AGENDA
ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

The Board of Directors of the Ark-Tex Council of Governments will meet at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, September 29, 2016, at Sulphur Springs City Hall, located at 201 N. Davis St., Sulphur Springs, Texas, hosted by the Honorable Emily Glass, Mayor, City of Sulphur Springs. (See enclosed map.)

Item 1. Call to order.

Item 2. Invocation.


Item 4. Approve the minutes as submitted of the Ark-Tex Council of Governments Board of Directors Meeting held Thursday, June 30, 2016, in Daingerfield, Texas.

**Review and Comment**

Item 5. Review and comment on an Environmental Assessment to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for proposed Water Quality Permit Renewal by the City of Maud to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater from the facility located in Bowie County, Texas, ultimately to Wright Patman Lake. (To be presented by staff member Paul Prange)

Item 6. Review and comment on Environmental Assessments to TCEQ for proposed Air Quality Permit renewal by the following (To be presented by staff member Paul Prange):

   a) Pilgrim’s Pride Corporation authorizing modification to the Feed Mill located at 110 South Texas St., Pittsburg, Camp County, Texas.

   b) Harold Jackson Smith, Jr., authorizing continued operation of a Concrete Batch Plant located at 1358 County Road 3070, Cookville, Titus County, Texas.

Item 7. Review and comment on an application to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start, by Sulphur Springs Independent School District for a grant in the amount of $948,125, to be matched with $192,188 in-kind, to begin an early head start program for infants and toddlers. (To be presented by staff member Vickie Williamson)

Item 8. Review and comment on an application to the Economic Development Administration by the TexAmericas Center for a grant in the amount of $1,500,000 for the construction of sewer improvements, water for fire suppression and a parking lot. (To be presented by staff member Vickie Williamson)

**Executive Closed Session**

Item 9. The Executive Committee will recess the Open Session and go into Executive Closed Session to discuss personnel issues as allowed in the Texas Open Meetings Act, Section 551.074, Personnel Matters.

**Open Session/Regular Business**

Item 10. The Executive Committee will reconvene in Open Session and take action on Item 9, as necessary. (To be presented by Board President, Judge L.D. Williamson)

Item 11. Review and consider approval of ATCOG’s Financial Plan for fiscal year ending September 30, 2017. Portions of this item may be held in closed session in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Section 551.074, Personnel Matters. (See attachment 1; additional handout to be provided at meeting) (To be presented by staff member Linda Moore)
Item 12. Review and consider approval of a Board member to serve on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors to fill a current vacancy. (To be presented by Nominating Committee Chair, M.C. Superville, Jr., Judge, Lamar County)

Item 13. Review and consider approval of reappointment of the Executive Committee members to serve a 2-year term beginning October 1, 2016. (See attachment 2) (To be presented by staff member Amber Thurston)

Item 14. Review and consider approval of reappointment of Executive Committee members to serve as Officers of the Board of Directors for a 2-year term beginning October 1, 2016. (See attachment 3) (To be presented by Nominating Committee Chair, Judge Superville)

Item 15. Review and consider annual renewal of the ATCOG Ethics Policy Manual dated December 16, 2010, as revised March 27, 2014. (See attachment 4) (To be presented by staff member Leslie McBride)

Item 16. Review and consider approval of a resolution for ATCOG membership in the Texas County & District Retirement System effective January 1, 2017, and dissolution of the Money Purchase Pension Plan with American Funds effective December 31, 2016. (See attachment 5) (To be presented by staff member Sharon Pipes)

Item 17. Review and consider approval of revisions to the ATCOG Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan effective November 1, 2016. (See attachment 6; Plan documents available here) (To be presented by staff member Mae Lewis)

Item 18. Review and consider approval of the appointment of two new members to the Area Agency on Aging Regional Advisory Council. (See attachment 7) (To be presented by staff member Lisa Reeve)

Item 19. Review and consider approval to combine November and December ATCOG Board meetings into one full Board meeting on Thursday, December 8, 2016. (See attachment 8) (To be presented by staff member Amber Thurston)

Other Business

Item 20. Introduction of Debra Newton as 2016 Employee of the Year for ATCOG and presentation of plaque by Board President, Judge L.D. Williamson. (To be presented by staff member Lisa Reeve)

Announcements

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, October 27, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., at the Titus County Extension Office in Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

The North East Texas RPO (Rural Planning Organization) Committee meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. in the same location.

Pursuant to the Texas Open Meeting Act, Government Code Chapter 551 one or more of the above items may be considered in executive session closed to the public, including but not limited to consultation with attorney pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 and Section 551.074 arising out of the attorney's ethical duty to advise ATCOG concerning legal issues arising from an agenda item. Any decision held on such matter will be taken or conducted in open session following the conclusion of the executive session.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services are requested to contact Administration at 903-832-8636 two (2) work days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

All agendas are sent electronically and available at www.atcog.org. Should any Board Member need a copy printed and available at the meeting, please call 903/255.3555 or email athurston@atcog.org.
The Board of Directors of the Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) met at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, June 30, 2016, at the Morris County Courthouse Annex, 600 Broadnax, Daingerfield, Texas, hosted by the Honorable Lynda Munkres, Judge, Morris County.

Item 1. President L.D. Williamson, Judge, Red River County, called the meeting to order.


Item 3. Each attendee introduced themselves at this time. Chris Brown, Executive Director, introduced ATCOG’s newest staff members – Lisa Reeve, Area Agency on Aging Manager, Emily Green, Grant/Communications Specialist and Yige “Eagle” Tang, Intern for Transportation.

Item 4. The next order of business was to approve the minutes as submitted of the Ark-Tex Council of Governments Board of Directors meeting held Thursday, March 31, 2016, in Clarksville, Texas.

Motion to approve was made by Robert Newsom, Judge, Hopkins County, and seconded by Scott Norton, TexAmericas Center. The minutes were approved.

