



MEETING NOTICE

TO: North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority Board Members  
FROM: Linda Thomas, Chair  
DATE: Thursday, January 12, 2017  
SUBJECT: **January Board Meeting and Strategic Planning Meeting**

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

DATE: Thursday, January 12, 2017  
TIME: 8:30 AM  
PLACE: The Grove  
3500 Old Jacksonville Hwy  
Tyler, TX 75701  
Smith County

Enclosed please find the agenda and other pertinent information for your review prior to the meeting. Should you have any questions, please call K'Lin Noble at 903.630.7447.

NORTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (NET RMA)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING AND STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING  
Thursday, January 12, 2017, 8:30 AM  
The Grove  
3500 Old Jacksonville Hwy  
Tyler, TX 75701  
Smith County

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**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 Monday, January 9, 2017.*

Chair Thomas declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 8:42am.

**2. INVOCATION**

Chair Thomas called on Jason Ray to offer the invocation.

**3. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS**

Board members present: Chair Thomas, Jason Ray, Dan Droege, Dave Spurrier, Robert Messer, John Cloutier, Mike Thomas, Barham Fulmer, Hudson Old, Larry Morse, Robert Moore, Dr. James Harris.

Not present: Walta Cooke, Keith Honey, Gary Halbrooks, Robert Murray

**4. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM/COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no public comments.

**5. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE DECEMBER 15, 2016 BOARD MEETING** **Action Item**

Hudson Old had a question about his email about what he wanted in the minutes. Executive Director Chris Miller said that if he wanted to amend, he could. Motion to approve minutes as presented: John Cloutier, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Robert Messer Minutes were approved as presented, with 2 nay votes (Hudson Old and Larry Morse).

After the vote approving the minutes, Mr. Old stated that in his opinion the minutes don't accurately reflect the meeting.

**6. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT.**

**(RESOLUTION 17-01)**

**Action Item**

Robert Messer made the motion on behalf of the committee. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Harris. Resolution unanimously approved.

**7. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH REYNOLDS AND KAY, LTD TO PERFORM TOLL 49 PAVEMENT REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.**

**(RESOLUTION 17-02)**

**Action Item**

Barham Fulmer asked, procedurally, why this involved 2 steps for the board to approve. Executive Director Chris Miller responded that when the resolution was being prepared last month, time expired before all of it could be included in one resolution. This amendment is the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the action to increase the maximum allowable price for the contractor.

Motion to approve: Dave Spurrier 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dan Droege The resolution was unanimously approved.

**8. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 12 WITH KAPSCH TRAFFICOM TRANSPORTATION, NORTH AMERICA FOR TOLL SYSTEM EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT ON SEGMENTS 1 AND 3B OF TOLL 49.**

**(RESOLUTION 17-03)**

**Action Item**

This action is for the replacement of 4 treadles needed after surface treatment of Segment 1 and Segment 3B.  
 Motion to approve: Robert Messer 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mike Thomas The resolution was unanimously approved.

9. STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING

Chris Miller

A. Introduction and Purpose

Executive Director Chris Miller introduced the day as a work session. The Board took a brief break before beginning.

B. Review Current Goals and Progress During Last Year

ED Chris Miller reviewed the goals for the day and presented a graphic of last year’s strategic plan, with Goals Met and Unmet differentiated.

Goal #1:	Goal #2	Goal #3	Goal #4	Goal #5
Address & Provide direction within the NET RMA	Continue to advance Toll 49, including the ETX Hour Glass, as well as other projects	Continue to ID transportation projects in the region that NET RMA can support through partnerships	Maintain parameter for toll facilities under NET RMA's ownership are operated	Leverage Support from other Regional Mobility Authorities, Tolling Agencies and industry experts
Actions:	Actions:	Actions:	Actions:	Actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ By-Laws update</li> <li>✓ Board Committees</li> <li>✓ Audit Finances</li> <li>✓ Reporting</li> <li>○ Strategic Plan (scheduled for January)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ ID funding sources for Segment 4</li> <li>✓ Secure funding</li> <li>✓ Support other agencies (Rusk, Kauffman counties, and acquisition of abandoned Union Pacific ROW between Whitehouse and Troup)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Request county priority projects</li> <li>✓ Provide recommendations to board of type of support NET RMA can provide</li> <li>○ Rely on TxDOT, Rural Planning Organizations &amp; Metropolitan Planning Organizations to establish long range projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Oversee operations and delivery methods of toll operations</li> <li>✓ Maintain procedures for operations of roadway and providers of services</li> <li>✓ Develop maintenance strategies that continue to protect initial investment</li> <li>○ Market toll tag products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Review best practices of existing RMA's statewide</li> <li>✓ Toll System Development and Implementation (Toll System Integrator)</li> <li>○ Develop marketing plan to direct customers for toll tag purchase and account maintenance</li> </ul>

The discussion opened with a need for a marketing plan to coincide with the opening of Segment 4, to include info for the public on obtaining a toll tag and highlight the newly added safety measures.

