



MEETING NOTICE

TO: North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority Board Members
FROM: Linda Thomas, Chair
DATE: Tuesday, July 13, 2021
SUBJECT: **July Board Meeting**

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

DATE: Tuesday, July 13, 2021
TIME: 1:30 PM
PLACE: Videoconference accessible at www.netrma.org

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

**NORTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (NET RMA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, July 13, 2021, 1:30 P.M.**

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Pursuant to the suspension of certain open meetings laws by Governor Greg Abbott, this meeting will be held by video and teleconference in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings to slow the spread of COVID-19. Some staff and Board Members may be present in the NET RMA offices while others may attend the meeting via telephonic and/or videoconference. In order to maintain safe social distancing, members of the public will not be permitted to attend in person. Instead, we ask that you access the Board Meeting online via our website at www.netrma.org. Members of the public that wish to join the telephonic and/or videoconference to provide comments during the Board Meeting must register by 1:00 P.M. on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 by submitting a witness registration form at www.netrma.org or by contacting the NET RMA at (903) 630-7894.

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 9, 2021.

July 13, 2021 1:33 PM Gary Halbrooks is sitting in for Linda Thomas as Chair. Gary calls the Board Meeting to order.

2. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS.

Glenn Green welcomes everyone to meeting and does roll call. Andrea McCoy, Ben Hamilton, Chet Clayton, Dan Droege, Gary Halbrooks, James Harris, John Cloutier, Keith Honey, Larry Morse, Derrick Choice, Nathan Preifert, Robert Messer, Robbie Shoults, Marcia Daughtery.

3. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM/COMMENT PERIOD.

Robert Wilson is called for his public comments.

- Stated his previously expressed frustration with the feasibility study process and results
- Frustration with the virtual nature of the meeting
- Frustration that the February 2020 NET RMA Board of Directors meeting was canceled, being the last in-person meeting for the community to provide comments about the proposed project to the NET RMA
- Frustration about the nomenclature for the teal adjusted route; in the recent CBS interview with NET RMA staff, teal adjusted was called "teal" which insinuates that the agency disingenuously re-branded teal adjusted in order to confuse the public, who were in support of the original teal but not necessarily the teal adjusted route
- Frustration with the current route maps having teal adjusted in the center of the map, insinuating that teal adjusted is the chosen route
- Frustration that the agency has "chosen" the teal adjusted route as the final route
- Noted that Atkins is disingenuous to the public

Sherry Wilson is called for her public comments.

- Asks why NET RMA or Atkins has not responded publicly to the community regarding their questions and concerns about the feasibility study methodology
- Asks why Atkins is the public voice of NET RMA
- States how Atkins had a presentation roadshow in early 2020 but canceled the March 12, 2020 meeting with their organization the day before due to the technical team being unavailable, which insinuates that Atkins is insupport of teal adjusted route
- Notes that their organization wants to be treated fairly like other groups; Atkins was disingenuous and unfair to them
- Wants to know why the maroon route has not been considered even though it is more of what the residents of their area wants.

