

**PANHANDLE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Minutes**

**September 23, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission was held on Thursday, September 23, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. on the party deck of the Hodgetown Stadium, 715 S. Buchanan Street, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas. This meeting was held in hybrid format by videoconference pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.127.

Mr. Winston Sauls presided.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

- Winston Sauls, Borger
- Dan Looten, Carson County Judge
- Tobe Shields, Mayor, City of Spearman
- Don Allred, Oldham County Judge
- Cleo Castro, Cactus
- Christy Dyer, Randall County Judge
- Ronnie Gordon, Hartley County Judge
- Dr. John Howard, Donley County Judge
- John James, Collingsworth County Judge
- Harold Keeter, Swisher County Judge
- Kim Jones, Childress County Judge
- Wayne Nance, Briscoe County Judge
- Karen Price, Pampa
- Sal Rivera, Sheriff, Castro County
- Yolanda Robledo, Alderwoman, City of Bovina
- Pat Sims, Mayor, City of Dumas
- Ricky White, Mayor, City of Friona

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

- Juan Cantu, Lipscomb County Commissioner
- Steven Cortez, Hereford
- Buster Davis, Mayor, City of Gruver
- Dr. William Hallerberg, Canadian River Municipal Water Authority
- Raul Hernandez, Amarillo
- Ginger Nelson, Mayor, City of Amarillo
- Walter "Four" Price, Texas State Representative, District 87
- Phillip Self, Greenbelt Municipal & Industrial Water Authority
- Kerry Symons, Mayor, City of Perryton
- Nancy Tanner, Potter County Judge

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mr. Dustin Meyer, Local Government Service Program Director; Ms. Paige Witthar, Community Development Program Specialist; Ms. Katie Paul, Local Government Services Program Coordinator; Mr. Alex Guerrero, Community Development Program Specialist; Mr. Christopher Jackson, Economic Disaster Recovery Program Specialist; Mr. John Shamburg, GIS Program Manager; Ms. Sundee Rossi, Area Agency on Aging Director; Mr. Marin Rivas, Workforce Development Director; Ms. Heather Reid, Workforce Development Contract/Accounting Manager; Mr. John Kiehl, Regional Services Director; Ms. Lori Gunn, Criminal Justice Program Coordinator; Mr. Trent Taylor, Finance Director; Ms. DeShayne Hall, Executive Assistant; Mr. Kyle Ingham, Executive Director

**SPECIAL GUESTS:** Ms. Coleen Bradley, Town Superintendent with the City of Darrrouzett; Ms. Mary Owen, West Texas Regional Director with Senator Ted Cruz's office; Mr. Joel Riedel, West Texas Director with Senator John Comyn's office and Ms. Sarah Leon and Ms. Stephanie Eberhardt with the Texas Office of the Attorney General

No action was needed by the board; no action was taken

## 8. REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Lori Gunn reminded the board PRPC Administrative Regulation #31 governs the duties, activities and composition of the Panhandle Regional Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee (RSWMAC). The RSWMAC is comprised of twenty-two (22) to twenty-eight (28) PRPC-appointed members, and one (1) to two (2) standing positions held by representatives from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality-Region One Office. Members are appointed to three-year, staggered terms. The RSWMAC composition must maintain a cross-section of solid waste professionals from the Panhandle Region.

Each year, approximately one-third of the appointed terms expire and those members must either be replaced or re-appointed. No member may serve more than two consecutive three-year terms.

Currently, nine (9) individuals need to be appointed or re-appointed to the RSWMAC to meet the PRPC administrative standards. PRPC staff has contacted each nominee and determined they are willing and able to serve, if appointed by the PRPC Board.

The individuals include:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title/Organization</u>	<u>Committee Term</u>
Tommy Wyatt	Public Works Director , City of Canadian	Re-appointment to 2 <sup>nd</sup> term
Paul Arganbright	Public Works Dir., City of Wheeler	Appointment to 1 <sup>st</sup> full term
Alan Harder	Assist. Public Works Dir., City of Amarillo	Appointment to 1 <sup>st</sup> full term
Brandan Knapp	Solid Waste Superintendent, City of Perryton	Appointment to 1 <sup>st</sup> full term
David Morris	Street Superintendent/Landfill, City of Memphis	Appointment to 1 <sup>st</sup> full term
Mike Story	Public Works Director, City of McLean	Appointment to 1st full term
Wade Willson	City Manager , City of Spearman	Partial term
Russell Proctor	Public Works Director, City of Tulia	Partial term
Gary Turley	Public Works Director, City of Pampa	Partial term

Judge Wayne Nance made a motion to appoint and/or reappoint the individuals listed in the slate of nominations above to serve on the Regional Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee. Judge Ronnie Gordon seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

## 9. CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Lori Gunn reminded the board, the main duties of the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) are to oversee the grant programs made available through the Office of the Governor's Criminal Justice Division. Funding comes from a variety of state and federal sources which includes:

- VOCA Funds through the Victims of Crime Act;
- VAWA funds through the Violence Against Women Act;
- JAG Funds through the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grants and State 421 Funds; and
- JJDP Funds through the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

