

PANHANDLE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Minutes

February 22, 2024

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission was held at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 22, 2024. This meeting was held in hybrid format by videoconference pursuant Texas Government Code Section 551.127 with more than three counties in the State of Texas being represented on the Board. Board members and individuals from the public who desired to attend in person, attended the meeting at 415 S.W. 8th, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Buster Davis, Mayor, City of Gruver
- Christy Dyer, Randall County Judge
- Dr. John Howard, Donley County Judge
- Dan Sams, Mayor, City of Wheeler
- Winston Sauls, Citizen Representative, City of Borger
- Tobe Shields, Mayor, City of Spearman
- Cleo Castro, Citizen Representative, City of Cactus
- Cole Stanley, Mayor, City of Amarillo
- Kimberly Jones, Childress County Judge
- Nancy Tanner, Potter County Judge
- Juan Cantu, Lipscomb County Commissioner
- Dr. Bill Hallerberg, Canadian River Municipal Water Authority
- Dan Looten, Carson County Judge
- Daniel Jackson, Citizen Representative, City of Dimmitt
- Harrold Keeter, Swisher County Judge
- Karen Price, Citizen Representative, City of Pampa
- Greg Lewellen, Mayor, City of Friona

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Kerry Symons, Mayor, City of Perryton
- Ronnie Gordon, Hartley County Judge
- Phillip Self, Greenbelt Municipal & Industrial Waste Authority
- Walter "Four" Price, Texas State Representative, District 87
- Sal Rivera, Sheriff, Castro County
- Pat Sims, Commissioner, City of Dumas,
- Shawn Ballew, Oldham County Judge
- Rank Cogdell, Briscoe County Judge
- Oscar Ostos, Citizen Representative, City of Amarillo
- Yolanda Robledo, Alderwoman, City of Bovina

STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Michael Peters, Executive Director; Mr. Trent Taylor, Finance Director; Ms. Lori Gunn, Regional Services Director; Ms. Daphne Morcom, Regional Services Program Specialist; Mr. Shane Brown, Regional Emergency Communication & PREP Program Manager; Ms. Delaney Pruett, Regional Emergency Management Planning Program Coordinator; Mr. Max Seymour, Local Government Services Program Specialist; Mr. Jarian Fred, Local Government Services Program Specialist; Ms. Debra King, Area Agency on Aging Director; Mr. John Schaumburg, Regional 9.1.1. Network Director; Ms. Abby Sanders, Local Government Services Program Specialist; Ms. Jourdan Foran, Local Government Services Program Specialist; Mr. Craig Whiteside, Local Government Services Program Specialist; Mr. Alex Guerrero, Local Government Services Director; Ms. Melissa Whitaker, Executive Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Blake Vineyard, West Texas Deputy Regional Director for Senator Ted Cruz; Mrs. Theresa Castro, Wife of Cleo Castro

	Balance@ <u>09/30/2023</u>	Balance@ <u>12/31/2023</u>	Balance@ <u>1/31/2024</u>
PRPC's Money Market Fund	\$2,554,984	\$4,103,637	\$3,520,205
9-1-1's Money Market Fund	\$57	\$57	\$0
Total MMIA Funds	<u>\$2,555,041</u>	<u>\$4,103,694</u>	<u>\$3,520,205</u>

CDARS CD 12/28/2023 – 06/27/24	Duration 26 Weeks	Return 4.85%	\$500,000
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Total Invested Funds- \$4,020,205

1. CALL TO ORDER

Judge Nancy Tanner called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and noted that a quorum was present.

2. INVOCATION

Judge Kimberly Jones gave the invocation.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made.

4. MINUTES

Dr. Bill Hallerberg moved to accept the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting held on January 25, 2024. Mr. Winston Sauls seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

5. VOUCHERS

Mayor Buster Davis moved to approve the vouchers for the month of January 2024. Mayor Dan Sams seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

6. PRPC INVESTMENT FUND MONTHLY REPORT

Mr. Trent Taylor informed the Board that pursuant to the Public Funds Investment Act which was passed by the Texas Legislature in 1987 and amended in 1995 and 1997, PRPC adopted written investment policies on April 27, 2023 for funds under our control. The following was submitted for approval.

