



MEETING NOTICE

TO: North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority Board Members
FROM: Gary Halbrooks
DATE: Tuesday, July 16, 2024
SUBJECT: **July Board Meeting**

The next meeting of the NET RMA is scheduled as follows:

DATE: Tuesday, July 16, 2024
TIME: 1:30 PM
PLACE: Efurd Orchards
4004 US-271
Pittsburg, TX 75686

Enclosed please find the agenda and other pertinent information for your review prior to the meeting. Should you have any questions, please call Megan Page at 903.630.7894.

NORTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (NET RMA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, July 16, 2024, 1:30 PM
Efurd Orchards
4004 US-271
Pittsburg, TX 75686

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM.

Notice of this meeting was posted with the Secretary of State's Office and on the NET RMA website and office on Friday, July 12, 2024.

Gary Halbrooks - We're going to go ahead and get started. Number one, call to order and declaration of quorum. Second Judge AJ Mason from Cass County is here.

Judge AJ Mason - This is my opportunity to say welcome to Camp County. Camp County is one of new counties or relatively new counties, and the Camp is the third smallest county in the state. We've got 12 whole miles of US 271 out front here in our county. Being a new county, we're so pleased that you're here today. So, I want to say if you haven't had the opportunity yet, the Efurd family that owns all this, they're about third generation peach growers here in Camp County next door. If you've never been over to the peach shed, I encourage you to go take advantage of that. The work that you all do for transportation for our region and for our communities doesn't go unnoticed by some of us. But let's face it, you know, transportation is not a glamorous thing. It's got long project times, and it takes a long time for projects to come together. I appreciate our board member, Curtis Rath for what he does for our county. Thank all of you for what you do for our region. We do appreciate what you do.

2. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM/COMMENT PERIOD.

Larry Terry - Excuse me once again, I'm here to ask y'all please put these ongoing issues with my family and I are having with our property on your agenda where it can be discussed and stop all this three minute blah blah blah. Been a minute, but many years ago I served on a board that its height is probably half again the size of this. Two years I was there, in the 24 meetings that we had, never once did we go into executive session. Everything we did was out in the open, and that's all I'm asking you to do here because again, excuse me, I suggest to you, you're only getting one side of the story, and I all I want is a dialogue which for years and years and years we haven't had, you know, specifically the situation with our access has gotten worse since I was here in June. It's not going to get any better, but I do believe that your people at Lochner have identified the problem. I believe it'll be workable for everyone, but we need to talk about it now. Based on what I see, if your bylaws, it doesn't take all of you put this item on your agenda, could be 1-2, whatever. But I'm telling you it needs to be discussed, and it needs to be remedied. You got money for lawyers, you got money to sponsor the weather, you got money to fix this.

3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS.

Howard Patterson - To begin with, I came to Texas from my first job at Big Western State. Spent a number of years there. Came to UT Tyler 23 years ago to start the athletic program and I've been there ever since, and I leave there August 31st hopefully into retirement. So, it's a pleasure to be here with this board.

Attendance:

In Person – Rush Harris, Harrison County; Larry Morris, Upshur County; John Ray, Panola County; Jason Ray, Wood County; Gary Halbrooks, Smith County; Dan Droege, Gregg County; Curtis Rath, Camp County; Dave Spurrier, Gregg County; Matthew Nelson, Cass County

Zoom – Marcia Daughtrey, Smith County; Keith Honey, Gregg County; Matt Watts, Smith County; Andrea Williams McCoy, Bowie County, Ben Hamilton, Cherokee County; Robert Messer, Kaufman County

4. CHAIR'S REPORT.

Gary Halbrooks

N/A

5. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 11, 2024, REGULAR BOARD MEETING.

1st – Dan Droege, 2nd – Larry Morse, Motion Approved.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Larry Morse - The Project Development Implementation Committee met on July the 2nd. We discussed two projects that had been brought to Glenn Green and one of those will be discussed later in our meeting today. The other project that we discussed is still in the making and we'll discuss it I guess when it gets going a little bit. So, the project that we'll be discussing is the 412-acre development at the intersection of I-20 and Texas 155.

7. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF NET RMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

Dianne Johnston - We're going to take a look at our budget actual results for the eight months ended May 2024. Net electronic actual over budget 1%, net video revenue under budget or 4%, operating revenue even 0%, operating expenses over budget 7%, Toll 49 operating expenses under budget 1%, net other income expense over budget 4%, net income is over budget by 38%. Questions?

1st - Curtis Rath 2nd – Marcia Daughtrey, Motion Approved

8. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE NEGOTIATION AND EXECUTION OF A FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE TYLER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR THE STATE HIGHWAY 155 WIDENING PROJECT. (RESOLUTION 24-12)

Action Item

Glenn Green – This is a project that I have briefed the board on. It is moving quickly, and this is the project that we started on helping with some of the engineering, but there was still a gap in the construction plans. They need help widening the road on the project. This is a project with multiple entities. What is before you today is a resolution authorizing the executive director to execute the funding agreement. Questions?

