

# AGENDA

**ANNUAL ELECTION MEETING  
LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 2017  
(IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AT 12:00 P.M.)**

LRGVDC MAIN CAMPUS • BUILDING B • KEN JONES EXECUTIVE BOARD ROOM  
301 W. RAILROAD STREET, WESLACO, TEXAS

PRESIDING: MAYOR TONY MARTINEZ, PRESIDENT

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1. Call to Order & Roll Call .....President
  
  2. Consider Approval RE: January 25, 2017 Meeting Minutes .....President  

**ACTION ITEM**
  
  3. Public Comment .....President
  
  4. Caucus to Seat New Board Members.....President
    - A. Three (3) Directors Representing Member Cities with Population from 10,000-24,999
    - B. Three (3) Directors Representing Member Cities with Population under 10,000
    - C. Two (2) Directors Representing Educational Institutions
    - D. Two (2) Directors Representing Special Government Units

5. Act on Recommendations of Nominating Committee .....President

A. Election of Five Members-at Large to Serve on General Membership for 2017-2018

**ACTION ITEM**

B. Election of Officers for 2017-2018 Term

**ACTION ITEM**

6. Status on the Representation of the Poor and Underprivileged Citizens of the Region .....President

7. Old or New Business .....President

8. Adjourn .....President

# MINUTES

## MEETING OF THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS & MEMBERSHIP

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2017 - 12:00 P.M.  
LRGVDC MAIN CAMPUS - 301 W. RAILROAD ST., WESLACO, TEXAS  
KEN JONES EXECUTIVE BOARD ROOM

PRESIDING: MAYOR TONY MARTINEZ, PRESIDENT

President Tony Martinez called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. and verified that a quorum of voting members for both the Board and the Membership was present. The President then moved to item 2. – Consider Approval of Meeting Minutes.

A. Membership Meeting of May 25, 2016

***The Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to approve the Membership Meeting minutes from May 25, 2016 as presented. Mayor Pro-tem Pilar Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

B. Board Meeting of December 7, 2016

***Mayor Pro-tem Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes from December 7, 2016 as presented. The Hon. Norma G. Garcia seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

Upon conclusion of the presentation the President moved to item 3.A. - Report from Legislative Delegation, however no reports were available at this time, and he moved to item 3.B. – Public Comment and noted that no one had signed up to make public comments.

President Martinez next moved to item 3.C. – Act on Recommendation from Nominating Committee and recognized Executive Director Ron Garza to address the following items:

1. Consider Recommendation to Fill Vacant Seat for Member-at-Large to the Membership  
Executive Director Ron Garza was recognized and explained that with Mr. Steve Brewer's resignation at the end of 2016 the Board agreed to convene the Nominating Committee and consider nominees to fill that vacancy. The Nominating Committee met on January 11, 2017 and has brought forth two (2) nominees for consideration:

Mayor Pro-tem Esmeralda Lozano, La Feria  
Ms. Juanita Cox, LUPE in San Juan

***Mr. Eddy Gonzalez made a motion to Nominate Mayor Pro-tem Esmeralda Lozano to fill the vacant seat for Member-at-Large to the Membership. Mr. Ronald Mills seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

2. Consider Recommendation of One (1) Person from Remaining Members-at-Large to Fill Vacancy on the Board of Directors

Mr. Garza stated that Mr. Steve Brewer was one of the three (3) Members-at-Large to have a

seat on the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee recommends Mayor Rick Cavazos, Los Indios, and Member-at-Large to fill this vacancy on the Board of Directors. ***The Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to approve Mayor Rick Cavazos' nomination to the Board of Directors. Mr. Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

3. Consider Recommendation to Fill Vacant Secretary Seat

Mr. Garza reminded the Membership that Councilman Richard Molina vacated the Secretary's seat effective September 6, 2016 and that Executive Committee appointments are to an individual and not the entity they represent. The Nominating Committee recommended Mayor David Suarez to fill this vacancy. However the ***Hon Norma G. Garcia made a motion to ascend Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez from Treasurer to Secretary, and approve Mayor Suarez to take the Treasurer's seat. Mr. Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried.*** The members of the Executive Committee that will complete the 2016/2017 term are as follows:

President - Mayor Tony Martinez, Brownsville  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Mayor Celeste Sanchez, San Benito  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Hon. Norma G. Garcia, Member-at-Large  
Treasurer - Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez, Pharr  
Secretary - Mayor David Suarez, Weslaco  
Immediate Past President - Mayor Jim Darling, McAllen

The Nominating Committee will meet again in May 2017 to recommend a new slate of officers to serve during the 2017/2018 term.