The money market funds are deposited at Amarillo National Bank. The PRPC fund rate for the month of January was 4.93%. The 9-1-1 fund earned an average annual yield of 0.00%. The book value and the market value were the same for each fund listed above. The investment portfolio followed the Public Funds Investment Act and PRPC Investment Policies.

Judge Dan Looten moved for the Board of Directors to accept the PRPC Investment Fund Monthly Report as submitted. Judge Harold Keeter seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

7. CSEC AMENDMENT REQUEST – ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUEST FOR REGIONAL 9-1-1 CUSTOMER PREMISE EQUIPMENT

Mr. John Schaumburg informed the Board of Directors that the commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC) has allocated the Panhandle Regional 9-1-1 Network \$1,095,000 in equipment funding to replace the front and back room Customer Premise Equipment (CPE) at the 21 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) and two hosts throughout the region. The Regional 9-1-1 Advisory Committee has reviewed the proposals from five vendors and requested further negotiations with the two highest scoring vendors before the committee makes a final vendor recommendation to the PRPC Board of Directors for approval. One of the vendors, Carbyne, is a cloud-native solution which allows for certain mapping advantages, foreign language translation, call-recording and reporting, and rapid CPE restoration in the event of a natural disaster. The cloud-native subscription fees are

payable in advance, and the negotiated quote for six years of subscription fees, equipment and installation was \$1,923,617.22 more than the initial allocated funding by CSEC. Before the Advisory Committee meets to make a final recommendation to the PRPC Board of Directors, the 9-1-1 Network would like to have CSEC allocate the additional equipment funding to ensure that the contract could be funded and executed upon Board approval. In order to obtain the funding allocation, the 9-1-1 Network must send an amendment request to CSEC.

Judge John Howard moved for the Board of Directors to authorize the Executive Director to request additional equipment funding to the Commission on State Emergency Communications for 9-1-1 Customer Premise Equipment. Judge Christy Dyer seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

8. TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT - DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES INTERLOCAL CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Ms. Jourdan Foran informed the Board of Directors that 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. This past year, PRPC worked with seven communities to develop and submit applications to this program. All seven Texas Panhandle communities that applied in May of 2023, have received indications from Texas Department of Agriculture that the agency will be issuing each a grant award through the TxCDBG Downtown Revitalization/Main Street Set-Aside program with funding in the amount of \$500,000. In January 2023, this body approved a no-cost interlocal agreement that allowed PRPC to assist with the City of Pampa to develop an application to the Downtown Revitalization/Main Street Set-Aside Program. This agenda item is to amend the interlocal agreement between PRPC and to allow PRPC to carry out the administrative function and project management activities associated with the funded project. The City of Pampa will receive \$500,000 in grant funds to make necessary improvements to their Downtown and the project management fee was set at a flat rate of \$40,000 to perform the administrative and project management function.

Mayor Buster Davis moved for the Board of Directors to authorize the Executive Director of the PRPC to execute an amendment to the Interlocal Cooperation Contract for the City of Pampa and the PRPC to provide administration services for the Downtown Revitalization Program. Judge Harold Keeter seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

9. TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES INTERLOCAL CONTRACTS

Mr. Jarian Fred informed the Board of Directors that for over twenty years, PRPC Staff has assisted Cities with the development of Master Parks Plans and applications to Texas Parks & Wildlife under their available recreation grant programs. This past year, PRPC Staff assisted three communities in building applications through Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's Local Parks grant programs. Staff has been notified that the Cities of Friona, Dimmitt and Fritch have been selected for funding. The City of Friona utilized Local Government Services' help and sought assistance for the establishment of a new splash pad at the City's swimming pool, under the Small Community program. The City has been awarded \$150,000 to furnish and install this new splash pad, with a 1-1 match requirement. The City anticipated paying \$20,000 in administrative services to implement the project and has subsequently requested that PRPC be contracted through an interlocal agreement to provide the project administration. LGS Staff also worked with the City of Dimmitt to develop an application under the Non-Urban Outdoor program and was ultimately awarded \$317,500 in grant funds to install a new splash pad and associated concrete work at their existing City skate park. The City has also requested that PRPC provide administrative services with regards to this project at a sum of \$30,000. Finally, LGS worked with the City of Fritch to develop an application under the Small Community program for the purchase and installation of new playground equipment. The City received a grant of \$40,000 for the development of new playground equipment in the community. The City has requested that PRPC provide administrative services with regards to this project at a sum of \$10,000.

Judge Dan Looten moved for the Board of Directors to authorize the Executive Director of the PRPC to execute three respective Interlocal Cooperation Contracts between the above-mentioned cities and for the PRPC to provide Project Administration Services for their Texas Parks & Wildlife grant funded projects. Mr. Juan Cantu seconded the motion. Mr. Daniel Jackson abstained; the motion carried with a sufficient majority of votes.

10. TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AGREEMENT AMENDMENT DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES INTERLOCAL CONTRACTS

Mr. Alex Guerrero informed the Board of Directors that PRPC Staff has worked with Panhandle communities to write applications and implement various projects through the Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program since 1983. Following the format that has become the new standard for TxCDBG applications; an interlocal agreement has been developed for PRPC to assist communities with an application to the Downtown Revitalization Program. In order to comply with TDA requirements it is necessary for the below cities to enter into an interlocal agreement with PRPC for application development activities to ensure programmatic compliance. Communities applying to the Downtown Revitalization Program for 2024 include the following: Friona, Bovina, Shamrock, Dimmitt, Vega, Miami and White Deer.

Mayor Dan Sams moved for the Board of Directors to authorize the Executive Director of the PRPC to execute an Interlocal Cooperation Contract between above noted communities respectively and the PRPC to provide TxCDBG Downtown Revitalization application services at no cost with contingency for administrative services to be amended at the localities' discretion if their project is funded. Mr. Winston Sauls seconded the motion. Mayor Greg Lewellen and Mr. Daniel Jackson abstained; the motion carried with a sufficient majority of votes.

11. TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - UNIFIED SCORING COMMITTEE REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE NOMINATION

Mr. Alex Guerrero informed the Board of Directors that the PRPC has worked with Panhandle Communities to write applications and implement various projects through the Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program since 1983. The TxCDBG program has been a major funding source for the last 40 years for many major public infrastructure improvements throughout the Texas Panhandle region including projects in many of the most impoverished and most rural communities of our region. The importance of this program to the PRPC region is seen in the total volume of administrative assistance provided, over 330 TxCDBG projects, and total grant funds received, more than \$75,000,000. The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), formerly housed under many different agencies, has long been the funding agency of this program in the State of Texas. TDA underwent a HUD Consolidated Plan Process (5-year plan) to evaluate current programs including the non-entitlement TxCDBG (rural) and adopted new rules that eliminated the Regional Review Committees, a forum long utilized to allow for and provide local input into the priority and scoring elements of the TxCDBG program. The elimination of the Regional Review Committees replaced about 5-years ago by the Unified Scoring Committee (USC) that has been responsible for the development of objective scoring factors for the entire State. While this has reduced the ability of each region to cater to the TxCDBG program to their needs and resources, it has allowed the State to provide a standard scoring process uniformly within the program. This body, back in March of 2022, formally nominated Joseph "Joe" Price, City Manager of Canyon, to represent the Panhandle region in establishing the objective scoring factors in reference to the TxCDBG 2023-2024 Community Development (CD) Fund cycle historically funding water/waste-water and some road infrastructure improvements in the region. Regional funding allocation structure is still being maintained by TDA and each Council of Government region has the ability to select and nominate a regional representative on the USC or decide to renominate their previously selected USC representative. This chosen representative will be the voice for the region in the scoring development process of the TxCDBG program and will have one vote on the 24-person board. The PRPC's Board of Directors is identified as the governing body responsible for the regional nomination to the USC. This agenda items will allow the PRPC Board of Directors to consider the re-nomination of Joseph "Joe" Price, who has agreed to