Scott Martinez – Thank you for having me today. Just to give some background, we are funded differently than other EDCs. We are funded by our members. One thing I noticed quickly in this position is that this area did not have an industrial park in the area. We see this as a regional employment center due to its position. We are seeing a lot of demand for this project. We just had an offer this morning. Overall, it is a been a group project.

Gary Halbrooks - What is the number of jobs?

Scott Martinez – YellowWood will offer about 125 jobs. We will make sure the NET RMA will get their money back.

Glenn Green – (Video is played) As a result, staff recommends approval.

Dave Spurrier – Who will oversee the signal?

Glenn Green – We would be, and we would be paid back.

Discussion ensued.

Gary Halbrooks – My hope is that this project will be a template to show other communities how we can help them.

1st – Larry Morse 2nd – John Ray, Motion approved

**9. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE NEGOTIATION AND EXECUTION OF AN ADVANCED FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE STATE HIGHWAY 155 WIDENING PROJECT.
(RESOLUTION 24-13)**

Action Item

Glenn Green – We have entered into an agreement with TxDot before. This agreement would allow us to finalize the details of the project with TxDot.

1st – Marcia Daughtrey, 2nd – Dan Drogue, Motion approved.

**10. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE WORK AUTHORIZATION NO. 6 WITH H.W. LOCHNER TO PREPARE THE PLANS, SPECIFICATION AND ESTIMATE (PS&E) FOR THE STATE HIGHWAY 155 WIDENING PROJECT.
(RESOLUTION 24-14)**

Action Item

Glenn Green – As we discussed before, we already did a work authorization to start this project with Lochner. This will allow us to finalize and extend these plans to complete the project.

1st – Rush Harris, 2nd – John Ray, Motion approved.

11. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Roadway Maintenance Activities

Glenn Green – First item, with all the rain we continue to experience erosion. I want to bring this to the board's attention because we will have to increase our budget for the next budget year. This is not a big deal, just wanted to make you aware. Next summer, we are preparing for a heavy overlay on a section of toll 49. We have been setting funds aside since last year. I just wanted to make you aware. Also, I wanted to let you know we have had a significant request for access to the right of ways. These are becoming more and more active, and I wanted to prepare you if you are approached. They can cause a lot of problems. With the help of Lochner, we have updated our utility policy.

B. Utility Permitting Process

Glenn Green - Last item, this project was presented to the priority projects committee. Right here, you have no turn lanes to enter Eford orchards. This project has been an issue since I was in the Atlanta district. Only reason I am bringing it up today is because we are right here.

Matthew watts – Is this an example of a priority project?

Glenn Green – Yes, we would help complete the project once the majority of the funds are accumulated.

Discussion ensued.

BOARD ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

12. ADJOURNMENT.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, SUBCHAPTER D, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, IF ANY

- At any time during the meeting of the NET RMA Board of Directors, the Board may meet in executive session for consultation concerning matters under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, including:
 - A. Section 551.071. Consultation with Attorney—Consultation with and advice from legal counsel concerning pending/contemplated litigation, settlement offers and negotiations, ongoing disputes and potential disputes, and other legal issues.
 - B. Section 551.072. Deliberation Regarding Real Property—Discussion of real property purchase, exchange, lease, license, gift, donation, and/or negotiated settlement, including property to be acquired for right-of-way.
 - C. Section 551.074. Personnel Matters—Deliberation concerning the appointment, employment, reassignment, evaluation, duties, discipline, and/or dismissal of personnel.

PARTICIPATION BY TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL:

One or more members of the Board may participate in this meeting through a telephone conference call, as authorized by Section 370.262, Texas Transportation Code. Under that law, each part of the telephone conference call meeting that by law must be open to the public shall be audible to the public at the meeting location. During the meeting, the identification of each party shall be clearly stated prior to speaking, and the meeting shall be documented by written minutes. On conclusion of the meeting, the written minutes of the meeting will be made available to the public.

OPEN COMMENT PERIOD

The Board will allow an open comment period, **not to exceed one hour**, to receive public comment on any other matter that is under the jurisdiction of the Board, including an item listed on the agenda. Public comment must be made during the open comment period. You must be recognized by the presiding officer.

Each speaker will be allowed a **maximum of three (3) minutes**. For subjects that are not otherwise part of the agenda for the meeting, Board members may neither comment nor question speakers during the open comment period, but may request the presiding officer, or a recognized committee, to investigate the subject further. No action will be taken on matters that are not part of the agenda for the meeting.

NOTE

Enumerated agenda items are assigned for ease of reference only and will not necessarily be considered by the Board in that particular order. The presiding officer may rearrange the order in which agenda items are considered.

Presenters with audiovisual needs are requested to contact NET RMA at 903.630.7894 at least two working days prior to the meeting.

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT FOR DISABLED PERSONS

This meeting site is accessible to disabled persons as follows: wheelchair ramp at the main entrance. If any special assistance or accommodations are needed to attend this meeting, please contact the NET RMA at 903.630.7894 at least two working days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services, such as interpreters for person who are deaf or hearing impaired, and readers of large print or Braille, are requested to contact the NET RMA at 903.630.7894 at least two working days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.