The President next moved to item 3.D. - Act on Recommendations from Annual Work Program & Budget Committee and recognized Mr. Garza to address the following items:

1. Consider Adoption of the FY 2017 Annual Work Program

Mr. Garza informed the Membership that the draft Annual Work Program (AWP) has been posted on lrgvdc.org for review and comment, and that it is the service program that outlines LRGVDC goals, objectives, and performance measures. No substantive comments have been received and the AWP & Budget Committee recommends approval. ***Mr. Ron Mills made a motion to approve the 2017 Annual Work Program as presented. Mayor San Juanita Sanchez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

2. Consider Adoption of FY 2017 Annual Budget

Mr. Garza summarized the changes from the 2016 Budget to the 2017 Budget that were presented to the AWP & Budget Committee. The Annual Work Program & Budget Committee recommends revising the three tiered Performance Based Pay structure to an across-the-board cost of living pay increase of 3.5% for all LRGVDC employees. They further recommend that any additional pay increases should be based on merit in accordance with the LRGVDC Personnel Policy Manual. ***Mr. Ronald Mills made a motion to adopt the 2017 Annual Budget with revisions to the salary recommendations as noted by the Annual Work Program & Budget Committee. Mayor Pro-tem Pilar Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

Upon conclusion of action on committee recommendations, President Martinez moved to item 3.E. – Consider Approval of Resolution to Add TexPool Prime. ***Mayor Pro-tem Norie Gonzalez Garza made a motion to approve the resolution to add TexPool Prime as presented. Mayor San Juanita Sanchez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

The President then moved to item 3.F. – Consider Approval of Quarterly and Annual Investment Reports. **Mayor San Juanita Sanchez made a motion to approve the Quarterly and Annual Investment reports as presented. Councilman Homer Jasso seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

The President then moved to item 3.G. – Executive Director Report and recognized Mr. Garza to address the following items:

1. Discussion and Consideration of 2017 LRGVDC Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule

Mr. Garza stated that traditionally the Board meetings are scheduled on the fourth Wednesday of the month, and he proposed changing the regular schedule to the last Wednesday of the month.

Mr. Garza announced that the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the LRGVDC is Wednesday, August 2, 2017. He proposed foregoing a meeting in July and scheduling the August meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> to celebrate our Golden Anniversary on the day we were established.

Additionally Mr. Garza recommended that the holiday season schedule be the same as in 2016 by foregoing a meeting in November and scheduling the December meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

With these changes the 2017 LRGVDC Board of Directors would meet on the following dates:

<i>*All meeting scheduled on Wednesdays at 12:00 pm</i>	
January 25, 2017	<b>*Semi-Annual Membership Meeting</b>
February 22, 2017	
March 29, 2017	
April 26, 2017	
May 31, 2017	<b>*Semi-Annual Membership Meeting</b>
June 28, 2017	
July	<i>(no meeting scheduled)</i>
<b>** August 2, 2017</b>	<b>**LRGVDC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>
September 27, 2017	
October 25, 2017	
November	<i>(no meeting scheduled)</i>
December 6, 2017	

**The Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to approve the 2017 LRGVDC Board of Directors' meeting schedule as presented. Mayor Pro-tem Pilar Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

2. LRGVDC Updates & Activities

a. **Invitation to Sit on the Governing Board of Future of the Region South Texas (FOTRST)**