serve as the Panhandle region's representative for the upcoming TxCDBG 2025-2026 CD Fund cycle and is serving as an elected or appointed official of a non-entitlement community (50,000 or less for cities, 250,000 or less for counties), able to pass a background check and available to travel to the Unified Scoring Committee meeting and related training to be held in San Antonio on April 10, 2024.

Mayor Cole Stanley moved for the PRPC Board of Directors to renominate Joseph "Joe" Price to represent the Panhandle Region and serve on the Unified Scoring Committee for the TxCDBG Program. Dr. Bill Hallerberg seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

12. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT SEARCH SERVICES CITY OF WHEELER

Mr. Alex Guerrero informed the Board of Directors that in the last decade, PRPC Staff has assisted many cities in the Texas Panhandle with administrative services, ranging from contractual city management services to city manager searches to master parks planning. One of the most increasingly demanded services is assistance with the recruitment of professional staff by cities. Recently, the PRPC was approached by both the City of Wheeler to conduct a professional search for their new Public Works Director. The City of Wheeler has considered the PRPC's scope of services as it relates to assistance with a professional search and plans to authorize an interlocal agreement to perform these services. The inclusion of this agenda item will allow the PRPC Board of Directors to consider entering into an interlocal agreement with the City of Wheeler for PRPC to continue to work with and assist them in this process. The contract will be focused so that the services can be rendered expeditiously and in a quality manner so that the City can resume normal operations quickly. Compensation will be rated at \$65.00 per hour with job postings and travel compensated additionally with a set floor and ceiling to ensure that both parties mutually benefit from the agreement.

Mr. Juan Cantu moved for the PRPC Board of Directors to authorize the Executive Director to execute an Interlocal Cooperation Contract with the City of Wheeler and to conduct a formal Public Works Director search. Judge Harold Keeter seconded the motion. Mayor Dan Sams abstained; the motion carried with a sufficient majority of votes.

13. FY 2024 REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM APPROVAL

Ms. Daphne Morcom informed the Board of Directors that as directed by the Texas Health and Safety Code, a portion of funds collected through landfill "tipping fees" is dedicated to a regional grant program supporting projects that promote recycling and other activities to promote the goals of Regional Solid Waste Management Plans across the state. Every year the Solid Waste Grants Program accepts applications for grant funds and those projects are prioritized according to the priorities established in the Panhandle Regional Solid Waste Management Plan. That prioritized list is then submitted to the TCEQ for final consideration. On December 14, 2023, notices went out to all eligible entities in the region for the FY 2024 Solid Waste Grant cycle. The PRPC received seven (7) applications totaling \$141,126.73 for the \$96,557.00 in available FY 2024 Solid Waste Grant funds. The Regional Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee (RSWMAC) met on February 20, 2024 to review these applications, heard oral presentations from applicants and established a prioritization recommendation for the Board of Directors to review. The PRPC Board of Directors considered the prioritized list for approval at the February 22nd meeting. That final prioritized list will then be submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for final approval. The list recommended by the RSWMAC for the FY 2024 Solid Waste Grant cycle was presented at the Board of Director's meeting.

