



Executive Committee | Summary Minutes

10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 9, 2022

6800 Burleson Road
Building 310, Suite 165
Austin, Texas 78744

Present (17)

Mayor Brandt Rydell, City of Taylor, **Chair**
Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe, Hays County, **Secretary**
Mayor Jane Hughson, City of San Marcos,
Parliamentarian
Judge Paul Pape, Bastrop County, **Immediate Past Chair**
Council Member Mackenzie Kelly, City of Austin
Mayor Lee Ubranovsky, City of Buda
Judge Joe Weber, Fayette County
Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Pitts, City of Georgetown

Council Member Esme Mattke Longoria, City of Leander
Commissioner Steven Knobloch, Lee County
Mayor Pro Tem Doug Weiss, City of Pflugerville
Council Member Matthew Baker, City of Round Rock
Council Member Janice Bruno, City of Smithville
Commissioner Ann Howard, Travis County
Commissioner Brigid Shea, Travis County
Commissioner Russ Boles, Williamson County
Commissioner Cynthia Long, Williamson County

Absent (12)

Judge James Oakley, Burnet County, **1st Vice Chair**
Mayor Lew White, City of Lockhart, **2nd Vice Chair**
Mr. Lyle Nelson, City of Bastrop
Council Member Kevin Hight, City of Bee Cave
Judge Brett Bray, Blanco County
Commissioner Joe Don Dockery, Burnet County

Judge Hoppy Haden, Caldwell County
Judge Ron Cunningham, Llano County
Representative John Cyrier
Representative Celia Israel
Representative Terry Wilson
Representative Erin Zwiener

1. **Call to Order by the Chair**

Mayor Rydell called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and asked people to follow him in the pledge of allegiance to national and state flags.

2. **Consider Approving Minutes for the February 9, 2022, Meeting**

Mayor Rydell asked if anyone needed to make corrections or changes to the minutes and then asked for motion to approve them.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boles to approve the Feb. 9, 2022, Executive Committee meeting minutes. Council Member Mattke Longoria seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **Consider Approving CAPCOG FY 2022/2023 TCEQ Solid Waste Grants Projects**

Ken May, Regional Programs Manager

Mr. May said the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) met and reviewed the CAPCOG Solid Waste Grant Applications with their applicants on Feb. 10. He stated 13 applications for projects were submitted requesting \$312,425 from the program. However, two projects didn't meet the scoring criteria to qualify for funding, so 11 projects were recommended by the SWAC to receive \$264,000. Ten projects were recommended to receive full funding and Blanco County's project was recommended to receive partial funding — \$9,575.

Ms. Voights asked Mr. May to explain how CAPCOG allocates unspent funding from projects that are awarded grant funds. Mr. May stated if projects do not expend their grant funds, CAPCOG reallocates the funding to the next not fully funded project on the recommendation list, or can cover overages from completed collection events, and if no projects remain then the money is allocated to the Regional Environmental Task Force which serves the entire region. He noted it is possible for the Blanco County enforcement officer project to become fully funded at a later date using those funds, funds from prior years, and other TCEQ money.

Commissioner Ingalsbe asked why Kyle and Creedmoor's projects didn't meet the scoring criteria. Mr. May explained since Creedmoor was seeking a temporary collection facility instead of a permanent one, it received too few points, and the SWAC recommended that Creedmoor come back with the permanent facility project in the future. Mr. May said Kyle's project looked to supply recycling containers to several multi-family dwelling complexes and requested half the funds; in this instance, the SWAC recommended that Kyle draft a city ordinance to manage the recycling issue at multi-family dwellings. Mayor Hughson asked if the SWAC considered funding projects based on their reduced scope and minimum funding request. Mr. May said the SWAC considered the minimum funding request but proposed to fully fund ten of the projects with the remainder of the funds going to the Blanco County enforcement project for partial funding.

A motion was made by Commissioner Howard to approve the CAPCOG FY 2022/2023 TCEQ Solid Waste Grants Projects. Commissioner Long second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Consider Approval of Grant Ranking for FY 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program
Martin Ritchey, Director of Homeland Security

Mr. Ritchey explained the state allocated about \$820,000 to the CAPCOG region through the State Homeland Security Program. He noted this was the lowest level of funding the region has received and was due to the state directing funding specifically to two homeland security project areas — cybersecurity and domestic violent extremism. A ranked list of projects of which could receive funding were provided to the Executive Committee before the meeting. Mr. Ritchey said project applications were reviewed and ranked by subject matter experts serving on the Homeland Security Task Force and its subcommittees. He also mentioned that some organizations, such as Austin Police Department, reduced their ask to accommodate more funding projects. Mr. Ritchey said funds allocated to a project that go unspent get reallocated to the next highest scoring project.