Review and Comment

Item 5. Paul Prange, Environmental Resources Coordinator, presented for consideration an Environmental Assessment to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for proposed Air Quality Permit Renewal by Roadclipper Enterprises, Inc., to authorize modification to the Utility Trailer Manufacturing Facility located at 4006 FM 3417, Mt. Pleasant, Titus County, Texas.

Motion to approve was made by Scott Lee, Judge, Franklin County and seconded by Judge Munkres. It was approved.

Items 6, 7 & 8 were presented simultaneously by Vickie Williamson, Special Projects Coordinator.

Item 6. Vickie Williamson, Special Projects Coordinator, presented for consideration an application by the Salvation Army – Texarkana Corps to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for an Emergency Solutions Grant in the amount of $150,000, to be matched with $150,000 cash and in-kind, for temporary emergency services to the homeless.

Item 7. Ms. Williamson presented for consideration an application by the EMC Water Supply Corporation to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Fund, for a loan/grant in the amount of $3,480,000 for the construction and improvement of the distribution system, plant sites, deep wells and standby generators.

Item 8. Ms. Williamson presented for consideration the following applications to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start:

a) Cooper Independent School District Head Start for a grant in the amount of $5,910, to be matched with $1,478 cash and in-kind, for cost of living adjustments and step increases.

b) Detroit Independent School District for a grant in the amount of $16,458, to be matched with $4,115 cash and in-kind, for continuation/refunding of Head Start.

Motion to approve the above-mentioned items was made by Becky Wilbanks, Judge, Cass County, and seconded by Stan Wyatt, Northeast Texas Municipal Water District. All items were approved.
Regular Business

Item 9. Linda Moore, Finance Manager, introduced Chris Pruitt of Patillo, Brown & Hill, LLP who presented for approval ATCOG’s Financial Statements and Auditor’s Reports for the 12 month period ending September 30, 2015. Mr. Pruitt reviewed the Audit prior to the Board meeting with the Audit Committee and it was approved for presentation to the Board for recommendation. Mr. Pruitt provided highlights for the Board, with the bottom line being no findings.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Wilbanks with no second motion being required due to Audit Committee approval. The item was approved.

Item 10. Ms. Moore presented for consideration approval of the proposed FY 2017 Salary Schedule for ATCOG. Additional handouts were provided at the meeting. The Budget/Personnel Committee met in May and approved the Salary Schedule for recommendation to the Board.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Munkres and seconded by Judge Newsom. It was approved.

Item 11. Ms. Moore presented for consideration annual approval of the Investment Policy that establishes procedures to be followed in investing funds for ATCOG.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Norton and seconded by Judge Munkres. It was approved.

Item 12. Mae Lewis, Housing Manager, presented for consideration approval of the ATCOG Housing Choice Voucher Program Annual Plan. It was also noted that a new Administrative Plan would be presented for approval in September or October, as well as updates on new programs the Housing Department is trying to obtain from HUD.

Motion to approve was made by Judge Newsom and seconded by Mr. Wyatt. It was approved.

Item 13. Noah Gilliam, Homeland Security Specialist, presented for consideration approval of revisions to the ATCOG Emergency Preparedness Plan. The plan was originally approved in May, but revisions were made after consulting with the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Texarkana. Minor wording corrections were noted during the presentation.

Motion to approve with noted corrections was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Wyatt. The plan was approved.


Motion to approve was made by Judge Munkres and seconded by Dale Vickers, Councilman, City of Nash. It was approved.

Item 15. Mr. Brown presented for consideration approval of formation of nonprofit corporation, ATCOG Holding Company, for building refinance in order to make improvements to the building. COGs and Regional Planning Commissions are not authorized to borrow money due to State Statutes, so creation of the Holding Company will provide means to legally do so. There were some corrections to be made noted prior to approval.

Motion to approve, contingent upon corrections, was made by Judge Newsom and seconded by M.C. Superville, Jr., Judge, Lamar County. It was approved.

Item 16. Patricia Haley, Criminal Justice Coordinator, presented for consideration nomination of replacement of a current member to the Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Committee to serve through December 31, 2017.
Motion to approve nomination of Judge Newsom as the new member was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Judge Wilbanks. It was approved.

Ms. Haley also gave a quick Computerized Criminal History (CCH) update and provided a handout with each county’s standing listed. All counties must be listed at 90% or above to receive State grant funds.

Item 17. Sharon Pipes, Director of Administration, presented for consideration approval of Rerate and Benefit Verification Form with Texas Municipal League Multistate Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool (TMLIEBP) for Plan Year 2016-2017 and approval of increased rates procedure.

There will be a 4% increase in benefit rates. Ms. Pipes also explained the possibility of switching to a new retirement plan in 2017, which would require a salary increase to offset costs to employees and discussed that information with the Board. After discussing options to incur the rate increase or decrease the Health Savings Account amount that employees are allotted, the Board approved to incur those costs, for a total defined contribution of $627.02, an increase of $23.28 per month, per employee. Motion to approve was made by Judge Scott Lee and seconded by Mr. Wyatt.

Other Business

Item 18. Mr. Brown presented for consideration ratification of a lease with Paris Regional Medical Center for Transportation Administrative use. This allows the Paris Transportation department or any ATCOG staff traveling to Paris to have office space available for appointments and other business. The building can be used for any purpose, except as a medical facility.

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Judge Wilbanks. It was approved.

Announcements

Amber Thurston, Executive Assistant, thanked Judge Munkres for hosting the meeting and advised anyone who had not signed in to do so before leaving.

Ms. Pipes announced vacancies on the TMLIEBP Board which are in need of being filled. She asked anyone who may be interested to contact her.