Mr. Winston Sauls moved for the Board of Directors to approve the recommended list of FY 2024 Solid Waste Grant Applications for submission to TCEQ and, pending the TCEQ's approval of the list, allow the Executive Director to enter into contracts with grantees for the implementation of the FY 2024 Solid Waste Grants Program. Judge Kim Jones seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

14. FY25 STATEWIDE EMERGENCY RADIO INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT APPLICATION RESOLUTION

Mr. Shane Brown informed the Board of Directors that for several years now, PRPC staff has spoken about the State's Emergency Radio Infrastructure Fund. The account generates approximately \$20 Million per biennium and during the many years these funds were designated for the Fugitive Apprehension fund; no monies were ever spent on fugitive apprehension. During the first eight years these funds were deposited in GR Account 5153, the State's Emergency Radio Infrastructure, most, if not all of the funds were spent on "other public safety purposes". We had hoped that at some point in time, a portion of the funds could be used to help in maintaining the regional interoperable radio system PANCOM. In December 2019, the restrictions on the use of GR Account 153 were revised. Now, the funds may only be used by the Governor's Office to provide grants to plan for, develop, enhance and maintain interoperable statewide emergency radio infrastructure. So, to that end, on January 15, 2024, the Governor's Office announced the PY25 Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure program with the application deadline set for March 14, 2024. The only eligible entities for this grant funding are Regional Councils of Governments; and State agencies; and, the funds can only be used for the following activities.

1. Development or enhancement of interoperable emergency radio communications infra-structure;
2. Connection of regional and statewide systems or expansion of a regional system;
3. Improving or establishing tower sites and/or related communications equipment (shelters, generators, etc.); or
4. Enhancement or maintenance of existing capabilities (e.g. life cycle replacement of equipment other than subscriber equipment).

PRPC staff developed a draft application for the grant program to be approved by the Board and when funded will help with the maintenance of the PANCOM system. The PANCOM system infrastructure is comprised of 60 sites; most of which are currently being leased. Our draft currently proposes to use Emergency Radio Infrastructure funding to build four (4) towers to replace the two most-expensive towers currently being leased and to complete gap coverage for two other locations. Eliminating these two leases will reduce the PANCOM system's annual lease expense by \$17,250; in FY26 and in every year thereafter. Mr. Brown stated that the region should work toward owning or controlling every site in the PANCOM system. As such, totally eliminating the system's lease costs would cut PANCOM's annual budget by nearly 40%. The other part of this vision involves putting at least one paying tenant on every tower so that the balance of the budget can be covered with rental revenues generated off the PANCOM towers. Much of the PANCOM system's annual costs are still being paid for with SHSP funding and there will come a day when the SHSP funding goes away. We have an opportunity with this Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure program to begin building our way to complete independence from federal funding in supporting this critical regional system. It will take time, but PANCOM now has a path toward this program. The PRPC was able to secure funding for two new towers in the last round of funding, four years ago. So, there is a more accurate estimate of what it will cost to build four more towers in 2025. We are also anticipating utilizing a PRPC tower that was deconstructed, saving the project some funds on at least one tower. The project has no match required. However, the PRPC is proposing to acquire the land for these two sites as part of our contribution to the total project cost.

Judge Harold Keeter moved for the PRPC Board of Directors to consider approving the submission of a grant application to the Governor's Office for consideration under the PY25 Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure. Ms. Karen Price seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

15. WEATHER RADIO TRANSMITTER AGREEMENT WITH NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)

Ms. Delaney Pruett informed the Board of Directors that in a meeting PRPC Staff had with Sherman County officials to discuss emergency management, they brought up the lack of weather radio coverage in the area and expressed an interest in remediating it. Looking at the map, there is a significant gap in NOAA Weather Radio coverage in the Northwestern Texas Panhandle and the Western Oklahoma Panhandle. This area is mostly rural, but there are two cities that are not covered, Dalhart and Stratford, which

