



Far West Texas El Paso Regional Transportation Coordination Committee (WTEP)

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Agenda Meeting is in-person and via Zoom – January 19, 2023 @ 3pm

- I. Meeting Called to Order Victor Reta, WTEP Board Chairperson

Yvette Lugo gave opening comments and conducted role call: Mary W. Cisneros-Maximus, Mary Nunez-Big Bend Community Action, Anne Guayante-EPMPO, Lorenzo Lopez-Workforce Solutions Borderplex, Lourdes Torres-New Mexico Family Services, Tim McDaniel-EPMPO, David Armijo-South Central Regional Transit District, George Hinojosa- EPMPO, Gabriela Lopez-EPMPO, Yvette Lugo-AAA, Xavier Banales-Amistad, Crystal Aguilar-Gonzalez, A2C, Celia Garcia, Amistad, Patsy Jaramillo, Community Care Services Eligibility Region 10, Reyna Mayorga, El Paso County, Ignacita Ramirez LULAC District 4, Oscar Ramirez, Habitat for Humanity.

- II. Steering Committee Members – 2022

A. Officers

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. Chairperson | Victor Reta, City of Socorro |
| 2. Vice Chair | Yvette Lugo, Area Agency on Aging |
| 3. Secretary | Mary Nuñez, Big Bend Community Action Committee |
| 4. Past chairperson | Sal Alonzo, El Paso County Transit |

B. Steering Committee

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. Lourdes Torres | New México Family Services |
| 2. David Armijo | South Central Regional Transit District |
| 3. Sonia Arceo | City Representative, Village of Vinton |
| 4. Astrid Bunner | El Paso Sun Metro |
| 5. Xavier Bañales | Amistad |

- III. Welcoming Comments / Introductions Victor Reta

Approval of Minutes of meeting on November 17, 2022

Motion to approve the minutes was made by David Armijo. The Motion was Seconded by Lourdes Torres. The Motion was approved unanimously.

- IV. Business items

- A. Report from the Nominating Committee regarding proposed slate of board officers and members to the steering committee.

Proposed officers and members for 2023

Officers

Chairperson	Victor Reta, City of Socorro
Vice Chair	Yvette Lugo, Area Agency on Aging
Secretary	Mary Nuñez, Big Bend Community Action Committee
Past chairperson	Sal Alonzo, El Paso County Transit

Steering Committee Members

Lourdes Torres	New México Family Services
David Armijo	South Central Regional Transit District
Astrid Bunner	El Paso Sun Metro
Xavier Bañales	Amistad

Yvette Lugo reported for the Nominating Committee that all except one of the existing Executive Board Members has accepted to stay on a second term as allowed by the bylaws, so it is proposed that the current slate of officers, Chairperson Victor Reta, Vice Chair, Yvette Lugo, AAA, Secretary Mary Nunez, BBCA, and as past Chairperson Sal Alonzo with El Paso County Transit.

Steering Committee Members have also agreed to stay a second term, there are five slots and four of them are currently filled, Lourdes Torres, NMFS, David Armijo, SCRTD, Astrid Bunner, El Paso Sun Metro and Xavier Banales, Amistad, there is still that fifth opening, if anyone is available or interested, please notify. It is not a requirement but recommended to have that fifth slot filled. Ms. Lugo asked for interested parties for which there was no answer. The committee will continue to look for a fifth member.

Motion to approve the current slate of officers as it was made by Xavier Banales. The Motion was seconded by Mary Nunez. The Motion was approved unanimously.

- B. Goal IV, Operating Objective 4. *“Inform Policy makers about WTEP events and activities through presentations at board meetings (City Council, Commissioners Court, MPO, COG, etc.”*

Mr. Xavier Banales requested the team to verify if everyone has a copy of the current Regional Plan and if not one can be provided, delivered, or mailed out to anyone who would like one.

Mr. Banales went on to discuss the meeting of Goal IV Objective 4 of the regional plan. He also informed members regarding some changes to the presentation and the plan to present to the different entities made up of policy makers, etc.

Presentations will begin in February.

Ms. Yvette Lugo announced that the next available meeting date to present to the COG is in March.

Mr. Banales requested a member from the EPMPO regarding presentation to their Advisory Committee Meeting. Ms. Gabriela reported that to present to the Policy Board the next available date would be February 17th. Details to be worked out after the meeting.

To cover the additional counties such as Marfa, Presidio, Brewster, Mr. Banales requested assistance from Mary Nunez to coordinate a presentation date.

1. PowerPoint presentation

Mr. Banales went on to go through the presentation with attendees.

2. Identify and schedule dates and locations to present an overview of WTEP and the 2022 – 2025 Regional Plan to various entities within the region.

- City Council - City El Paso
- County Commissioners - El Paso County
- City Council – City of Socorro
- TxDOT Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Horizon City Council – Horizon
- El Paso Transportation Council

Mr. Banales once again requested if there were any boards or groups that anyone would like Amistad to present to educate them on the role of WTEP.

Ms. Yvette Lugo further discussed the importance of these presentations and the value of the collaboration to expand transportation services and educating entities of such services. She also continued to clarify that through the COG presentation there is representation from the five county Judges covering Presidio County, Brewster County, etc.

C. Status re implementation of the 2022 - 26 Regional Plan.

Ms. Garcia projected the Quarterly Progress Index and provided an update on the different goals and objectives that are in progress of action. A Quarterly Progress Report was completed in January to TXDOT reported the current progress.

D. Status - Letters of Participation

Ms. Garcia reported on the status of Letters of Participation. She requested that they be sent as soon as possible to have them be within the current Regional Planning Period.

E. Review Bylaws – While nothing is pending, it is good business practice to review the bylaws in the event changes are needed. Ms. Yvette Lugo reported nothing pending. Mr. Banales asked if anyone had any suggestions or questions on the bylaws.

F. WTEP's Website

Ms. Kristina Pena reported on some updates regarding the website, going to the different buttons where the bylaws are, updated regional plan, WTEP Presentation, etc. She also addressed where the agendas and meeting minutes are as well as each member agency's logos and upcoming events and meetings. She also highlighted the page where the Steering Committee Members are listed and requested a picture of Ms. Mary Nunez who is missing.

G. Other Business Items

No other business items were discussed by any members during the meeting.

H. Announcements

Ms. Garcia requested if any members had any training or events that they would like to share. Also, EPMPO was asked if they had any updates or anything to share regarding funding, Ms. Gabriela reported that on the final round of funding most applicants were approved for capital and not for operations, and that the funding recommendations would be submitted in February to TXDOT for funding.

V. Next WTEP Meetings & Adjourn

Ms. Yvette Lugo announced the next WTEP Meeting to take place on March 23, 2023, in person with a virtual option. Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Yvette Lugo and Seconded by Lourdes Torres. The meeting was adjourned at 3:57pm.

Prepared by Celia Garcia,
Amistad – Lead Agency