Judge Williamson announced the next Executive Committee meeting would be held on Thursday, July 28, 2016, at the Titus County Extension Office in Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

At this time, there was no further business, so motion to adjourn was made by Judge Superville and seconded by Judge Wilbanks. The meeting was adjourned.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT
L. D. Williamson, Judge, Red River County
Chuck Superville, Jr., Judge, Lamar County
Scott Lee, Judge, Franklin County
Robert Newsom, Judge, Hopkins County
Lynda Munkres, Judge, Morris County
Becky Wilbanks, Judge, Cass County
Brady Fisher, Northeast Texas Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT
Dale Vickers, Councilman, City of Nash
Scott Norton, TexAmericas Center

GUESTS PRESENT
Kathy Comer, Office of Senator John Cornyn
STAFF PRESENT
Chris Brown, Executive Director
Sharon Pipes, Director of Administration
Lisa Reeve, Manager, Area Agency on Aging
Nancy Hoehn, Transportation Manager
Leslie McBride, Human Resources Coordinator
Paul Prange, Environmental Resources Coordinator
Vickie Williamson, Special Projects Coordinator
Noah Gilliam, Homeland Security Specialist
Emily Green, Grant/Communications Specialist
Amber Thurston, Executive Assistant
Yige “Eagle” Tang, Intern

__________________________________
L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

DATE:

ATTEST:
ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
APPLICATION / PROJECT STAFF REVIEW FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

| Project SAI No: TX-R-20160901-0003-05 | Date Received: 08-18-16 | Staff Assignment: Paul Prange |

**Applicant:** The City of Maud, Bowie County, Texas

**Project Description:** The City of Maud has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0014025001 to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 192,000 gallons per day. The facility is located in Bowie County, Texas. The discharge route is from the plant site to an unnamed tributary; thence to Big Creek; thence to Wright Patman Lake.

**PROJECT/EA REVIEW:**

**Area to be served:** The City of Maud, Bowie County, Texas.

Does the project comply or furnish reasonable assurances of compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances? Yes. The TCEQ executive director has determined that the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application.

Is the project consistent with state, area wide, and/or local planning or does it contribute toward goals or objectives identified at one or more of governmental levels? Yes. This permit application meets all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Has this project been coordinated through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality? Yes, coordination is in progress.

Does the project address a clearly defined need and does the project take into account preservation of the environment? There is a clearly defined need for the renewal of this TPDES Permit to allow the continued operation of the domestic wastewater treatment facility. This facility serves approximately 1,000 residents within the City of Maud. All guidelines required by TCEQ to protect the environment are being followed, thus minimal disruption of the environment is expected.

Is the project likely to produce any significant adverse effects on the environment? No. The renewal of this permit will not authorize an increase in the number gallons of treated wastewater that can be discharged into the environment. This facility was constructed in 1994 and is in excellent operational condition. Before being discharged, the water passes through particulate filters and is then piped into sedimentation ponds located at this facility.

Do the anticipated accomplishments of the project justify the disruption to the environment? Yes. The renewal of this permit will allow the continued operation of this facility, which directly serves the needs of all citizens located within the City of Maud. The disruption of the environment is minimal compared to the accomplishments.

**STAFF ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:** The permit renewal will not create any significant detrimental impact to the environment, as determined by TCEQ.

**RECOMMENDED COMMENT:** Staff recommends support of this permit renewal application by the City of Maud.
RESOLUTION NO. __________

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WITH REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED RENEWAL OF TEXAS POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT NO. WQ0014025001, BY THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ), FOR THE CITY OF MAUD, BOWIE COUNTY, TEXAS TO AUTHORIZE THE DISCHARGE OF TREATED WASTEWATER AT A VOLUME NOT TO EXCEED A DAILY AVERAGE FLOW OF 192,000 GALLONS PER DAY. THE FACILITY IS LOCATED IN BOWIE COUNTY, TEXAS. THE DISCHARGE ROUTE IS FROM THE PLANT SITE TO AN UNNAMED TRIBUTARY; THENCE TO BIG CREEK; THENCE TO WRIGHT PATMAN LAKE.

WHEREAS, under Section 204 of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 and Title IV of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1968, the Ark-Tex Council of Governments has been designated as the area wide agency to review certain projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that certain development plans be reviewed by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments for their consistency with the overall development of the Region, and any environmental impacts resulting wherefrom.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:

Section 1 - That the Board of Directors recognizes the Executive Director as the Authorized Official, and he has been given the power to comment upon projects having an environmental impact. This application has been reviewed by the Board of Directors and can reasonably be approved.

Section 2 - That the above-mentioned permit is desirable and needed for continued development in the Region.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED THIS 29TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2016.

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

______________________________________________
**Project Description:** Pilgrim’s Pride Corporation has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an amendment Air Quality Permit Number 5998, which would authorize modification to the Feed Mill located at 110 South Texas Street, Pittsburg, Camp County, Texas 75686. The existing facility and/or related facilities are authorized to emit the following air contaminants: organic compounds, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide and particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less.

**PROJECT/EA REVIEW:**

**Area to be served:** Titus County, Texas.

**Does the project comply or furnish reasonable assurances of compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances?** Yes. The TCEQ executive director has determined that the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application.

**Is the project consistent with state, area wide, and/or local planning or does it contribute toward goals or objectives identified at one or more of governmental levels?** Yes. This permit application meets all statutory and regulatory requirements.

**Has this project been coordinated through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality?** Yes, coordination is in progress.

**Does the project address a clearly defined need and does the project take into account preservation of the environment?** There is a clearly defined need for the modification of this Air Quality Permit to allow the continued operation of the facility. This facility provides much needed employment to numerous residents of Camp County, Texas. All guidelines required by TCEQ to protect the environment are being followed, thus minimal disruption of the environment is expected.

**Is the project likely to produce any significant adverse effects on the environment?** No. The modification of this permit will not authorize an increase in the amount of emissions, nor will it allow for any new construction onsite.

**Do the anticipated accomplishments of the project justify the disruption to the environment?** Yes. The modification of this permit will allow the continued operation of this facility, which produces feed that is consumed by poultry throughout the region. Furthermore, this facility is essential to the economy of Northeast Texas. The disruption of the environment is minimal compared to the accomplishments.