is a population of around 10,000 people total. In addition, cell phone coverage and traditional TV station coverage can be spotty in this area. These factors lead to this area being underserved by the current warning methods for emergency notifications. NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts, and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Working with the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Emergency Alert System, NWR is an "All Hazards" radio network, making it a single source for comprehensive weather and emergency information. In conjunction with Federal, State, and Local Emergency Managers and other public officials, NWR also broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards – including natural (such as tornadoes), environmental (such as chemical releases or oil spills), and public safety (such as AMBER alerts or 9-1-1 telephone outages). With approval from both Sherman County and Dallam County, PRPC Staff reached out to the National Weather Service, both in Amarillo and at their Headquarters to discuss solutions for this problem. Technically, to cover most of Sherman and Dallam Counties, they would just need to install one weather radio transmitter somewhere between Dalhart and Stratford. This solution would cover most of the population and be the most economically feasible. However, there were no radio towers in this area that could be used for this purpose. To install a weather radio transmitter, they needed: a radio tower, shelter space, a generator, electric connections, and good geography. After comparing transmitter models, propagation studies, geography, etc., they came back with the option to install two transmitters, one NW of Dalhart at the Dallam PRPC tower site and one on the tower at the Sherman County Courthouse. This solution allows for more coverage in the Texas Panhandle and into the Oklahoma Panhandle and New Mexico. Based on the NWS' projections, these two transmitters will provide coverage to 12,942 people that weren't covered before. PRPC is working with the counties on logistics now but hope to have the transmitters installed in the next few months. Once the sites are up and running, they will be maintained by the local NWS Amarillo technicians and data will be sent out to them regularly. Residents will need a weather radio device to receive daily weather data, and these devices will alert them of any hazardous warnings (e.g. tornado warning) any time day or night. The NWS Amarillo office is discussing hosting a weather radio event in both Dalhart and Stratford to spread the message of this new service.

Mayor Cole Stanley moved for the PRPC Board of Directors to consider approval of the Weather Radio Transmitter Agreement with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for use of space on the PANCOM tower located in Dallam County. Judge Kim Jones seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

16. FY24 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM PROJECT PRIORITIZATION APPROVAL

Ms. Lori Gunn informed the board that on February 15th, 2024 the Panhandle Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee (PREMAC) met to evaluate the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) proposals submitted for consideration under the Panhandle's FY24 SHSP grant program. In total, the PREMAC evaluated nine applications. After considering the written proposals and hearing the oral presentations made by each of the applicants, the PREMAC recommended that the nine projects be prioritized as shown below.

Project Name	Applicant	Req. Amount
FY24 Regional Planning & Coordination Project	PRPC	\$138,500.00
FY24 Emergency Operations Plan Update	PRPC	\$38,700.00
ST/CP FY24 PARIS Maintenance Project	PRPC	\$38,500.00
FY24 PANCOM M&O Project	PRPC	\$253,000.00
IISC FY24 Regional AFIS Enhancement: AFIS Workstations	PRPC	\$114,705.00

IISC FY24 Amarillo Regional Crime Center	City of Amarillo	\$16,029.00
FY24 Amarillo Regional Bomb Squad Enhancement Project	City of Amarillo	\$88,825.00
FY24 Amarillo CERT	City of Amarillo	\$21,287.68
ST/CP FY24 Amarillo SWAT Team Enhancement Project	City of Amarillo	\$0.00
FY24 Estimate:		\$709,546.68
Total Amount of Funding Requested:		\$880,134.78
Difference in Funds Requested vs. RBE:		\$170,588.10

Again, this year, the Office of the Governor’s Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) will not be providing each Council of Government their Regional Budget Estimate (RBE) for the local projects. However, we were told that we could estimate the allocation to be similar to what the region received the prior year. This allowed PRPC staff to give the PREMAC a better idea of what to expect by way of awards for those nine (9) projects that the PREMAC was prioritizing.

Even with this estimate, we still are not sure if this will be the final amount for the region, so we have given the HSGD a plan for these projects should the amount come in at various percentages points of the estimate. This uncertainty of the funding situation makes the next part of the PREMAC’s recommendations all the more important.

Judge John Howard moved for the PRPC Board of Directors to consider approval of the FY24 State Homeland Security Program project prioritizations and funding instructions developed and recommended by the Panhandle Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee. Judge Dan Looten seconded the motion. Mayor Cole Stanley abstained; the motion carried with a sufficient majority of votes.

