

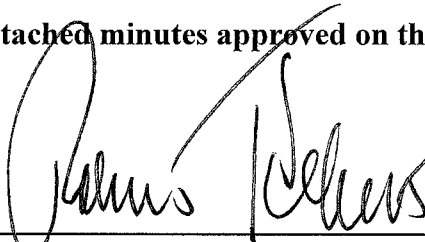
APPROVAL OF MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS COURT
FORT BEND COUNTY

I, Laura Richard, duly elected County Clerk and Clerk of Court, Fort Bend County, Texas do hereby submit the Official Minutes of Commissioners Court held on the 27th day of October, 2015. (Special Meeting)



LAURA RICHARD, COUNTY CLERK

Now, therefore, be it resolved upon the motion of Commissioner Mayers seconded by Commissioner Patterson, duly put and carried, it is ordered to accept as presented for record the attached minutes approved on this the 3rd day of November, 2015.



ROBERT E. HEBERT, COUNTY JUDGE

MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 27TH DAY of OCTOBER, 2015, Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County, Texas, met at a special meeting with the following present:

ROBERT E. HEBERT	COUNTY JUDGE
RICHARD MORRISON	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1
GRADY PRESTAGE	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2
ANDY MEYERS	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3
JAMES PATTERSON	COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4
LINDA WILLIS FOR LAURA RICHARD	COUNTY CLERK

When the following were heard and the following orders were passed:

1. **Call to Order.**

Call to Order by Judge Hebert at 2:30 p.m.

2. **Workshop to receive presentation by Transportation Economics & Management Systems, Inc. on the Highway 36A Corridor Rail Preliminary Feasibility Study.**

Dr. Alexander Metcalf, President of Transportation Economics & Management Systems, Inc., presented the Highway 36A Corridor Rail Feasibility Study. Along with Dr. Metcalf, other members included are: Chip Kraft – TEMS, Dave Johnston – Brown & Gay, Matthew Brannen – Brown & Gay, Richard Fields – Aguirre & Fields, Glenn Carlson – Port Freeport, Jeff Strader – Port Freeport, Jason Miura – Port Freeport. HDR Engineering was used to review all of the engineering numbers.

Dr. Metcalf stated the group has been working on this study for the last 9 months. The project is being developed in support for the Port of Freeport. The issue is the effect of the development of a rail corridor on the Region and the Counties of Brazoria and Fort Bend. Freeport needs to have the proper infrastructure if it is going to develop as a major port for the Gulf and for Texas. Texas is growing fast at about 7% per year. In order to support the economy and future growth, Texas needs to develop an appropriate infrastructure. As the economy develops, there will be an increase of imports and exports and thus infrastructure will be needed to support the increase in container traffic from Europe and Asia bringing in goods and services. The Panama Canal is being made deeper to handle larger vessels so it will become a necessity for the Ports to handle these ships. The Port of Freeport is naturally placed where it could be effective in supporting the requirements of

October 27, 2015

Item 2 continued - Workshop:

Texas for imports and exports. Dr. Metcalf discussed the Rail Integration where Rosenberg would become a Hub for the port. He also discussed the Proposed SH 36A Rail Corridor where there could be a shared and upgraded rail segment from Freeport to Rosenberg. This new rail segment would eliminate 35 miles via Algoa, would provide access to the Port of Freeport and would be an effective bypass to the Houston area for the BNSF and UP railroads, which would be shorter than UP's existing route through the city. Dr. Metcalf explained how this project of \$800 million would pay for itself. The Rail Corridor would create jobs between 5,000 - 10,000 jobs in the Rosenberg Hub by 2035. The Feasibility Study is complete and the Brazoria Fort Bend Rail District has been set up with the bonding authority. The next step is the Environmental Assessment and Engineering.

3. **Adjournment**

The Special Meeting/Workshop adjourned at 3:39 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2015.