**STAFF ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:** The permit amendment will not create any significant detrimental impact to the environment, as determined by TCEQ.

**RECOMMENDED COMMENT:** Staff recommends support of this Air Quality Permit amendment application by Pilgrim’s Pride Corporation.
RESOLUTION NO. __________

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WITH REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO AIR QUALITY PERMIT NUMBER 5998, BY THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ), FOR PILGRIM’S PRIDE CORPORATION IN TITUS COUNTY, TEXAS TO AUTHORIZE MODIFICATION TO THE FEED MILL LOCATED AT 110 SOUTH TEXAS STREET, PITTSBURG, CAMP COUNTY, TEXAS 75686. THE EXISTING FACILITY AND / OR RELATED FACILITIES ARE AUTHORIZED TO EMIT THE FOLLOWING AIR CONTAMINANTS: ORGANIC COMPOUNDS, NITROGEN OXIDES, CARBON MONOXIDE, SULFUR DIOXIDE AND PARTICULATE MATTER WITH DIAMETERS OF 10 MICRONS OR LESS AND 2.5 MICRONS OR LESS.

WHEREAS, under Section 204 of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 and Title IV of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1968, the Ark-Tex Council of Governments has been designated as the area wide agency to review certain projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that certain development plans be reviewed by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments for their consistency with the overall development of the Region, and any environmental impacts resulting wherefrom.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:

Section 1 - That the Board of Directors recognizes the Executive Director as the Authorized Official, and he has been given the power to comment upon projects having an environmental impact. This application has been reviewed by the Board of Directors and can reasonably be approved.

Section 2 - That the above-mentioned permit is desirable and needed for continued development in the Region.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED THIS 29TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2016.

____________________________________
L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:
**ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
APPLICATION / PROJECT STAFF REVIEW FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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<th>Project SAI No: TX-R-20150302-0002-05</th>
<th>Date Received: 02-24-15</th>
<th>Staff Assignment: Paul Prange</th>
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**Applicant:** Harold Jackson Smith, Jr.

**Project Description:** Harold Jackson Smith, Jr., has applied to TCEQ for renewal of Registration No. 79458 for an Air Quality Standard Permit for Concrete Batch Plants, which would authorize the continued operation of a Concrete Batch Plant located at 1358 County Road 3070, Cookville, Titus County, Texas. The proposed facility will emit aggregate, cement, road dust and particulate matter less than 10 microns in size and 2.5 microns in size.

**PROJECT/EA REVIEW:**

**Area to be served:** Cookville, Titus County, Texas.

Does the project comply or furnish reasonable assurances of compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances? Yes. The TCEQ executive director has determined that the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application.

Is the project consistent with state, area wide, and/or local planning or does it contribute toward goals or objectives identified at one or more of governmental levels? Yes. This permit application meets all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Has this project been coordinated through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality? Yes, coordination is in progress.

Does the project address a clearly defined need and does the project take into account preservation of the environment? There is a clearly defined need for this facility, which provides employment, helps stimulate the economy and is a local source of a necessary construction material, vital to the growth of our region. All guidelines required by TCEQ to protect the environment are being followed, thus minimal disruption of the environment is expected.

Is the project likely to produce any significant adverse effects on the environment? No. The facility is located at least 300 feet from the nearest residence. All precautions to reduce the amount of air pollution associated with this operation will be taken, however some road dust and cement residue will be generated by the vehicle traffic at this site.

Do the anticipated accomplishments of the project justify the disruption to the environment? Yes. The continued operation of this concrete batch plant will provide employment to residents in the surrounding area and will help facilitate large construction projects which are ongoing within our region. The disruption of the environment is minimal compared to the accomplishments.

**STAFF ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:** The permit renewal will not create any significant detrimental impact to the environment, as determined by TCEQ.

**RECOMMENDED COMMENT:** Staff recommends support of this permit renewal application by Harold Jackson Smith, Jr.
RESOLUTION NO. __________

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WITH REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED RENEWAL OF AIR QUALITY STANDARD PERMIT, REGISTRATION NO. 79458, BY THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ), TO HAROLD JACKSON SMITH, JR., WHICH WOULD AUTHORIZE THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF A CONCRETE BATCH PLANT LOCATED AT 1358 COUNTY ROAD 3070, COOKVILLE, TITUS COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPOSED FACILITY WILL EMIT PARTICULATE MATTER AND ROAD DUST.

WHEREAS, under Section 204 of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 and Title IV of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1968, the Ark-Tex Council of Governments has been designated as the area wide agency to review certain projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that certain development plans be reviewed by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments for their consistency with the overall development of the Region, and any environmental impacts resulting wherefrom.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:

Section 1 - That the Board of Directors recognizes the Executive Director as the Authorized Official, and he has been given the power to comment upon projects having an environmental impact. This application has been reviewed by the Board of Directors and can reasonably be approved.

Section 2 - That the above-mentioned permit is desirable and needed for continued development in the Region.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED THIS 29TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2016.

L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

____________________________________
L.D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments
**ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**APPLICATION / PROJECT STAFF REVIEW**

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<th><strong>Project SAI No:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Date Received:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Staff Assignment:</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TX-R-20160901-0001-05</td>
<td>09-01-2016</td>
<td>Vickie Williamson</td>
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**Applicant:** Sulphur Springs Independent School District

**Project Title:** Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership Sulphur Springs ISD

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

**Proposed Activity:** Continue to provide Head Start and restore enrollment for 179 three and four year old children and families within the Sulphur Springs ISD.

**Budget:**

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<tr>
<th>Source / Funding Agency</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>$768,750.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td>192,188.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>198,125.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,159,063.00</td>
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**Personnel Required:** Executive Director, HS/EHS-CCP Director, 4 Content Area Managers, 2 Child Care Center Directors, appropriate Child Care Center staff to meet the Early Head Start requirements.

