

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
5th FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2006

The International Bridge Commission met at the above place and date.

Meeting convened at 3:18 p.m. Chair Tanny Berg presided over the meeting. The following Commission members were present:

Tanny Berg, D-1
Daniel Barnes, D-4
Mike Breitinger, D-7
Mike Dipp, Mayor's Appointee
Martin Silva, D-8

Others Present:

Art Estrada, TxDOT
Eduardo Calvo, TxDOT
Shannon McCord, HNTB Consultants for TxDOT
Elisa Meneses, U.S. GSA/PBS
Veronica Archuleta, U.S. GSA/PBS
Daryl W. Cole, Streets Director
Josette Flores, Assistant City Attorney
Richard Bristol, Street Department
Leonor Aguilera, Street Department
Ray J. Mendoza, Street Department / Bridges & Meters Division

Absent:

Roger Curie, D-5
Gerardo L. Camacho, D-3
Blanca Dominguez, D-6
Y. I. Santoscoy, D-2

Agenda

Pending a Quorum for the meeting to be called to order, a discussion of the Charette held March 29 & 30, 2006 was held by Ray Mendoza. He stated that the main goal of the Charette was to describe to the consultants what is needed to enhance the crossing. Chair Berg stated that some issues important to the bridges were brought up in the Charette: Aesthetics, security, cleanliness, comfort (canopy, shade, benches, etc.), and handicap accessibility.

Item 1: Meeting was called to order at 3:18 p.m. when Mr. Martin Silva arrived to complete a quorum of five members.

Item 2: Motion made by Mr. Dipp, seconded by Mr. Breitinger and carried to approve the Minutes for the meeting of Tuesday, March 28, 2006.

AYES: Mr. Berg, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Mike Breitinger, Mr. Dipp, Mr. Silva.

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Mr. Curie, Mr. Camacho, Ms. Dominguez, Ms. Santoscoy.

Item 3: Bridge Management Brief - Discussion held by Mr. Cole on the budget for the Street Department which they are now working on and is due soon. He identified Mr. Richard Bristol as the Administrative Manager for the Street Department. They are putting budgets together, and will be addressing funds needed to get the actual facilities needed at the bridges.

Mr. Cole stated he is pending a report from the consultant for the Santa Fe and PDN bridges on cost estimates and proposed phasing plan. Chair Berg asked that Mr. Cole invite them to the meeting when they have their first report ready.

Item 4: A presentation was held by Mr. Eduardo Calvo, Director of Advance and Location Planning for the El Paso District, Texas Department of Transportation, on the I-10 Southern Relief Route Study. Mr. Calvo introduced Mr. Art Estrada, Programming and Planning and Scheduling Section, and Ms. Shannon McCord with HNTB, consultants working on the project.

After the presentation Mr. Calvo stated that you can view a draft of the MPO's (Metropolitan Planning Organization) new master plan at www.MPO.org.

Chair Berg informed Mr. Calvo that they are welcome to attend all the Commission meetings, and thanked them for attending.

Mr. Calvo, Mr. Estrada, and Ms. McCord left the meeting at this time.

Item 5: Presentation by Ms. Veronica Archuleta, Customs & Border Protection, on the Status Report on On-Going Projects at Ports of Entry.

Ms. Archuleta stated that the Project Manager for the PDN is Mr. Joe Camp, and he may be reached at (817) 978-4316. They have just finished the design phase and are now going into the construction phase. Bids due June 12, 2006; Construction award date scheduled for July 2006; once the construction is awarded the time frames will be looked at.

Chair Berg asked that they get Mr. Breitingner involved so that he knows what's happening and he can disseminate the information to the Commission. Mr. Cole asked for a drawing of the project.

Chair Berg stated that the Commission would like to ask Mr. Camp to come to the next meeting. Ms. Veronica and Mr. Bob Johnson will be the liaison from us to Mr. Camp.

Motion was made by Mr. Dipp, seconded by Mr. Breitingner and carried that staff put a list of questions for Mr. Camp and that a formal invitation be sent to Mr. Camp to attend a meeting and have him answer these questions, and that the meeting will be coordinated around his schedule and we will poll the (Commission) representatives to make sure we get a quorum for that particular meeting.

AYES: Mr. Berg, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Mike Breitingner, Mr. Dipp, Mr. Silva.

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Mr. Curie, Mr. Camacho, Ms. Dominguez, Ms. Santoscoy.

Ms. Elisa Meneses then gave a presentation on the Fabens Project. They are expanding the existing bridge; installing a new modular building and renovating the existing one. Completion date: June 17, 2006 (75% complete).

New border station in the planning phase. Project Manager, Mr. William Payne 817-978-7115.

Timeline:

Planning: Completed 4/06

Design: starting 4/08

Finishing 4/2010

Construction:

Start Date: 06/2010

Finishing: 06/2012

Upgrading and expansion of the Ysleta POE: Project manager, Mr. Mike Ghazzaoui, 817-978-2198; Design phase now 65% midpoint design as of 4/06. They will provide the Commission with a copy of what exists and what is proposed.

Mr. Dipp stated that we should have a coordinating officer in El Paso for all the bridge projects in El Paso. Call Ms. Archuleta at (915) 534-6906 if you have any questions or want to discuss a particular issue. Chair Berg asked her to attend all the meetings.

Chair Berg thanked them for their presentation and for attending the meeting.

Item 6: No one was present from the Police Department to discuss the curfew at the Bridges.

At this time copies of the new lobbying ordinance were distributed to everyone.

Item 7: Chair Berg stated that he would like to see a representative from the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) attend the next Bridge Meeting to discuss the master plan of the MPO and how it will eventually impact the bridges; specifically, if an RMA is created, and whether or not funding for the RMA should be coming or should not be coming out of the bridge revenues.

Mr. Silva asked that he would like for the Commission to give Mayor and Council Representatives a report as to what we are doing, what we've done, and maybe what they would like to see us do. Chair Berg stated that he would like to form a sub-committee to come up with specifics that the Commission would like to request from Mayor and Council.

Representatives from GSA left at this time.

Mr. Breitingner stated that the Central Business Foundation raised \$3500 for the bridges, and would like to give it to Council for the Bridge Commission, and he would like to present it in a timely fashion. Chair Berg suggested it be presented to Council when the Commission makes their presentation to Council. Discussion followed on how the

funds may be used. Mr. Cole will find out from Legal the specifics on how to accept the donation, and will come back with a recommendation to the Commission.

Item 9: Motion was made by Mr. Breitingner, seconded by Mr. Silva and unanimously carried to adjourn this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Approved as to form:

Department Head / Board Secretary