

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2014 AT 12:00 NOON  
118 SOUTH CAGE 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas, met in a Special Called Meeting on Friday, March 7, 2014 and following is the record of attendance.

- BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Leopoldo Palacios Jr.  
Mayor Pro-Tem Adan Farias  
Comm. Oscar Elizondo, Jr.  
Comm. Edmund Maldonado, Jr.
- BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**

Comm. Arturo Cortez  
Comm. Roberto Carrillo  
Comm. Aquiles Garza
- STAFF PRESENT:**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager  
Hilda Pedraza, City Clerk  
Javier Rodriguez, C.D. Director  
Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer  
Ruben Villescas, Police Chief  
Jaime Guzman, Fire Chief  
Frank Marin, Parks & Recreation Dir.  
Roy Garcia, Public Works Director  
Edward Wylie, Pharr Dev. Services Dir.  
Adolfo Garcia, Library Director  
Raul Garza, Admin. Services Director  
Gary Rodriguez, External Affairs Mgr.  
Roel Garza, Athletics Director  
Rogelio S. Garcia, Pharr Events Center  
Fred Brouwen, Asst. Bridge Director  
Tony Sandoval, EDC Manager
- CITY ENGINEER**

Bill Ueckert, City Engineer

**ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER:**

There being a quorum established, Mayor Palacios dispensed with the formalities and called the meeting to order at 12:14 p.m.

**A) ROLL CALL AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXCUSING OF ANY  
ABSENT MEMBER OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

Comm. Elizondo moved to excuse Comm. Cortez, Comm. Carrillo and Comm. Garza for being absent. Comm. Farias seconded the motion and when put to a vote, it carried unanimously.

**ITEM 2 SIGNING CEREMONY FOR MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN THE CITY OF PHARR AND PORT OF CORPUS CHRISTI**

Fred Sandoval, City Manager, introduced the item and welcomed officials from the Port of Corpus Christi Authority on behalf of the Mayor, City Commission and staff. He stated the port officials were in town to sign the symbolic memorandum of understanding as the original MOU has already been signed and executed in Corpus.

At this time, Juan Guerra, Chief Financial Officer, called upon the members of the Corpus Christi delegation.

Barbara Canales, Port of Corpus Christi Commissioner, introduced John La Rue, Port of Corpus Christi Executive Director; Ruben Medina, Business Development

Director; Patricia Cardenas, Communications Director; Port of Corpus Christi Commissioner Richard Valls; and Port of Corpus Christi Commissioner Richard Borchard. She stated the Port of Corpus Christi Authority and City of Pharr would be signing a Memorandum of Understanding for an alliance between the bridge and the port. She added the alliance formed between the Port of Corpus Christi Authority and the Pharr International Bridge would help generate new business by promoting the superior logistical land and seaport route between the bridge and the port. She thanked the board and commended the Pharr International Bridge and their team for the background provided giving them the opportunity to be great messengers that Pharr Texas is the place for international trade.

Rick Valls, Port of Corpus Christi Commissioner and U.S. Customs Broker, stated he deals with approximately 50 ports of entry on a daily basis and approximately 14% of the documentation from his businesses goes through the Pharr Bridge. He also congratulated the Board for their continued efforts to provide efficient border operations.

Richard Borchard, Port of Corpus Christi Commissioner, thanked the Board and staff and stated he appreciates and understands the responsibility of representing the citizens and creating jobs and opportunities for the area.

John La Rue, Port of Corpus Christi Executive Director, also thanked the Commission and staff for working with them on this working relationship.

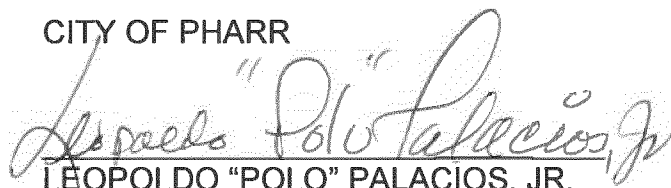
Mayor Palacios, Comm. Farias, Comm. Elizondo and City Manager, Fred Sandoval, thanked them for coming to the City of Pharr and stated it was important to build respective ports and understand the way commerce flows and all looked forward to working with them.

At this time, Mayor Palacios and John La Rue Port of Corpus Christi Executive Director signed the Memorandum of Understanding.

#### ITEM 10 ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business to come before the board, Comm. Farias moved to adjourn. Comm. Maldonado seconded the motion and when put to a vote, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

CITY OF PHARR

  
LEOPOLDO "POLO" PALACIOS, JR.  
MAYOR

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF HIDALGO  
CITY OF PHARR

**ON THIS THE 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2014** the Board of Commissioners of the City of Pharr, Texas convened in a **SPECIAL CALLED MEETING** at the Commissioner's Room located at 118 S. Cage, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Pharr, Texas. The meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting, giving the date, place, subject, hereof, having been posted in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code (Open Meetings Act) and there being present a quorum, I, **HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK**, of the City of Pharr, Texas, certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes.

ATTEST:

  
HILDA PEDRAZA, CITY CLERK

APPROVED: March 18, 2014