @ 11:50 am  
 Mr. James Hasslocher - excused @ 10:45 am  
 Judge Wade Hedtke  
 Judge Robert Hurley  
 Judge Rob Kelly  
 Judge Sherman Krause  
 Ms. Lisa Lewis - excused @ 10:47 am  
 Judge Chris Schuchart  
 Mayor John Williams

**ALTERNATES PRESENT**

Commissioner Gary Martin for  
     Judge Richard Jackson  
 Commissioner Jose Asuncion for  
     Judge Arnulfo Luna  
 Anna Alicia Romero for  
     Senator Jose Menendez  
 Kellie Early for  
     Representative Andy Murr  
 Commissioner Donnie Schuch for  
     Judge Mark Stroehner

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Ms. Luana Buckner  
 Mayor Judy Eychner  
 Judge Kyle Kutscher  
 Judge Darrel Lux  
 Mr. Sylvester Vasquez  
 Councilwoman Ana Sandoval

**EX OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT**

Representative Kyle Biedermann  
 Representative Ryan Guillen  
 Representative John Kuempel  
 Senator Judith Zaffirini  
 Brian Hoffman, JBSA Representative

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Guy Walsh - UTSA NSCC  
 Stephanie Glenn - HARC

**STAFF PRESENT**

Diane Rath  
 Rick Bluntzer  
 Jenise Diaz  
 Cliff Herberg  
 Jacob Ulczynski  
 Josh Duron  
 Julio Elizondo  
 Susie Ernst  
 Bryn Herrera  
 Lyle Hufstetler  
 Tracy Houston  
 Tom Logan  
 Will McKnight  
 Marcela Medina  
 Claudia Mora  
 Matthew Reyea  
 Miguel Segura  
 Blancia Tapia  
 Jo Anne Tobias-Molina  
 Jhoan Torres  
 Jaye Wells  
 other staff members

**1. Chairman Teal called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.**

*The AACOG Board of Directors is meeting in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code (Open Meetings Act). As such, the Board of Directors reserves the right to retire into executive session concerning any of the items listed on this Agenda whenever it is considered necessary and legally justified under the Texas Open Meetings Act.*

**2. Roll Call was taken and a quorum was established.**

3. The United States Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge of Allegiance were recited.

4. No Public Comments were given.

*This time is for anyone to comment to the Board of Directors on issues and items of concern. There will be no Board of Directors deliberation or action on these comments. Time allowed is at the discretion of the Chairman; with three (3) minutes being customary.*

5. No Declarations of Conflict of Interest were given.

### **Presentations**

6. UTSA's School of Data Science and National Security Collaboration Center (NSCC) - Guy Walsh, Executive Director-National Security Collaboration Center

7. Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC) - Resilience Science Information Network (RESIN) tool - Stephanie Glenn, Vice President-Research, HARC

### **Executive Director**

8. Executive Director Rath presented the following Agency update to the Board members:

#### **A. Staffing Updates:**

- Assistant Director of Aging Services, Trina Cortez, was elected to the Board of Directors for Project Mend

#### **B. Program Status and Operational Updates:**

##### **Area Agencies on Aging**

- **TEMAP:** The TEMAP program has ended as of June 15, 2022. The program was successful in assisting over 71 families to pay their mortgage payments in the rural counties. Unfortunately, staff oversight resulted in an overpayment to one client. This overpayment was \$240.00. The grant funder, TDCHA, disallowed the cost. As a result, the Aging program will reimburse the funder from unrestricted fund balance the total of \$240.00 as part of the grant close out process. Disciplinary measures were taken on the staff involved.
- **SHIP program:** The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) provides health insurance counseling to Medicare beneficiaries. The deadline to request funds for the 2021-2022 (SHIP) grant that ended March 31, 2022 was May 9, 2022. Unfortunately, during this time frame there was a turnover with accounting staff. As a result, the requests for reimbursement were not sent by the deadline date. HHS is unable to provide a waiver to the AAA to accept late reimbursement requests. As a result, the Aging program will modify the current administrative budget to account for a shortfall of \$40,000. A new accountant has been assigned to this grant and new procedures are being developed to ensure the requests for reimbursement are completed timely.
- Aging Monitoring Desk Review for Bexar Aging was submitted May 10<sup>th</sup>; program is awaiting response from HHSC
- Sponsored the Project MEND Inaugural Let's Roll 5K! at Morgan's Wonderland

- A team of 10 AAA staff completed the 5k run, and we had an informational booth at the event
- The BSAC Information and Special Events Subcommittee held the Unsung Hero recognition event on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Five members of the San Antonio Community were recognized for their efforts in promoting the awareness of positive aging, and service to the community.
- AACOG hosted the Elder Abuse Summit on June 16<sup>th</sup>. This event is designed to raise awareness of Elder Abuse in our communities and methods to combat abuse, neglect and financial exploitation.
  - Senator Menendez was in attendance and presented a proclamation for Elder Abuse Awareness Day