Mr. Garza informed the Board that he received an invitation from the Honorable Jim Huff, Live Oak County Judge to be a part of the Future of the Region South Texas (FOTRST). The mission of FOTRST is to build a prosperous South Texas by addressing critical issues that cut across social, economic, and political boundaries. **Ms. Wanda Garza made a motion to approve Mr. Garza's acceptance of a seat on the FOTRST Governing Board. Mayor Pro-tem Pilar Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

**b. Consider Approval to Livestream Board of Directors Meetings**

Mr. Garza informed the Board that the Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization (HCMPO) is required by federal law to livestream their meetings. The HCMPO has begun meeting in the Ken Jones Executive Board Room and thus transferred their cameras and livestreaming equipment to this facility. With the installation of this equipment the LRGVDC Board of Directors could also have the same transparency and allow public access via livestreaming.

President Martinez stated that the public in general does not know the good works and how much time and efforts the LRGVDC contributes to improving our region. Access to livestreaming LRGVDC Board meeting would allow the public to see that; he recommends approval. ***Mayor San Juanita Sanchez made a motion to approve livestreaming the LRGVDC Board of Director meetings. Mayor David Suarez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

3. Regional Spot Light

**a. IT'S TIME TEXAS Community Challenge**

Ms. Cindy Salazar, RGV Regional Coordinator was recognized and informed the Board that the purpose of this program is to unite for a healthier Texas. The Community Challenge is a one-of-a-kind statewide competition that spans twelve weeks and challenges communities of all sizes across Texas to demonstrate their commitment to healthy living. The 2017 Challenge dates are January 9 – March 31. She reported that the impact from the 2016 Community Challenge are: 328 involved communities, 1,571,853 individual activations, 50 mayors involved, 4,840 school activities, 684 workplace activities and 6,087 pounds lost. IT'S TIME TEXAS hopes for an even greater impact in 2017, and encouraged our region's mayors to take the Mayor's Pledge. No action needed.

Upon conclusion of Administration items, President Martinez moved to item 4. – Report from 9-1-1 Department and recognized Program Supervisor Maggie Garza. Ms. Garza informed the Board that the regular program status reports were on the tablets for review. No action needed.

President Martinez next moved to item 5. – Report from Area Agency on Aging and recognized Program Director Joe Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez reported that staff was currently accepting application from individuals interested in running for the Texas Silver Haired Legislature. He encouraged the Board to recommend individuals over the age of 60 who might be interested to apply. Upon conclusion of the status report, Mr. Garza announced that the Area Agency on Aging received a NADO Innovation award for their Hoarding Hazards – Understanding the Chaos workshop. Ms. Noemi Rodriguez with the Elder Rights Department of the Area Agency on Aging, and also chairs the RGV Caregiver Committee, took the lead on this project after hearing of a local hoarding issue involving a client. The Board congratulated staff on their efforts, and on this award. No action needed

President Martinez next moved to item 6. - Report from Economic Development Department and recognized Mr. Garza who gave the status reports on Keeping PACE in the Valley and the Regional Small Cities Coalition (RSCC). The RSCC is encouraging its members to attend Rio Grande Valley Day at the Capitol scheduled for February 7, 2017. No action needed

Upon conclusion of Economic Development items President Martinez moved to item 7. – Report from Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization (HCMPO). HCMPO Assistant Director Linda De La Fuente was recognized and reported that staff was working on a 4-year certification by representatives from the Texas Department of Highways and the Federal Transit Administration and requires Public

Input. No action needed

President Martinez next moved to item 8. – Report from Homeland Security and recognized Program Director Manuel Cruz. Regarding item 8.A. – Act upon Homeland Security Program Recommendations Mr. Cruz addressed the following:

1. Consider Approval of HSAC Recommendations Regarding Nominations for HSAC Chair and Vice Chair for FY 2017  
Mr. Cruz stated that in accordance with their bylaws, at their January meeting the HSAC nominated Ms. Odee Leal, City of Brownsville Emergency Management Coordinator as their Chair, and Mr. Jason Arms, City of Pharr Emergency Management Coordinator as Vice Chair. **Mr. Ronald Mills made a motion to approve Ms. Odee Leal as Chair and Mr. Jason Arms as Vice Chair. Mayor Pro-tem Pilar Garza seconded, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**
2. Consider Approval of FY 2017 Homeland Security Grant Program Reallocation of Funding from City of Edinburg, City of Mission, and Hidalgo County to LRGVDC, and Adoption of Resolution  
Mr. Cruz informed the Board that at their January meeting the HSAC reviewed requests proposed by a number of jurisdictions that were approved for 2017 funding. At the request of the jurisdictions mentioned, the HSAC recommends that the LRGVDC manage and implement the projects for which they were approved in December 2016. Upon completion of the projects, which will include the purchase of First Responder equipment, assets will be permanently transferred.