A motion was made by Commissioner Long made to approve the FY 2022 State Homeland Security Program grant rankings. Council Member Bruno seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Consider Authorizing Submission of Enhanced PM_{2.5} Monitoring Grant Applications to EPA
Andrew Hoekzema, Director of Regional Planning and Services

Mr. Hoekzema stated particulate matter is an air pollution category of which the region is closest to violating the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and their only three regulatory monitors in the region located where the pollution is suspected to be the worst. The EPA has made \$20 million for grants available for enhancing air quality monitoring, and CAPCOG is seeking grant funding to purchase and maintain seven monitors which it would place in the five-county metropolitan area. Mr. Hoekzema said operating the monitors would determine how the air pollution is travelling throughout the region and help protect resident's health by providing more data about the pollutants. He mentioned the grant would not fund future use of the monitors, but CAPCOG is partnering with St. Edwards and Houston-Tillotson universities, so they can maintain the monitors when the grant funding is no longer available.

Council Member Baker stated the Clean Air Coalition and some Executive Committee members met with the TCEQ to discuss air quality monitoring. He noted that the state agency was under the opinion the monitors weren't needed, but that they also wouldn't turn down additional data. Commissioner Long asked how the additional monitors would be helpful. Mr. Hoekzema stated having the additional data from the monitors could help facilitate planning to stay within compliance of national air quality standards, it also could be used to prevent regulatory actions and help residents reduce health risks. Council Member Bruno asked where CAPCOG would place the monitors. Mr. Hoekzema said there are eight spots that have been preliminarily selected, but a site selection process would occur. Council Member Baker said having more data is valuable and means CAPCOG and the communities in the region would be better prepared with such data.

A motion was made by Commissioner Howard to submit an enhanced PM_{2.5} monitoring grant application to the EPA. Judge Weber seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Consider Adopting a Resolution Recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week
Richard Morales, Director of Emergency Communications

Mr. Morales said each year the region's more than 800 emergency telecommunicators answer about 1.3 million calls to 9-1-1, and nationally emergency telecommunicators are recognized during the second full week of April — April 10 through 16. Mr. Morales asked the board to recognize the dedication of the region's emergency telecommunicators.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ingalsbe to adopt a resolution recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Mayor Hughson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Consider Approving Appointments to Advisory Committees

Deborah Brea, Executive Assistant

Ms. Brea reported there were no recommended appointments. Ms. Voights mentioned the Homeland Security Task Force had two vacancies, one each for a large and small police department. She said there are two candidates for each position and that the Homeland Security Task Force would make recommendations for the appointments to the board in April.

8. Staff Reports

Betty Voights, Executive Director

Ms. Voights said CAPCOG will host the Texas Comptroller's Office for its Broadband Listening Tour on Thursday. The tour is to hear about broadband issues from across the state.

Ms. Voights also said the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) will meet to review and rank grant applications in late March. The committee plans on reviewing and scoring each application during its traditional application meetings but will have a separate meeting to review scores, do any additional ranking and recommend funding levels for each project. She stated the CJAC will ask each applicant about project funding and scalability during the initial meetings, but she then asked for input on whether the CJAC should make a recommendation on overall funding reductions. Commissioner Long said the CJAC should be making a recommendation and the board would provide a review; the board adjusted funding last year out of necessity. Mayor Hughson stated the committee should be asking what funding reductions could be made to have a viable project and not conducting across the board cuts. Ms. Voights and Mr. Hoekzema explained CAPCOG and the CJAC will factor that into the grant ranking recommendations. Commissioner Howard said the board needs to trust the process to fund what is needed to accomplish a project.

Ms. Voights said CAPCOG is seeking a representative to serve on the Texas Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Unified Scoring Committee; the representative on the committee needs to be from a non-entitlement community. Ms. Voights explained the role of the position and what meetings they would attend. She also noted the board will hold a public hearing about the region's priorities for the CDBG funding. With no volunteers from the board, it was recommended to ask General Assembly representatives if they were interested in serving on the Texas CDBG Unified Scoring Committee.

Mr. Ritchey provided his monthly update on Warn Central Texas, and Commissioner Shea asked about a decline in the number of contacts while reviewing his report. Mr. Ritchey said landline and VOIP numbers are always slightly declining; however, this reduction was fixing an error in data where users were added from a city of Austin in another state. Mayor Hughson asked for the report electronically, so she can share it with city staff.

9. **Adjourn**

Mayor Rydell adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.



Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe, Secretary
Executive Committee
Capital Area Council of Governments

4/13/22

Date