### **Alamo Regional Transit**

- Completed Capital Projects: CCTV System & Training Room IT
- Contracted with NB Women Shelter to Provide Transportation for their clients

### **External Affairs & Communications**

- Public Affairs has hired a Multimedia Specialist and an Administrative Support staff, and is now fully staffed
- Media has continued to contact us regarding our expertise in Active Shooter training to law enforcement professionals across the State
  - Our active shooter instructor even spoke to CNN a few weeks ago
- Universal City PD Chief, Johnny Siemens, and Academy instructor Mike Davis also went on a segment with FOX San Antonio/WOAI to promote our efforts in recruiting professionals for law enforcement, telecommunications, and jailers – particularly in our rural communities
- Continuing to work with SA Food Bank on quarterly visits to our rural counties to discuss Security, Resilience, and Preparedness
- Public Affairs will also be contacting local governments (individually) who have yet to submit their membership dues for this year.
  - We will compile a list after our efforts in July, and present any outstanding dues at the next BOD meeting

### **Intellectual & Developmental Disability Services**

- Preparing for the eventual end of the federal public health emergency. Conducting all in-person visits face-to-face unless telehealth is otherwise indicated and cross-training additional staff in benefits assistance to assist in the wind-down of continuous Medicaid coverage, in order to minimize business impact
- Presented IDD Recognition & Response Training to the Texas Police Association on June 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - 80 law enforcement personnel trained
- Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) annual monitoring visit occurred April 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. IDD Services had very positive results with the following scores:
  - Quality Assurance/Local Authority Functions – 99.66%
  - General Revenue & Community First Choice – 89.89%
  - Pre-Admission Screening & Resident Review – 92.99%

- Texas Home Living – 99.10%
  - Home and Community-based Services – 84.47%
- Hosting Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) regional Employment First Focus Group on July 13<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30pm. The focus group will feature round table style discussions for families and other stakeholders to discuss areas of concern and expand knowledge on Competitive and Integrated Employment.
- Jacob Ulczynski and several staff will be attending the 35<sup>th</sup> annual Texas Council Conference in Fort Worth June 21st-23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Antonio Martinez will be presenting our Support and Empowerment for Older Individuals with IDD and Caregivers program.

### **Military & Veterans Affairs**

- In the month of May, TVN attended over 25 events to promote the program in the three different regions. The program continues to expand their collaboration with statewide and federal organizations, such as the Bee County VSO and San Patricio Veterans Service office who recently joined the Network
- Coastal Bend veterans have begun to reach out for assistance via the UniteUS platform. TVN continues to hold a presence in the local higher education institutions to assist the veteran population on the campuses with access to the resources available to them.
  - The partnership with Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi allowed TVN to be a guest speaker at the 13th Annual Texas Veterans Higher Education Symposium where over 20 institutes of higher education in Texas

### **Natural Resources**

- On Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, AACOG will be co-hosting a virtual roundtable for local government staff to learn about innovative energy efficiency programs in San Antonio and South Texas that have earned recent Energy Star Partner of the Year Awards.
  - Afterward, we'll have a 30 minute roundtable for attendees to engage with presenters and each other about Energy Star or other energy efficiency topics.
- On June 8<sup>th</sup>, TCEQ hosted a meeting for Bexar County industries and air quality leaders regarding one of the regulations required under moderate nonattainment. We have to reduce our VOC emissions by 15%, which will be difficult because most of our VOCs are from surface coatings, gas stations, consumer products (hairspray), and various small sources.
  - We proposed that TCEQ host another meeting about this topic, this time inviting small businesses, chambers, trade organizations, etc as this will have to be a collaborative effort across all economic sectors.
  - AACOG is working on communicating this issue to local chambers, Brooks, Port SA, and other groups. We'll continue to keep you informed as meeting plans develop.

### **Public Safety**

- Provided significant support in Uvalde. There will be a Board presentation providing more detail.

## **Regional Services**

- Planning & Zoning Workshop is scheduled for Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10A-4P
- Elected Officials Workshop is scheduled for Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> from 10A-4P
- Economic Development Partners Workshop – Sponsored by EDA and to be held mid-to-late August
- AACOG has been engaged by Frio County to do grant writing services

## **Environmental Conservation**

### **Weatherization Assistance Program**

- Completed the H4TXH Grant with 17 Veteran households served. This was 2 more than our anticipated contract goal
- DOE has released its version of a priority list. This will make it easier for items to rank under the DOE Weatherization funding
  - TDHCA anticipates that we will begin using the new tool by August of this year

## **C. Organizational and General Administration Updates:**

### **Building Update**

- We are pleased to report that we have executed the contract for the elevator modernization without any increase above the quoted price of \$435,140. The initial state inspection required before commencing work has occurred and we are now waiting on the arrival of parts.
- The investment grade audit required for obtaining funding through the financing programs offered by the State Energy Conservation Office is continuing. Engineers have been on site to assess the building systems and are now in the process of obtaining quotes from contractors to perform the necessary work.
- We have filled in one of the main entry islands and smaller islands with rock and mulch in place of the water intensive landscaping that perished during the continuing drought and hard winter of 2020. Likewise, we have planted drought tolerant plants in various areas where we lost some of the landscaping as well as in the main flower box at the front entry to the building.
- Our new leasing agent, CBRE, is aggressively marketing the building and we have seen increased showings to potential tenants that we hope will soon bear fruit. This month we also leased a small office suite for a 6-12 month term to an out of town contractor hoping to establish a presence in the area. We are hopeful that it will grow into a longer term lease.

