

Brazos County Regional Mobility Authority

Board Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2022

- **Call to Order**

A board meeting of the Brazos County Regional Mobility Authority (BCRMA) was held in the Brazos County Commissioner's Courtroom, 200 South Texas Avenue, Bryan, Texas, beginning at 9:06 a.m. on Monday, November 28, 2022, with the following Board members present: Barry Moore, Chair, Presiding; Dennis Christiansen, Vice Chair; and Alan Munger, Member. Veronica Morgan attended via Zoom. The minutes were taken by Lisa Lyon, Administrative Assistant. The attached sheet contains the names of other citizens/officials that were in attendance.

- **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

- **Approval of Minutes from the September 22, 2022, RMA Board Meeting**

Minutes from the September 22, 2022, Brazos County Regional Mobility Authority Board Meeting were considered for adoption. **A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dr. Christiansen. The motion was seconded by Mr. Munger. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

- **Presentation on the operations of Regional Mobility Authorities**

Brian O'Reilly, an attorney with Locke Lord, presented information regarding operations of Regional Mobility Authorities. He represents seven regional mobility authorities across the state and has been doing that for twelve years. Prior to working with Locke Lord, Mr. O'Reilly worked as a Clerk with the House Transportation Committee as a Clerk and has held other transportation related positions.

Mr. O'Reilly discussed operations of other regional mobility authorities and examples of how regional mobility authorities can function.

RMAs initially created with the intent of tolling; however, because there is a current anti-toll climate and local communities do not want toll roads, RMAs have found other ways to support themselves with vehicle registration fees being one example.

RMAs can use transportation reinvestment zones which is essentially tax increment financing where a county/city would create a zone around a proposed project of work and increase property taxes and the additional property tax would fund the project. Camino Real RMA

and Cameron County RMA are two RMAs that have a revenue stream from the creation of a TRZ. Both of these RMAs have a vehicle registration fee in place.

RMAs can apply for funding through TxDOT from the federal government and the federal infrastructure bill. Under Texas law, TxDOT must give authorization to apply for federal funds.

Working with local partners for supplemental funding. RMAs similar to Brazos County RMA have been the most successful working with their local partners.

The model is very flexible for RMAs. For example, Grayson County who does not have a revenue stream and is similar to ours, created their RMA solely to manage an airport.

- **Review and Adopt Fiscal and Personnel Management Agreement between the RMA and Brazos County**

This is an interlocal agreement between the RMA and Brazos County for administrative support. **Ms. Morgan made the motion to approve the Fiscal and Personnel Management Agreement between with Brazos County. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christiansen. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

- **Outcome of Proposition B and Discussion of Future RMA Funding and Operation**

The RMA this is a vital tool for our community and is needed to help manage traffic and congestion. It is important that the Board acknowledge and hear the will of the voters, but at the same time discuss ways forward through TRZ's or local partnerships. Even though it will be an evolving conversation, Mr. Moore allowed Board members to give thoughts on the plan for moving forward.

Dr. Christiansen added that there was a huge amount of disinformation in the public and the Board and Dallas consultant did not do a very effective job in getting our story out there. Possibly most people showed up at the polling place, read the language on the ballot which clearly said you are going to pay a \$10 vehicle registration fee, and it was not clear what the public would get for that \$10 so it was a pretty easy vote against in the process. If this is brought back to the voters again, it is important that the message of what the RMA can do and what that \$10 will do gets out to the voters. Because it is currently unclear if there can be another election under the currently legislation, the Board should seek clarification on this point as soon as possible from Representative Raney. Also, since there was strong support from local partners for many years, the Board should meet with each of those local partners to get their thoughts on the direction the RMA should take and potential funding streams.

After the election, Mr. Moore was contacted by both staff and elected officials from almost all of our partners, not just with encouragement but with ideas about potential ways forward between now and any potential future referendum.

- **Board Member Reports/Chairman's Reports**

There were no additional reports.

- **Adjourn**

The BCRMA Board meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.



Brazos County Regional Mobility Authority

Meeting: RMA Board Meeting

Date: Monday, November 28, 2022

| Name | Agency |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Doug Bramwell | Quorum Engineering |
| Rob Maxwell | Harris County Pct 4 |
| Tedi Ellison | The Ellison Firm |
| NANCY BERRY | BRAZOS COUNTY |
| ERIC DEATT | GRIFFIN & SONS COMPANY |
| Amy Bates | B.C. Auditor's Office |
| TERRY TROBEK | HNTB |
| JASON SCHUBERT | CITY OF COLLEGE STATION |
| AARON MUNGGER | RMA |
| Paul Kasper | City of Bryan |
| Tim Lomax | Texas A&M Transp Inst |
| Jo Markow | BRAZOS TRANSIT DISTRICT |
| SHANE BOYD | TXDOT |
| WILLIAM | Brazos County |
| Brian O'Reilly | Locke Law |
| Doug Macias | TxDot |
| Debbie Albert | TTI |
| STEVE ALARA | BRAZOS CO |
| JONAL CONQUEST | HALIF ASSOCIATES |
| KUSS TORO | BRAZOS CO |
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ATTEST:



RMA Board Chair or Vice-Chair
Brazos County Regional Mobility Authority



RMA Board Secretary

10/25/23

Date