17. MISCELLANEOUS NON-ACTION INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Comments from the Executive Director. Cleo Castro is stepping down from PRPC Board of Directors. Cleo has served 12 years on the PRPC Board and the Planning Commission would like to present him a Certificate of Appreciation, as well as a plaque for his outstanding service and contributions to the PRPC and especially to the well-being of the entire Panhandle and the people that call it home. We will be holding an election on the 4th in Cactus, to replace Cleo’s position on the Board for a minority position in PSA 1 that serves Dallam, Sherman, Hartley, Moore and Oldham Counties. We do have an interested individual that is willing to serve. Next month, on March 28th, we will have the presentation of the PRPC Annual Financial Audit. We will be calling on the Audit Committee to meet prior to the meeting next month (11:00 a.m.) and will be providing lunch for the Audit Committee and reviewing the Financial Audit. As a Reminder, Audit Committee Members are: Judge John Howard, Judge Kim Jones, Winston Sauls, Juan Cantu and Oscar Ostos. The audit firm of Elgin, Parkman, Fleming & Fleming out of Wichita Falls was procured in 2021 on a 3-year contract with 2 additional optional years. This is the 3rd year of the contract. PRPC Dues were sent out in October. As of Mid-February, we have collected 99% of the dues, total \$69,378. We are reaching out to the four cities who have not yet paid their dues and hope to once again have 100% collection rate for 2024. If there is an interest, we will have a new Board member orientation in April that will allow the department directors to discuss the details of the projects and services they provide to our region. Thank you to all of the Board Members for being here and for your continued support and service. Please feel free to reach out to me or staff if you ever need anything or have any questions.

- B. Report on the following recent Planning Commission sponsored regional meetings:
- 12/07/2023 – READY/SET/THRIVE, The Legacy, Friona

- 12/13/2023 – RST/MIPPA, Rotary Club, Tulia
 - 12/13/2023 – Regional Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee
 - 01/03/2024 – Caregiver Support Group
 - 01/08/2024 – READY/SET/THRIVE, First Baptist, Canyon
 - 01/10/2024 – Low Income Medicare Savings/TSAP, Darrouzette Senior Citizens
 - 01/10/2024 – RST/MIPPA, Teare Rural Health, Booker
 - 01/10/2024 – Groundwater Management Area (GMA) #1 Committee Meeting
 - 01/10/2024 – Panhandle Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee (PREMAC) Sub-Committee Critical Infrastructure Pilot Study Kick-Off Meeting
 - 01/12/2024 – Hemphill County Focus Group Session; Return Home from Hospitalization Pilot Project
 - 01/19/2024 – West Texas COG Meeting – PRPC
 - 01/23/2024 – Hereford Focus Group Session; Return Home from Hospitalization Pilot Project
 - 01/23/2024 – Transfer on Death Deed, Senior Citizens, Shamrock
- C. Announcement of tentatively scheduled Planning Commission sponsored regional meetings:
- 01/31/2024 – Emergency Manager Meeting at Amarillo EOC
 - 02/02/2024 – Panhandle Regional 9-1-1 Network Advisory Committee
 - 02/06/2024 – Region A Panhandle Water Planning Group Executive Committee Meeting
 - 02/06/2024 – Region A Panhandle Water Planning Group Full Committee Meeting
 - 02/13/2024 – Panhandle Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee (PREMAC) Sub-Committee Critical Infrastructure Meeting
 - 02/15/2024 – Panhandle Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee (PREMAC)
 - 02/16/2024 – Dumas Focus Group Session; Return Home from Hospitalization Pilot Project
 - 02/20/2024 – Regional Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee
 - 02/21/2024 – Panhandle Regional Organization to Maximize Public Transportation (PROMPT) Meeting
 - 02/21/2024 – Panhandle Workforce Development Board meeting
 - 02/22/2024 – Panhandle Workforce Development Board Consortium's Governing Body meeting


18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.



 Sheriff Sal Rivera, Chairman
 Panhandle Regional Planning Commission
 Board of Directors

ATTEST:



 Commissioner Pat Sims, Secretary/Treasurer
 Panhandle Regional Planning Commission
 Board of Directors

