

## MINUTES FOR ADOPTION

Public Transportation Advisory Committee Teleconference Meeting  
May 14, 2010

### **Committee Members Present:**

Michelle Bloomer, Chair  
J.R. Salazar, Vice Chair  
Al Abeson (via teleconference)  
Frank Castellanos (via teleconference)  
Janet Everheart (via teleconference)  
Christina Melton Crain (via teleconference)  
Vince Huerta

### **TxDOT Present and Participating:**

Eric Gleason, Director, Public Transportation Division (PTN)  
Bobby Killebrew, PTN  
Ginnie Mayle, PTN  
Suzanne Mann, OGC

### AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order.

Michelle Bloomer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Six members were present or on the phone at roll call and the seventh member joined shortly after the meeting started.

### AGENDA ITEM 2: Approval of Minutes from February 26, 2010 and April 7, 2010 meetings.

**MOTION:** Christina Crain moved to approve the February 26, 2010 minutes.  
**SECOND:** Al Abeson seconded the motion.

Of the six members present at the time of the vote, all six voted unanimously to approve the February 26, 2010 meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** J.R. Salazar moved to approve the April 7, 2010 minutes.  
**SECOND:** Vince Huerta seconded the motion.

Of the six members present at the time of the vote, all six voted unanimously to approve the April 7, 2010 meeting minutes.

### AGENDA ITEM 3: In accordance with 43 TAC §1.83(c) final review of draft revisions to 43 TAC §§9.130-9.139 concerning grant sanctions, as it relates to those amendments to Chapter 31

Suzanne Mann provided a general overview of the rules and what had changed since the committee had last seen the rules. The committee commented on the rules regarding the term "written notice" and whether or not it needed to be further defined to include email and whether or not a transit agency could continue to incur costs associated with providing service if sanctions have been filed against them. Another concern was how quickly the grant sanction process would take and how that could impact a transit agency. Also, the committee suggested that training be provided to assist the transit agencies with compliance with the new rules.

**MOTION:** Christina Crain moved to recommend for final adoption with the above mentioned comments.  
**SECOND:** Frank Castellanos seconded the motion.

The committee unanimously approved the motion.

**AGENDA ITEM 4:** Discussion and action on input to the department's Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR)

Eric Gleason presented the committee with a summary of some areas that were identified as description of need for additional funding for the transit programs. The areas include: Inflation reducing the buying power of state funding by 40% since 2000; population growth reducing per capita expenditures by 16%; accounting for the impacts of the 2010 Census; and the need for additional service exceeding available funding by 25%. The committee discussed these areas and decided to request additional funding from the commission.

**MOTION:** Christina Crain made a motion that PTAC work with PTN to prepare a letter to send to the commission stating PTAC's approval and support for requesting additional funding for public transportation and also present public comment at the June commission workshop.

**SECOND:** Vince Huerta seconded the motion.

The committee unanimously approved the motion to draft a letter to the commission and present public comment at the June workshop.

**AGENDA ITEM 5:** Discussion and possible action on PTAC Work Plan as it relates to Transportation Code Section 455.004(a)(1)

The committee agreed to complete the current budget/LAR effort before beginning work on a new issue from the work plan.

**AGENDA ITEM 6:** Division Director's Report to the Committee regarding public transportation matters, including an update on items the department has been involved with and a recap of Texas Transportation Commission action regarding public transportation projects

Eric Gleason briefed the committee on the upcoming July semiannual meeting, the progress being made on the transit leadership seminar, and recent and upcoming commission action. The commission is scheduled to adopt the grant sanction rules at the May 27, 2010 meeting and the draft strategic plan at the June 24, 2010 meeting. In addition, Eric discussed the possibility of introducing proposed rules with respect to the formula at the next PTAC meeting in June. He also mentioned that Claudia Langguth resigned from PTAC due to work commitments.

**AGENDA ITEM 7:** Public comment.

Nancy Fisher provided comment on agenda item #4 stating that TTA would recommend that additional funding be prioritized and be put in the department's base bill.

**AGENDA ITEM 8:** Confirm date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held in June at a yet to be determined date.

**AGENDA ITEM 9:** Adjourn.

**MOTION:** Christina Crain moved to adjourn.

**SECOND:** Vince Huerta seconded the motion.

The committee unanimously approved the motion to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

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Ginnie Mayle  
Public Transportation Division

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Michelle Bloomer, Chair  
Public Transportation Advisory Committee