

**MINUTES
CITIZENS BOND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 03, 2005
JOE C. THOMPSON CENTER, RM. 2.110
6:00 PM**

***Due to a technical malfunction, the intricate details of this meeting could not be captured.
Please refer to your handouts as a guiding tool.**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

**Diane Akers
Dr. Charles Akins
Glenn Coleman
Jim Davis
David Hartman
Jon Hockenyos
Leonard Huber**

**Perry Lorenz
Steve Martin
Richard Moya
Leslie Pool
Rod Reyna
Sal Valdez**

TRAVIS COUNTY STAFF AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:

**Major David Balagia
Charles Bergh
Jo Carol Bradshaw
Neil Cable
Greg Chico
Glen Coleman
Ken Gaede
Joe Gieselman
Carol B. Joseph
Kelly Page
Shane Poole
Belinda Powell
Paula Prow**

**Elaine Schele
Stacey Scheffel
Wendy Scaperotta
Beth Ann Sprengel
Mark Stefanov
Kenny Thompson
Mike Trimble
Roy Turley
Bob Turner
Gretchen Vaden
Charlie Watts
Martin Zamzow**

1. Citizens Communication

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Moya at 6:03 PM. Mr. Moya announced that Ms. Carol Joseph, Asst. Director, TNR, would give a brief overview of the meeting in the absence of Mr. Gieselman. Mr. Gieselman arrived shortly after that. Ms. Joseph gave an overview of the agenda, and announced each speaker. Mr. Charlie Watts was first to make his presentation.

2. Receive Staff Report On The Status And Management Of Past And Current County Capital Improvement Projects

Mr. Watts announced that he begin his presentation at the point where he had stopped at their last meeting. He continued discussing the proposed existing County road projects such as: Slaughter Lane East (Section I), Slaughter Lane East (Section III).

Mr. Watts also discussed State Highways: FM 969, FM 1431, and FM 2244. He continued with FM 3238 (Hamilton Pool Road) saying that the scope for this portion of Hamilton Pool Road included acquisition and construction of a MAD 4 with wide outer shoulders for bikes. He stated that this project would be a possible “Pass-Through Tolling” project. All of the proposed improvements on State roads require TxDOT commitment.

Ms. Pool asked what “Pass-Through Tolling” meant. Mr. Gieselman explained that this term is really misnamed and that it means that local entity would put up all the money to improve the road and would get paid back by TxDOT based upon the traffic count increase on the road. The idea being that all the risk gets transferred to the local government.

Ms. Pool asked if the roads would be widened to designate a bicycle lane? Mr. Watts replied “No” and Mr. Gieselman made the comment that it was basically a wide outer shoulder that would accommodate bikes. Ms. Pool said that there were people in her community inquiring about the status of a bicycle lane and about safety so she wanted to provide them with the most accurate information as possible.

Mr. Watts continued talking about improvement for Peacock Ranch Road and also about the proposed project on South Pleasant Valley Road. Mr. Davis inquired about the plan for Arterial A at US 290 near Springdale. He also asked about US 290’s status as a toll project. Mr. Gieselman replied that it was designated as a future toll road.

Mr. Lorenz asked if there were dollars associated with the projects as of this date. Mr. Watts said no, but those conceptual costs will be presented at a future meeting. Mr. Reyna inquired about the status of Pecan Street. Mr. Gieselman stated that we need public participation to upgrade this street to a MAD 4, but an upgraded 2-lane road may be reconstructed without participation. He also stated that once State Highway 130 is completed, it would pose issues for Pecan Street.

3. Review And Discuss Project Lists For Drainage, Parks, Open Space, Bridge And Mobility

Ms. Wendy Scaperotta discussed seven proposed park projects: East Metro Park – Phase II development of park facilities, amenities, and related infrastructure. NE Metro Park – Phase III development of park facilities, amenities, and related infrastructure. NE has 410 acres, which was funded in 1997/2000. Arkansas Bend Park – Redevelopment for day use and camping; SW Metro Park – Phase II land acquisition and development of park facilities, amenities and related infrastructure.