**PROJECT REVIEW: (PROVIDE ADEQUATE DETAIL)**

**Area to be served:** Boundaries of Sulphur Springs Independent School District

**Does the project comply or furnish reasonable assurances of compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances?**  
Yes.  
Assurances included with application.

**Is the project consistent with state, areawide, and / or local planning or does it contribute toward goals or objectives identified at one or more of governmental levels?**  
Yes.  
The proposal has been well received by Child Care Partners, Head Start Parents, Head Start Policy Council, Sulphur Springs Board of Trustees, and the community.

**Does the project address a clearly defined need?**  
Yes.  
Of the 2,865 children under the age of five in Hopkins County, 322 infants/toddlers are potentially eligible of EHS-CCP services. Currently, the poverty rate is 18.7% in the county which exceeds the state rate of 17.6% and federal rate of 15.4%. In addition, 20% of high school parents are under educated, the numbers of young mothers are increasing with a 1.8% rate of teen pregnancies at the high school alone, 8.5% of students are receiving special education, and 67% of families with school aged children are categorized as working poor and another 26% are in job training. There are approximately 322 eligible infants and toddlers for the Early Head Start program. There is a shortage of childcare centers overall with the number of slots available less than the actual need.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Is the project likely to produce any significant adverse effects on the environment?</strong></th>
<th>No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Are the project's goals identified, specific, measurable, and achievable?</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>This application is to begin an Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership program for at-risk infants, toddlers, and pregnant women and their families with priority for those living in poverty, affected by unemployment, with low education attainment, with children having disabilities, recognized as homeless, and pregnant and parenting teens.</td>
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<td><strong>Does the proposal demonstrate a feasible delivery strategy?</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Two partners have been identified in Sulphur Springs Christian Preschool and the Little Texans Learning Center that have committed to meeting the Early Head Start quality standards and entered into agreements with SSISD. The proposal is to serve 24 infants/toddlers and 4 pregnant women in a center-based program which will be linked with the existing Head Start program.</td>
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<td><strong>Does the project contribute to a balanced delivery of services among political subdivisions covered by the application?</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Areas served are within the boundaries of the Sulphur Springs ISD.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Do the anticipated accomplishments of the project justify the amount of funds requested?</strong>&lt;br&gt;Cost / Benefit Analysis)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs include: Personnel - $434,770; Fringe Benefits - $16,895; Travel - $17,430; Supplies - $47,400; Contractual - $180,870; Other - $461,698. Other includes Technical and Training Assistance and Start-Up Costs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Does the applicant's prior performance indicate high probability that the proposed objectives will be accomplished?</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSISD has provided Head Start services since 1993 with excellent on-site reviews and financial audits.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Additional Information:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff recommends approval.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESOLUTION NO. ______________

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WITH REVIEW AND COMMENT ON AN APPLICATION BY SULPHUR SPRINGS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, OFFICE OF EARLY HEAD START, FOR A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF $948,125.00, TO BE MATCHED WITH $192,188.00 IN-KIND, TO BEGIN AN EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM FOR INFANTS/TODDLERS.

WHEREAS, under Section 204 of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 and Title IV of the Intergovernmental Cooperative Act of 1968, the Ark-Tex Council of Governments has been designated as the area wide agency to review certain applications for which federal financial assistance is requested, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that certain development plans be reviewed by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments for their consistency with the overall development of the Region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:

Section 1 - That the submission of an application by Sulphur Springs Independent School District to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Early Head Start, for a grant in the amount of $948,125.00, to be matched with $192,188.00 in-kind, to begin an Early Head Start Program has been reviewed by the Board of Directors and can reasonably be expected to become part of the overall regional plan.

Section 2 – That the above mentioned improvements are desirable and urgently needed for public safety and welfare.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED THIS 29th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2016.

L. D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

__________________________________
Applicant: TexAmericas Center

Project Title:
Economic Development Administration Public Works Grant
TexAmericas Center East Campus Water/Sewer Lines Phase I

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Sewer Infrastructure, water for fire suppression, and a parking lot

Proposed Activity:
Supply sewer infrastructure to sites along the “E line” in the east campus of TexAmericas Center and to replace the main sanitary sewer trunk line & manholes along Oak Street. Supply potable water with fire hydrants along the “E line” and to twelve warehouses in “Area D”. Construct a parking lot for 228 Texas Avenue.

Budget:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source / Funding Agency</th>
<th>Federal</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Local</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>$1,500,000.00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,500,000.00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$3,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Personnel Required: No additional personnel required.

PROJECT REVIEW: (PROVIDE ADEQUATE DETAIL)

Area to be served:
Specifically, TexAmericas Center and its potential development. Regionally, the businesses in TexAmericas Center and Red River Army Depot employ residents from a 60-mile radius of the industrial park.

Does the project comply or furnish reasonable assurances of compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances?
Yes. Assurances included with application.

Is the project consistent with state, areawide, and/or local planning or does it contribute toward goals or objectives identified at one or more of governmental levels?
Yes. The industries targeted for TexAmericas Center are high paying, skilled positions raising per capita income and quality of life.