- 4. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 8, 2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING.** **Action Item**
Gary Halbrooks motions to Approve the Minutes for the June 8, 2021 Board Meeting. Motion for approval John Cloutier, 2nd Marcia Daughtery. Motion is approved unanimously.
- 5. CHAIR'S REPORT.** Linda Thomas
No Chair Report
- 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS.**
- A. Executive Committee** Linda Thomas
No Report
- B. Community Relations Committee** Andrea Williams McCoy
No Report
- C. East Texas Hourglass Committee** Dave Spurrier
No Reports
- D. Finance Committee** Robert Messer
No Reports
- E. Member Outreach Committee** John Cloutier
John Cloutier Presents for the committee. Priority Project awards for grants to help complete projects. Awards are presented to Cherokee county for the expansion of the Cherokee County Airport, and to Gregg County for safety enhancements at the intersection of George Richey Rd and McCann Rd. John encourages counties to reach out to him for advice on how to submit future grant award opportunities. Brian Cassidy points out that this was item #9 on the agenda. Motion to Approve Andrea McCoy, 2nd Dan Droege. Motion is approved unanimously.
- F. Personnel Committee** Jason Ray
No Reports
- G. Project Development & Implementation Committee** Larry Morse
No Reports. John Cloutier asks Larry Morse about the technical bid process. Larry Morse states a meeting with Glenn and Everett is needed to discuss. John Cloutier says the board needs a clearer bidding process, currently our process results into many change orders.
- 7. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF NET RMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.**
Dianne Johnston presents the budget. Toll Electronic revenue is over budget by 1%, Toll video Revenue exceeded budget by 13%, Total operating Revenue exceeds budget by 5%, Total Operating Expenses is underbudget by 4%, Toll 49 operating expenses is under budget by 4%, Net other income expenses is to the good by 4%, Net income, deficit which is under budget 27% to the good.
Robert Messer asks if the revenue is good. Dianne confirms this but is unsure on TxTag issues. Motion to approve, Larry Morse, 2nd Keith Honey. Motion is approved unanimously.
- 8. REPORT ON TOLL 49 TOLLING TRANSACTIONS AND REVENUE.**
- A. Comprehensive Transaction Report by CDM Smith**
Christopher Mwalwandace presents the CDM Smith transaction report slides.
Robert Messer asks how many transactions would be needed for expansion. Chris states that if we meet the components for expansion then they will recommend expansion. Glenn Green adds that there are 2 components to those numbers, the transaction, and daily average traffic. We have some growth room left that still leaves us a positive customer satisfactory rating. Gary Halbrooks asks what the lead time would be to complete this expansion project. Glenn Green states it should start immediately. Robert Messer asks if this could possibly begin next year to do traffic counts, and Glenn agrees it is a good idea.

9. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE AWARD OF PRIORITY PROJECT GRANTS.

(RESOLUTION 21-11)

Action Item

Number 9 was approved under the committee reports.

10. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE SUPPLEMENTAL WORK AUTHORIZATION NO. 13.1 WITH ATKINS FOR ADDITIONAL RENEWAL AND REPLACEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES ON TOLL 49.

(RESOLUTION 21-12)

Action Item

Glenn Green States that an overlay is needed for Segment 1. This segment is showing signs of stress. A contract is needed to get ready to pave next spring, early summer. It is proposed for customer satisfaction that we have the overlay completed in the evening hours. A newer process is proposed to accomplish completion in one pass. Those items will be discussed, and we strive for no change orders. Gary confirms this is for planning not budget. Motion to approve Andrea McCoy, 2nd Dan Droege. Motion passes unanimously.

11. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE GENERAL TERMS OF A TOLLING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY.

(RESOLUTION 21-13)

Action Item

Glenn Green states that this is a great opportunity to partner with NTTA with the back office services. NTTA has great customer service, and they are a tolling office themselves and will promote good service for toll roads. NTTA will benefit financially by having more toll tags on our customer vehicles. Financial Consideration is presented on the slide from the presentation. Estimated increase to revenue will be \$12,000,000. No costs for this transition. Gary Halbrooks does a breakdown of the math to show we come out to the better moving forward with NTTA. Gary expresses his gratitude to Glenn Green and Everett Owen for their commitment to meet with NTTA and make this happen. John Cloutier asks if the NETRMA name will still be on the bill. Glenn Green states the bill will be from NTTA but have the line item of NETRMA transaction on the invoice. Andrea Williams-McCoy expresses her support of this partnership but says John Cloutier has a good point and we need to work with the public relations group to build that trust with customers. Motion to Approve John Cloutier, 2nd Andrea McCoy. Motion passes unanimously.

12. OVERVIEW OF THE 87TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

C. Brian Cassidy

Brian Cassidy and Brian O'Reilly cover the Legislative Session and handouts that were provided. HCR-99 is something that NETRMA needs to be aware of. It deals with the counties ability to do tax increment financing and will be useful. HB22-19 TxDOT can utilize new fund, although restricted, for transportation funds. John Cloutier asks for confirmation of two seats being added to the state, and Brian Cassidy confirms. Gary Halbrooks asks how toll authorities are being perceived at the state level. There is only a small amount of the anti-toll sentiment at the state level.

13. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT.

Glenn Green says that there is only one miscellaneous item. The governor has lifted the COVID 19 provisions for the open meetings act beginning September 1st that may impact our future meetings.

14. ADJOURNMENT.

Gary Halbrooks states the time of 3:02 PM, meeting adjourned.

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.

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 that does not relate to a specific agenda item must be made during the open comment period. You must be recognized by the Chair.

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 Chair, 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 Chair 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

If any special assistance or accommodations are needed in order to access this RMA meeting, please contact NET RMA at 903.630.7894 at least two working days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.