AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order.

Michelle Bloomer called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Six members participated.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Approval of Minutes from February 25, 2011 meeting.

MOTION: Brad Underwood moved to approve the minutes.
SECOND: Glenn Gadbois seconded the motion.

The committee unanimously approved the February 25, 2011 minutes.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Explanation and discussion of role and responsibilities of the Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC), as described in 43 Texas Administrative Code §§1.80 through 1.84(b)

Eric Gleason directed the committee to the binder that was prepared for their benefit. The binder includes all statutes and rules governing the advisory committee. There was brief discussion on the department’s expectations of the committee and Eric also mentioned that the committee meetings are governed by the Open Meetings Act.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Brief overview of department and division organizational structure

Eric Gleason provided a general overview of the way the department is structured and where PTN fits in that structure. He went on to provide background information about the division and its responsibilities. The additional information in the binder was briefly discussed – maps, phone lists, the rule making process, grant program descriptions, and an acronym list.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Discussion on funding formula history and applicable law, as set out in Title 49 United States Code Chapter 53; Texas Transportation Code Chapter 456; and 43 Texas Administrative Code §§ 31.11 – 31.13

Linda Cherrington with the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) presented historical information on how the current formula used to allocate funding to the rural and small urban transit agencies came into existence with input from the PTAC. The presentation included data on where all the transit agencies now stand with respect to the amount of funding each receives based on the elements of the formula.
AGENDA ITEM 6: Discussion on the Impact of 2010 Census on Funding Formula

Linda Cherrington presented data that TTI and The State Data Center at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) researched for PTN. The research objectives looked at projecting population to target impact on the funding formula, identifying what issues that meant, and suggesting possible strategies to approach. The presentation showed the areas of the state that are most likely to be affected by population changes and which public transportation providers will be most impacted by these changes as they relate to the funding formula.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Review and discussion of PTAC Work Plan consistent with committee duties as described in 43 Texas Administrative Code §1.84(b)(3) and update on current activities related to work plan elements

The committee reviewed a list of previous work plan items and discussed which items to pursue along with the development of guiding principles to assist with accomplishing the work items within a framework. The following topics were discussed as part of the work plan: strategic plan, transportation development credits, Section 5310 program, regional coordination planning, coordinated call, and funding. After a summary of each topic, the committee agreed to have PTN draft an initial set of guiding principles for the committee to comment on and adopt at a future meeting. These guiding principles will help the committee determine their work plan priorities.

AGENDA ITEM 8: Public comment.

Melvin Johnson, with Texas Legal Services (TLS), informed the committee that TLS is establishing and funding a rural transportation alliance based out of Austin.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Adjourn.

MOTION: Al Abeson moved to adjourn.
SECOND: Christina Crain seconded the motion.

The committee unanimously approved the motion to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Prepared by: Approved by:

Ginnie Mayle Michelle Bloomer, Chair
Public Transportation Division Public Transportation Advisory Committee