Next was discussion on the progress being made on a obtaining a new BackOffice for billing/collections, with the noted fact that we have the luxury of partnering with CTRMA on a new contract, or rejecting it and going out on our own. The new contract requires that accounts be tied to license plates and not separate accounts every two weeks, as we have now with MSB.

C. Environmental Scan/Analysis of Issues

- State/Federal
- Regional Support
- External Relations

Future Development  
Internal Organization

Chris Miller stated that the next step in the process is to conduct an Environmental Scan, which is to say, an overview of the tolling environment, not the natural environment.

The discussion began with a look at the new State Legislature and what is expected to come out of this new session, which would be less anti-toll than the previous session.

Discussion continued to the topic of county membership in NET RMA, and if more counties should join, how more counties could impact our mission and broaden our regional and state power and influence.

As the discussion continued, rail and air service came up as items the Board would like to investigate for support and expansion in the region, which led to the Board wanting to host a Transportation Forum/Summit with all the member county judges, to come up with a plan to advocate for rail/air/water and other projects.

Chris Miller: We talked about staff organization/development/growth. (Michelle, Maintenance, Receptionist, Legal), stating that we are not yet big enough or have enough need for in-house legal. He voiced his appreciation and support of Locke Lord's work on our behalf.

At this time, the board took a break for lunch.

Meeting broke at 11:45am.

#### **D. Formation of Goals for 2017**

At 12:47pm, Chair Thomas called the group back into meeting.

Chris Miller outlined the Goals for 2017:

- Marketing Plan
- Website: add mapping
- Improve backoffice performance
- Working on organization/internal operations/staff
- Regionalism
  - Summit or Forum with County Judges and Board
- Revamp Mission Statement
- Legislatively
  - TxDOT project specific funding?
  - More responsive to groups/regions
  - Distribute communications with actions pending
- Investigatory committee regional projects

After much discussion among the Board members, Chris Miller stated that the staff will revise the 2016 plan (attached), and include the items discussed during today's retreat, and bring it back for the Board to approve by line item.

#### **10. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLANNING POLICY AND DIRECTIVES.**

**(RESOLUTION 17-04)**

**Action Item**

The board determined that this resolution was not needed at this time.

#### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn: Larry Morse

2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Harris.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45pm.

### 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 attorney-client matters (real estate, litigation, contracts, personnel, and security) under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code:
  - 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.

#### Tentatively Scheduled NET RMA Board Meetings:

February 14, 2017 – Longview, TX (Gregg County)

April 11, 2017 – Carthage, TX (Panola County)

May 9, 2017 – Henderson, TX (Rusk County)

June 13, 2017 – Terrell, TX (Kauffman County)

July 11, 2017 – Tyler, TX (Smith County) - Annual Budget Workshop

September 12, 2017 – Texarkana, TX (Bowie County)

### Non-Scheduled Meetings / Functions - Where a Quorum could be Present, but No RMA Business would be conducted

February 5-7, 2017 - Texas Transportation Forum

#### COURTESY RULES

Thank you for your presence. The NET RMA appreciates your interest. If you wish to address the RMA on any agenda item, Public Participation Forms will be available before the meeting. These forms must be filled out and turned in to the RMA Chair or Secretary *prior* to the time the agenda item in question is addressed by the RMA.

You must be recognized by the Chair. (NOTE: Items will not necessarily be presented in the order they are posted.)

#### OPEN COMMENT PERIOD

At the conclusion of all other agenda items, 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. Public comment that does not relate to a specific agenda item must be made during the open comment period.

Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of three (3) minutes. Speakers must be signed up prior to the beginning of the open comment period. 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 903.630.7447 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 in order to attend this RMA meeting, please contact NET RMA at 903.630.7447 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 NET RMA at 903.630.7447 at least two working days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.