Does the project address a clearly defined need?
Yes
All existing infrastructure in TexAmericas was installed in the 1940’s by the U.S. Army. This infrastructure is failing and does not meet industry requirements or today’s codes and regulations. Without these improvements, none of this area can be utilized for economic development and job growth.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is the project likely to produce any significant adverse effects on the environment?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This area has been subjected to intense testing and remediation through the redevelopment protocols established for the transfer of military lands. This project will only improve the environment by stopping leakage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are the project's goals identified, specific, measurable, and achievable?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This project will install 4,500 linear feet of 18” sewer main, 10 sanitary sewer manholes, 2,775 linear feet of 3” sewer force main, one sanitary sewer lift station, 4,485 linear feet of 12” water main, 9 fire hydrants, 1,110 linear feet of 6” water main, and six 6” check valves, and a parking area composed of 7,625 square yards of reclaimed asphalt and cement base stabilization, 13 tons of cement, 2,288 gallons of asphalt prime coat, 1,048 tons of asphalt concrete pavement, 760 square yards of reinforced concrete sidewalk, 7 ADA accessibility ramps, and 80 parking wheel stops and marking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the project contribute to a balanced delivery of services among political subdivisions covered by the application?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This project opens employment opportunities and development for Bowie, Cass, Red River, Morris, Franklin, and Titus Counties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do the anticipated accomplishments of the project justify the amount of funds requested? (Cost / Benefit Analysis)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>We anticipate the development that will occur as a result of this project will be at least 500 higher paying jobs for our region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the applicant's prior performance indicate high probability that the proposed objectives will be accomplished?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TexAmericas Center has successfully operated since its inception in 1998 and administered all funds provided for redevelopment, environmental clean-up and assessment, and operations. The present management is aggressively seeking new industries and opportunities to develop both TexAmericas Center and the region surrounding it.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Staff recommends a favorable review.
RESOLUTION NO. ________________

RESOLUTION OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WITH REVIEW AND COMMENT ON AN APPLICATION BY THE TEXAMERICAS CENTER TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION FOR A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,500,000.00 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEWER IMPROVEMENTS, WATER FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION, AND A PARKING LOT.

WHEREAS, under Section 204 of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 and Title IV of the Intergovernmental Cooperative Act of 1968, the Ark-Tex Council of Governments has been designated as the area wide agency to review certain applications for which federal financial assistance is requested, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that certain development plans be reviewed by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments for their consistency with the overall development of the Region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:

Section 1 - That the submission of an application by the TexAmericas Center to the Economic Development Administration for a grant in the amount of $1,500,000.00 for the construction of sewer improvements, water for fire suppression, and a parking lot has been reviewed by the Board of Directors and can reasonably be expected to become part of the overall regional plan.

Section 2 – That the above mentioned improvements are desirable and urgently needed for public safety and welfare.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED THIS 29th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2016.

L. D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:
FY 2017 Financial Plan Highlights

- This is a Work Plan and Financial Plan combined. It is not technically a budget because ATCOG does not have taxing or oversight authority.

- As required by legislation, it presents each grant’s objectives, work tasks, performance measures, implementation schedules, human resource requirements and budget information.

- Within each State or Federal grant that we administer, the funding agency regulates the categories in which we are allowed to spend funds. The funding source has complete oversight for the individual grant programs.

1. This Plan includes recommended merit step increases for several staff as funds permit within the separate grant programs. Funding is provided for an across-the-board Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 6% to the Salary Schedule effective January 1, 2017. This COLA will aid in offsetting the commencement of the required employee contribution retirement plan from Texas County and District Retirement System that is recommended by the Pension Committee and management staff for all ATCOG employees to begin January 1, 2017. The last COLA was given for FY2010.

2. Changes in funding from the prior year include: Transportation Systems will utilize an increase of $2,708,931, Housing Program will utilize an increase of $430,228, Aging will increase $85,212, Criminal Justice increased $22,997; 9-1-1 Emergency Communications will experience a $15,458 decrease, Homeland Security funding will decrease $17,737, Regional Special Grant Programs show a decrease of $64,687, Economic Development has a decrease of $24,382, and Environmental decreased $2,396.
3. ATCOG’s health care provider continues to be Texas Municipal League (TMLIEBP). Premiums for our basic medical plan were increased slightly for this coming year by 4% and the dental plan by 9%. Rates for life and AD&D were unchanged. ATCOG will pay a defined contribution amount of $624.66 per month for each employee’s basic medical rate of $543.80 with the remaining $80.86 deposited into a Health Savings Account (HSA) and $28.44 per month for employee’s dental insurance. Employees have the option to “buy up” to a medical plan with less deductible and/or out of pocket and to make extra contributions to their HSA. Additional premium cost over $624.66 per month will be paid by the employee.

4. The published Indirect rate increased to 4.9%, up from 3.6%.

5. The Benefit rate increased to 61.6%, up from 56.8%.

6. ATCOG’s mileage reimbursement remains $.45 per mile.

7. Hotel reimbursement and out-of-town meal allowances will continue to follow the General Appropriations Act, Senate Bill 1, Article IX. The Act requires agencies to use the General Services Administration federal travel rates to determine the maximum lodging reimbursement rates. Allowable GSA meal rates were increased for FY2017, but ATCOG currently maintains a cap on the meal rate in our Policies and Procedure Manual.
ITEM 13:

Review and consider approval of reappointment of Executive Committee members to serve a two-year term beginning October 1, 2016.

BACKGROUND:

Article V, Section 1, of the Bylaws provides for election of the 16 Executive Committee members at the Annual Meeting, which is the regular meeting in September. These Executive Committee members shall serve a 2-year term beginning at the regular meeting in October.

DISCUSSION:

The Executive Committee members to be reappointed are stated below:

- Honorable L.D. Williamson, Judge, Red River County
- Honorable M. C. Superville, Jr., Judge, Lamar County
- Honorable Brian Lee, Judge, Titus County
- Honorable Lynda Munkres, Judge, Morris County
- Honorable Robert Newsom, Judge, Hopkins County
- Honorable James Carlow, Judge, Bowie County
- Honorable Becky Wilbanks, Judge, Cass County
- Honorable Scott Lee, Judge, Delta County
- Honorable Jason Murray, Judge, Franklin County
- Honorable Ann Rushing, Mayor, City of Clarksville
- Honorable Emily Glass, Mayor, City of Sulphur Springs
- Honorable Bob Thorne, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Daingerfield
- Honorable A.M. “Rip” Benefield, Councilman, Queen City
- Honorable Marc Reiter, Councilman, City of Hooks

Along with the above 15 members, a new appointment to the Executive Committee is being recommended under a separate agenda item to meet the required 16 members.