In addition, as part of the Homeland Security Grant Division (HSGD) grant guidelines, applications must include a resolution that contains specific information relevant to the FY 2017 HSGP. Upon approval, the resolutions will be uploaded and attached to their specific eGrants application. **Councilman Homer Jasso, Jr. made a motion to approve the FY 2017 HSGP Reallocation of Funding from the City of Edinburg, the City of Mission, and Hidalgo County to the LRGVDC, and to adopt the resolution as presented. Mr. Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

3. Consider Approval of FY 2017 Homeland Security Grant Program Resolution  
Mr. Cruz stated that as part of the HSGD guidelines, applications from nonprofit organizations, local governments, and other political subdivisions must include a resolution that contains specific information, such as authorization by its governing body for the submission of the application to OOG/HSGD. Upon approval, the resolution(s) will be uploaded to eGrants. **The Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to approve the FY 2017 Homeland Security Grant Program Resolution as presented. Mayor San Juanita Sanchez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.** Upon conclusion of action Mr. Cruz gave the status reports and highlighted the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual South Texas All Hazards Conference scheduled for March 22-23 at the McAllen Convention Center.

Upon conclusion of action on the Homeland Security Program, President Martinez moved to item 8.B. – Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Recommendation. Mr. Cruz addressed the following items:

1. Consider Approval of Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Nominations for Chair, Vice Chair, and Parliamentarian/Secretary  
Mr. Cruz reported that there was a potential attendance issue with one of the nominee for

Parliamentarian/Secretary and that the CJAC will need to reconvene to consider further nominations. ***The Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to table this item. Mr. Ronald Mills seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

It was the consensus of the Board to take action on items 2 – 5 together.

2. Consider Approval of Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Policy Manual
3. Consider Approval of Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Bylaws
4. Consider Approval of Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Scoring Instrument
5. Consider Approval to Apply for FY2017/2018 Criminal Justice Division – Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

***The Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to approve items 8.B.2, 3, 4, and 5 as presented. Councilman Homer Jasso, Jr. seconded the motion, and upon a vote these four items were unanimously approved.***

Upon conclusion of action Mr. Cruz gave the status report for the Criminal Justice Program and emphasized the newly opened Criminal Justice Grant Funding Opportunities for FY 2017-2018. The new Criminal Justice funding cycle is underway and the Criminal Justice Department has posted the Request for Applications on the eGrants website. Mr. Cruz highly encouraged Board members to consider applying for these funds.

The President next moved to item 9. – Regional Planning & Services and recognized Program Director Marcie Oviedo. Ms. Oviedo stated that the status report for Region M was on the Board tablets for review, as well as the reports for the Solid Waste Program and the HUD Disaster Recovery Program. She announced that the updated Arroyo Colorado Watershed Program will be finalized by June and encouraged the Board to review the draft document and submit any comments. In addition, Ms. Oviedo informed the Board that the Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) issued a report called “Impacts & Results in Your Region – Regional Solid Waste Grants Program Funding Report” in which the activities and information on the City of Alton’s recycling center is mentioned.