**Administration  
Policy Review  
Chief Financial Officer  
General Counsel**

## **Consent Agenda**

*The consent agenda consists of items considered being of a routine nature and contains items recommended for approval by the Executive Committee or by the Board Chair and the minutes from previous Board of Directors meetings. These items will be enacted in one motion, or any member of the Board may request that items be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately for purposes of discussion and voting.*

9. Consider and act upon the recommendation to approve the May 25, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.
10. Consider and act upon the recommendation to approve the May 2022 Financial Summary - Julio Elizondo

- A. Financial Dashboard
- B. Combined Balance Sheet
- C. Combined Revenue & Expenditures
- D. Administrative Budgets

11. Agency Contract Performance Report - Diane Rath

Moved by Mayor Mary Dennis, seconded by Commissioner Marialyn Barnard to approve the Consent Agenda Items 9, 10 and 11 as one motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Vote:** 24 - 0

## **New Business**

12. Report on ACOG response and support to the Uvalde Mass Casualty Incident. - Marcela Medina

Report and presentation only, no action was needed nor taken for this item.

13. Consider and act upon the recommendation to extend Rides4TxHeroes and Housing4TxHeroes funding over the next 6 months and fund the program through the unrestricted fund balance generated by Veterans Directed. - Jhoan Torres

Moved by Mayor Suzanne de Leon, seconded by Commissioner Tommy Calvert, to extend Rides4TxHeroes and Housing4TxHeroes funding over the next 6 months and fund the program through the unrestricted fund balance generated by Veterans Directed. The motion carried unanimously.

**Vote:** 23 - 0

14. Consider and act upon the recommendation to select first, second, and possibly third project priorities related to the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) fund for the 2022-2023 period for Alamo Region non-entitlement communities. -- Miguel Segura

Moved by Judge Rob Kelly, seconded by Judge Wade Hedtke, to select first, second, and third project priorities related to the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) fund for the 2022-2023 period for Alamo Region non-entitlement communities. The motion carried unanimously.

**Vote:** 23 - 0

15. Consider and act upon the recommendation to approve the Alamo Area Clean Cities Coalition request for re-designation by the U.S. Department of Energy. - Lyle Hufstetler

Moved by Mayor John Williams, seconded by Mayor Victor Contreras, to approve the

Alamo Area Clean Cities Coalition request for re-designation by the U.S. Department of Energy. The motion carried unanimously.

**Vote:** 22 - 0

16. Consider and act upon the recommendation to authorize the Executive Director to apply and accept 2nd year funding from the National Community Care Corps for an amount not to exceed \$100,000, This item will require a budget amendment. - Jo Ann Tobias-Molina

Moved by Mayor John Williams, seconded by Mayor Victor Contreras, to authorize the Executive Director to apply and accept 2nd year funding from the National Community Care Corps for an amount not to exceed \$100,000. This item will require a budget amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

**Vote:** 22 - 0

17. Consider and act upon the recommendation to ratify the application for Federal 5311 Rural Transportation funding and to authorize the Executive Director of AACOG to accept an amount not to exceed \$1,900,000. This item will not need an amendment to the FY22 budget. – Tom Logan

Moved by Judge Chris Schuchart, seconded by Judge Wade Hedtke, to ratify the application for Federal 5311 Rural Transportation funding and to authorize the Executive Director of AACOG to accept an amount not to exceed \$1,900,000. This item will not need an amendment to the FY22 budget. The motion carried unanimously.

**Vote:** 21 - 0

18. Consider and act upon the recommendation to authorize the Executive Director to apply for and accept the 5311 Rural Transportation State funding in an amount up to \$1,100,000. This is annual recurring funding and does not require a budget amendment to the FY22 budget.-- Tom Logan

Moved by Judge Rob Kelly, seconded by Judge Richard Evans, to authorize the Executive Director to apply for and accept the 5311 Rural Transportation State funding in an amount up to \$1,100,000. This is annual recurring funding and does not require a budget amendment to the FY22 budget. The motion carried unanimously.

**Vote:** 21 - 0

19. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 27, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at AACOG.
20. There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Teal adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Teal Chair,  
AACOG Board of Directors  
county Judge, McMullen County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date