RECOMMENDATION:

The staff recommends approval of the Executive Committee members above.
ITEM 14:

Review and consider approval of appointment of Executive Committee members to serve as Officers of the Board of Directors for a 2-year term beginning October 1, 2016.

BACKGROUND:

Article V, Section 1, of the Bylaws provides for election of the 16 Executive Committee members, to include President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, at the Annual Meeting, which is the regular meeting in September. These Officers shall serve a 2-year term beginning in October.

DISCUSSION:

A Nominating Committee was appointed by President L.D. Williamson to make recommendations to the Executive Committee for new officers. The Officer Nominating Committee consists of Chair Chuck Superville, Judge, Lamar County; Ann Rushing, Mayor, City of Clarksville; and Lynda Munkres, Judge, Morris County. The Nominating Committee presents the following officers for consideration:

- President – Honorable L.D. Williamson, Judge, Red River County
- Vice-President – Honorable Chuck Superville, Judge, Lamar County
- Secretary – Honorable Lynda Munkres, Judge, Morris County
- Treasurer – Honorable Brian Lee, Judge, Titus County

RECOMMENDATION:

The Nominating Committee and staff recommend approval of the officers above.

WHEREAS, the Ark-Tex Council of Governments is a Regional Planning Commission established pursuant to the authority granted by Article 1011m, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, and Arkansas Interlocal Cooperation Act 430; and

WHEREAS, the Ark-Tex Council of Governments’ Board of Directors approved a new Ethics Policy Manual in December 2010, as required by the Texas Transportation Commission in order to be eligible for state and federal funding awarded after January 1, 2011; and

WHEREAS, annual renewal of the Ethics Policy Manual is required in order to remain eligible to receive funding, such renewal being required by the Texas Department of Transportation the first month of the grant period; and

WHEREAS, the new Transportation Program grant period begins October 1, 2016, making annual renewal necessary at the September Full Board Meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS:


Section 2 - That the Ethics Policy Manual meets or exceeds the minimum requirements for a compliance program as set forth by the Texas Transportation Commission, thus making ATCOG eligible to receive state and federal funding.

Section 3 - That Ark-Tex Council of Governments’ staff have been trained on and adhere to all ethics policies set forth in the Ethics Policy Manual, such training to be held annually.

Section 4 - That this Resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its execution.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED THIS 29th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2016.

________________________________________
L. D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:

________________________________________
BRIEFING PAPER – ACTION ITEM

ITEM 16:

BACKGROUND:
ATCOG currently has retirement benefits for all full-time employees through a Money Purchase Pension Plan (MPPP) with American Funds. ATCOG desires to become a member of the Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) which, we believe, will provide more beneficial retirement options by allowing for a defined retirement payment for life for all qualified full-time and part-time employees, such retirement plan to be effective January 1, 2017.

DISCUSSION:
ATCOG makes the following proposals regarding the TCDRS retirement plan:

1) The TCDRS plan requires a staff contribution by all regular staff, both full-time and part-time. All staff will contribute 4% of their salary monthly on a pre-tax basis into the retirement plan.
2) ATCOG is proposing a 6% pay increase in our FY2017 Budget for all staff effective January 1, 2017, 4% of which will be used to offset the deduction from their bi-weekly paychecks. The remaining 2% will actually be a pay increase. Staff will also see a slight increase due to the fact that monies contributed to the retirement plan are pre-taxed dollars.
3) All staff will enter the TCDRS plan credited with their service years. If an employee has worked at ATCOG 10 years, they will enter the plan with 10 years of credited service.
4) ATCOG will match the staff contribution 1 to 1, or 4%. This means ATCOG will enter the plan with an Unfunded Accrued Actuarial Liability of $155,350. At 4% contribution, it is estimated that it will take 2.9 years for ATCOG to pay this amount into the plan. This 4% can be increased in the future if funds are available and with Retirement Plan Trustees and Board approval.
5) ATCOG will have a vesting period of 8 years. Any employee who reaches the age of 60 and has 8 years of service with ATCOG is eligible for retirement benefits.
6) If an employee leaves ATCOG before they accrue 8 years of service, they will only receive the portion of money they have contributed. They will not receive any funds that ATCOG has contributed.
7) ATCOG will adopt the eligibility rule of 75 and the rule of 30 years of service at any age (meaning an employee is eligible to retire when age plus years of service equals 75 or they are eligible to retire when they have worked 30 years regardless of their age).
EXAMPLE: An employee begins work at age 35. They work at ATCOG for 20 years. That employee is now 55, so age of 55 plus 20 years of service equals 75. That employee is eligible for retirement benefits.
8) Money in this TCDRS retirement plan earns 7% compounded interest.
Upon approval of membership in TCDRS, ATCOG must immediately notify American Funds that the MPPP retirement plan is dissolving effective December 31, 2016. All full-time staff will automatically be 100% vested regardless of their years of service. Each employee will have to select a distribution method for their funds. Employees may roll their funds over into a personal retirement fund or they may take a lump sum distribution minus 20% taxes.

Upon dissolution of the American Funds MPPP, the Pension Plan Trustees Committee of ATCOG will hereinafter be referred to as the Retirement Plan Trustees Committee.