This year, seven members were up for re-appointment and one member needed to be replaced. PRPC staff has contacted all of the FY 2022 recommended appointees and all have confirmed that they are all willing and able to serve. They include the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title/Organization</u>	<u>Area of Interest</u>
Monty Hysinger	Superintendent, Dumas ISD	Regional Education System
Brent Harrison	Chief, Hereford Police Department	Regional Law Enforcement
Sara Northrup	Program Director, Texas Panhandle Centers	Regional Mental Health Service Provider
Rob Hampton	Concerned Citizen/Parent Organization	Concerned Citizen/Parent Organization
Nina Parvin	Captain, Randall County Sheriff's Office	Regional Law Enforcement
Traci Rogers	Executive Director, No Boundaries International	Non-Profit Org. concerned with Criminal Justice
Joe Jarosek	City Manager, City of Canadian	Regional Municipalities

stop and shelter, and light building renovations to include updating the HVAC controls system in the building. The Grant award is for \$2,500,000.

PRPC's WD Division is on the frontlines of responding to the economic conditions created through the COVID-19 pandemic. The Workforce Development staff is actively working to provide the necessary assistance to help regional workers and employers get trained and find jobs and is actively looking for ways to increase the necessary service delivery component to provide recovery and resiliency to the region. As such, PRPC has the option to purchase the current WD building which would alleviate the annual rent payments of approximately \$500,000/year and allow the WD Division to redirect these funds back into service delivery and thereby increases the efficiency and effectiveness of the WD programs.

Mayor Tobe Shields authorized the Executive Director to enter into a contract with the Economic Development Administration for the above-mentioned grant award and authorize the Local Government Services Department to provide grant project management services. Mayor Ricky White seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

13. **TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROGRAM PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES INTERLOCAL CONTRACT AMENDMENTS**

Ms. Paige Witthar reminded the board, the Community Development Block Grant program administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) offers many different funding opportunities that communities in the Texas Panhandle have utilized since 1983. Since that time, PRPC has worked with cities, counties, water supply corporations and special districts to develop applications for funding assistance and bring much needed grant dollars to their local communities. Through this assistance, PRPC staff has seen more than 300 TxCDBG projects funded, totaling more than \$83,000,000 to necessary projects for Panhandle Communities. The programs offered through CDBG funding have included the: Community Development Infrastructure Improvement Program; Community Enhancement Fund; Texas Capital Fund Infrastructure Program, Fire, Ambulance, and Service Truck (FAST Fund) Program; Disaster Relief; and the Downtown Revitalization Program.

The Downtown Revitalization Program stated objectives are for the elimination of slum or blight conditions in the downtown areas of communities by providing assistance for public infrastructure improvements, specifically sidewalks and ADA compliance. This past year PRPC worked with several communities to develop and submit applications to this program. Out of the nine Texas Panhandle communities that applied in May 2021, the Cities of: Borger, Clarendon, Dumas, Friona, Pampa, Silverton, and Spearman have all received indications from Texas Department of Agriculture that the agency will be issuing each a grant award through the TxCDBG Downtown Revitalization program.

In January 2021, this body approved a no-cost interlocal agreement that allowed PRPC to assist each of the above mentioned cities to develop applications to the Downtown Revitalization Program. This agenda item is to amend the interlocal agreements between PRPC and each of these cities to allow PRPC to carry out the administrative function and project management activities associated with the funded project. These activities are outlined in detail in the attached sample amendment and consist of:

- Project Management
- Financial Management
- Environmental Review
- Acquisition
- Construction Management
- Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity
- Audit/Close-out Procedures

The cities of: Borger, Clarendon, Dumas, Friona, Pampa, Silverton, and Spearman will each receive \$350,000 in grant funds to make necessary improvements in their Downtown area and the project management fee was set at a flat rate of \$37,500 for each project to perform the administrative and project management function.

Judge Dan Looten moved to authorize the Executive Director to execute an amendment to the Interlocal Cooperation Contracts between the cities of Borger, Clarendon, Dumas, Friona, Pampa, Silverton and Spearman along with PRPC providing administration services for the Downtown Revitalization Program. Judge Ronnie Gordon seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote; with Mr. Winston Sauls, Ms. Karen Price, Mayor Ricky White, Commissioner Pat Sims, Judge Wayne Nance and Mayor Tobe Shields refraining from voting.

16. **2021 MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The Planning Commission's 2021 Annual Membership Meeting convened at 5:08 p.m.

17. **ELECTION OF 2021-2022 PANHANDLE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION BOARD OFFICERS**

Mr. Kyle Ingham reported that the nominating committee, which consisted of Judge Kimberly Jones, Mayor Ricky White and Judge Nancy Tanner is recommending the following slate of officers for 2021-2022:

Dan Looten, Carson County Judge – Chair  
Tobe Shields, City of Spearman Mayor – Vice-Chair  
Sal Rivera, Castro County Sheriff– Secretary/Treasurer

Judge Wayne Nance moved to elect the slate of officers as recommended by the nominating committee. Judge Ronnie Gordon seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

  
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Winston Sauls, Chairman  
Panhandle Regional Planning Commission  
Board of Directors

ATTEST:

  
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Tobe Shields, Secretary/Treasurer  
Panhandle Regional Planning Commission  
Board of Directors