Ms. Scaperotta continued with SE Metro Park and with Onion Creek Greenway – Acquisition of land for a portion of Onion Creek Greenway. She went on to explain the role of the bottomland forest and the need for this type of forest to be restored to the greenway, where it has many beneficial effects.

Water Quality Protection Agreements – These are agreed upon protection areas that channel water flows that contribute to Hamilton Pool, Polk Canyon Springs, and Pedernales River water supply. Ms. Scaperotta stated that these areas have special sand deposits and porous limestone.

Mr. Neil Cable, Division Director of Public Works for TNR took the floor for a presentation on the mission, evolution and history of what is now called the “Transportation and Natural Resources Department”.

Mr. Cable stated that his division, the Public Works Division of TNR develops scopes, cost estimates and get projects on the ground. He introduced Mr. Greg Chico who is the manager of Right-Of-Way for TNR. Mr. Cable gave a slide presentation that summarized the evolution and history of TNR. He also talked about the things that can cause a project to change or become “stuck”. He talked about issues to be considered when scooping and costing out a project. He also talked about process improvement including the following: 1) design consultant selection, 2) public agency procedures, 3) working with other jurisdictions, 4) full transition to project management.

Mr. Hockenyos asked when the cost estimates would be developed. Mr. Gieselman explained that we have a three level estimating procedure. First level is the ballpark figure. The second level is the planning estimate where we compare the cost with other projects. The third level is where we consult with outside contractors. He stated that not all projects go out for bid in the same year, so an inflation factor has to be added.

Mr. Davis requested information on Ferguson Lane, a past bond project. Mr. Gieselman replied that we put money into that project for six months, and the other key cardholder did not hold up to his part of the commitment. He said at this time the project is suspended, but we are hoping that he will come around. He stated that other surrounding projects are being completed making this project less needed.

(FIVE-MINUTE BREAK TAKEN AT 7:20 P.M.)

Meeting resumed at 7:27p.m.

Upon reconvening the meeting, Mr. Reyna inquired about our newly scheduled weekly meetings, and Chairman Moya responded that we would only meet weekly during the month of May, or until we got caught up – whichever came first. Mr. Reyna also asked if the minutes of each meeting would be put on the website, as well as other information that has been presented here. Elaine Schele replied that the Agenda was already available on the website, but she could inquire about posting the minutes. Mr. Moya asked Mr. Reyna if we needed to vote on having additional meetings and Mr. Reyna replied no, he was just asking.

4. Review and Discuss Potential Tours of Candidate Projects.

Sheriff Balagia asked how many people would be taking the tour on Saturday, and about 7 out of 13 raised their hands. Ms. Schele stated, per Ms. Kelly Page that the tours are to meet at 9:00 a.m. in front of the correctional center.

5. Review And Discuss Potential Jail Facility Projects

Mike Trimble began his presentation with a slide show and the subject was existing building conditions. He explained the scoring system process used and he referred to the chart. The color green represents excellent/good condition, Yellow represents fair condition, and Orange represents poor condition. Major Balagia handed out packets containing a summary of Del Valle correctional facility.

He said the site sits on about 135 acres and has about 30 buildings on the site. He said that 19 of the buildings house inmates. The C-2 concept plan proposes to keep 5 of them up and running and then 14 of them would be demolished. Major Balagia stated that during the height of over crowding in 1992, the State provided funding to build beds quickly to solve the problem, so temporary buildings 9 and 10 were built as a result. He also gave reasons that the buildings should come down. He said they were past their useful life and that it required too much staff to keep them up and running

Major Balagia introduced Mr. Shane Pool, who is the maintenance supervisor and “Mark” who is the engineer, both from the Sheriff’s Department. Mr. Pool had taken pictures of the Del Valle facility and presented them to the committee as he gave a brief explanation of each photo.

6. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:53pm