By signature of the Resolution, the ATCOG Board designates the Executive Director, in conjunction with the Retirement Plan Trustees Committee, to act on its behalf in any and all matters related to or arising as a result of the implementation of the TCDRS retirement plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff and the Pension Plan Trustees Committee recommends approval for ATCOG to become a member of Texas County & District Retirement System and dissolve the American Funds Money Purchase Pension Plan.
RESOLUTION NO. __________


WHEREAS, the Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) is a Regional Planning Commission established pursuant to the authority granted by Article 1011m, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, and Arkansas Interlocal Cooperation Act 430; and

WHEREAS, ATCOG currently has retirement benefits for all full-time employees through a Money Purchase Pension Plan (MPPP) with American Funds; and

WHEREAS, ATCOG desires to become a member of the Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) which, we believe, will provide more beneficial retirement options by allowing for a defined retirement payment for life for all qualified full-time and part-time employees, such retirement plan to be effective January 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, employees will contribute 4% of gross wages each payday on a pretax basis that will be matched by ATCOG’s contribution of 4%, such amounts subject to increases based on availability of funds and as desired by ATCOG and approved by the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, upon approval of membership with TCDRS, ATCOG will immediately notify American Funds that the MPPP will be dissolved effective December 31, 2016, with all staff choosing a distribution method of 100% of their funds; and

WHEREAS, upon dissolution of the American Funds MPPP, the Pension Plan Trustees Committee of ATCOG will hereinafter be referred to as the Retirement Plan Trustees Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Section 1 - That the Board of Directors approves Ark-Tex Council of Governments’ membership in the Texas County & District Retirement System effective January 1, 2017.

Section 2 - That the Board of Directors approves Ark-Tex Council of Governments’ dissolution of the Money Purchase Pension Plan with American Funds effective December 31, 2016.

Section 3 - That the Board of Directors designates the Executive Director, in conjunction with the Retirement Plan Trustees Committee, to act on its behalf in any and all matters related to or arising as a result of the implementation of the TCDRS retirement plan.

Section 4 - That this Resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its execution.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED THIS 29TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2016.

________________________________________
L. D. Williamson, President
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

ATTEST:
ITEM 17:

Review and consider approval of revisions to the Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan effective November 1, 2016.

BACKGROUND:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires an Administrative Plan be submitted to establish local policies and procedures. Any revisions made to this plan must be formally adopted by the Board.

DISCUSSION:

We have made the following revisions to our Administrative Plan.

The bulk of the 2016 Administrative Plan current revisions comes in the form of changes brought about by the Streamlining Administration Regulations Final Rule, issued March 8, 2016. In addition to Notice PIH 2016-05, which set forth implementation guidance for the final rule. Together, these notices brought about sweeping changes to nearly every area of HCV program administration, specifically as they relate to verification, utility reimbursements, the earned income disallowance, annual and interim reexaminations, and inspection protocol, among others.

In addition to revisions for the streamlining rule, other modifications include:

* Updates to policies on the use of arrest records per Notice PIH 2015-19.
* Clarifications regarding the definition of tuition, Notice PIH 2015-21.
* Other clarification to bring our Housing program current with HUD regulation and guidance.

The Administrative Plan will be available to the public for the required thirty (30) day comment period during normal business hours and a public hearing will be held on Oct.1, 2016. The Administrative Plan will be available for review/comment on our website at www.atcog.org.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the revised Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan to take effect November 1, 2016.
RESOLUTION NO. ______________


WHEREAS, the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 enacted by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (DHUD) requires that Administrative Plans be submitted to establish goals and operating procedures for achieving PHA goals within the HCV program.

WHEREAS, the Administrative Plan for the fiscal year beginning on October 1, 2016, is now due and must be approved and certified by the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, a public meeting will be held at 4:00 P.M. on Oct.1, 2016 to hear comments and/or recommendations for changes in the Plans. Upon no comments or recommendations to the Administrative Plan, this Plan will be effective November 1, 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ARK-TEX COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:

Section 1 - That the Administrative Plan for the fiscal year beginning on October 1, 2016, be approved and submitted.

Section 2 - That this Resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its execution.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED THIS 29th DAY OF September 2016.

_______________________________________
L.D. Williamson, President
Board of Directors

ATTEST:

_______________________________________
ITEM 18:

Review and consider approval of the appointment of two new members to the Area Agency on Aging Regional Advisory Council.

BACKGROUND:

The Area Agency on Aging is seeking approval by the Ark-Tex Council of Governments’ (ATCOG) Board of the appointment of two new members to fill a vacancy in the Title III Meal Provider category and the General Public Representative category. Title III Service Provider was left vacant by Mr. Bill Collins and he was nominated to move to the Lamar County vacant position. The General Public Representative became vacant when Ms. Pat Dorrough moved to the Red River County Representative category.

DISCUSSION:

The appointee for the vacant Title III Service Provider council position is Ms. Eden Leach, who was nominated for appointment by the Veteran’s Administration Representative. Ms. Leach is the Director of Senior Citizens Services and has been in that position since May of 1998. She currently serves as Bowie County Representative for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program and serves on the ATCOG Transportation Regional Steering Committee. Ms. Leach lives in Texarkana and has one son. Senior Citizens Services provides meals in five counties in the Ark-Tex Region.

The appointee for the vacant General Public Representative is Ms. Shelly Braziel. Ms. Braziel is the Executive Director of the Lamar County Human Resources Council. Ms. Braziel lives in Paris and has three sons. She currently serves on the Emergency Food and Shelter Program Phase 33 Board and the Lamar County Homelessness Coalition Board. Ms. Braziel also serves as the Rapid Rehousing Committee Chair. LCHR provides meals in four counties in the Ark-Tex Region.

The changes of Mr. Collins and Ms. Dorrough moving to county vacancies and appointments of Ms. Leach and Ms. Braziel were approved by the Regional Advisory Council at its meeting September 1, 2016, and we are now requesting approval by the ATCOG Board.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of these appointees.
ITEM 19:

Review and consider approval to combine the November Executive Committee and December Full Board Meetings of Ark-Tex Council of Governments and consider approval of Thursday, December 8, 2016 as the date for the full Board to meet.

BACKGROUND:

According to our Bylaws, Article V, Section 2, our Executive Committee shall meet monthly, and our Board Meetings have been set as the last Thursday of each month. This has always been a problem around the holiday season. This year, the dates fall on Thanksgiving Day in November and Christmas week December.

DISCUSSION:

We are proposing that the November and December meetings be combined into one meeting, which would be a Full Board meeting on Thursday, December 8, 2016.

Board approval is required to change a meeting date.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval for the requested change in dates for the Board Meeting.