President Martinez next moved to item 10. – Report from Regional Police Academy and Training Center and recognized newly hired Regional Police Academy (RPA) Assistant Director David Briales. Mr. Briales addressed the following items:

- A. Consider Approval of Revisions to Adjunct Instructor Procedure/Contract  
Mr. Briales stated that the revisions to this document would better allow the RPA to solicit applications for adjunct instructors and contract with those instructors for the Basic Peace Officer Course and In-Service courses. ***Mayor David Suarez made a motion to approve the revisions to the Adjunct Instructor Procedure/Contract as presented. Commissioner Daniel Guzman seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***
- B. Consider Approval of Instructor Monitoring Checklist and Report  
Mr. Briales stated that this procedure would allow the RPA to conduct on-site monitoring of instructors that teach either the Basic Peace Office Curse or In-Service Training. ***Commissioner Daniel Guzman made a motion to approve the Instructor Monitoring Checklist and Report as presented. Mr. Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*** Upon conclusion of action Mr. Briales gave the status reports from the Regional Police Academy, stated that he was in the process of creating a training calendar, and announced the upcoming Basic Peace Officer Academies.

The President next moved to item 11 - Report from Valley Metro and recognized Program Supervisor Gabriel Zuniga who gave the status report on ridership and the Regional Transportation Advisory Panel activity. In addition to the regular status reports Mr. Zuniga announced that the Federal Transit



Administration has informed staff that all findings in the FY 2016 Triennial review of the LRGVDC have been resolved.

President Martinez next move to item 12. – Executive Session RE: Annual Evaluation and Salary Consideration for Executive Director. **Mayor Chris Boswell made a motion to go into Executive Session. The Hon. Norma G. Garcia seconded the motion and upon a vote Executive Session began at 1:08 pm.**

At 1:18 pm President Martinez resumed regular session. **Mayor Chris Boswell made a motion to accept the evaluations made by the Executive Committee and the recommendation of the Board for Mr. Garza's salary recommendation of \$165,000 per year plus an increase of \$5,000 to his car allowance. Mr. Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

President Martinez then moved to item 13. – Old or New Business; there being none **the Hon. Norma G. Garcia made a motion to adjourn; Mayor Pro-tem Eddy Gonzalez seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:19 pm.**

ATTEST:

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Mayor Tony Martinez, President

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Deborah Morales, Recording Secretary

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Annual Elections Meeting

May 31, 2017

4. Caucus to Seat New Board members..... Mayor Tony Martinez  
Committee Chair
- A. Three (3) Directors Representing Member Cities with Population from 10,000-24,999
  - B. Three (3) Directors Representing Member Cities with Population under 10,000
  - C. Two (2) Directors Representing Educational Institutions
  - D. Two (2) Directors Representing Special Government Units

As per LRGVDC Bylaws, composition categories of the Board shall be selected from and by those members representing those categories.

One (1) member of each composition category will vote on behalf of that category.

City categories shall be selected by one (1) elected official per representing city.

Members are subject to suspension of voting privileges (board eligibility) with past due membership fees.

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
General Membership  
Annual Elections Meeting

May 31, 2017

5. Act upon Recommendations from Nominating Committee..... Mayor Tony Martinez  
Committee Chair

A. The Nominating Committee met on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 in Weslaco and nominated ten (10) individuals to be considered as At-large Members to the LRGVDC General Membership.

The Five (5) persons Nominated as Members-at-Large to the General Membership are:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>CITY</b>	<b>COUNTY</b>
Ms. Ann Cass	McAllen	Hidalgo
Hon. Norma G. Garcia	Donna	Hidalgo
Commissioner Pete Garcia	San Juan	Hidalgo
Mr. Eddy Gonzalez	Edcouch	Hidalgo
Mayor Pro-tem Esmeralda Lozano	La Feria	Cameron

**ACTION ITEM**

Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council  
Annual Elections Meeting

May 31, 2017

5. Act upon Recommendations from Nominating Committee..... Mayor Tony Martinez  
Committee Chair

B. Election of Officers for 2017-2018 Term

The Nominating Committee Recommends the following slate of officers for the 2017-2018 Term:

OFFICE	NAME	COUNTY
President	Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez	Hidalgo
1st Vice President	Hon. Norma G. Garcia	Hidalgo
2nd Vice President	Mayor David Suarez	Hidalgo
Secretary	Mayor Jim Darling	Hidalgo
Treasurer	Judge Aurelio Guerra	Willacy
Immediate Past President	Mayor Tony Martinez	Cameron

**ACTION ITEM**