President Clark called the regular meeting of the North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board to order at 1:05 PM on April 23, 2020.

Members of the Board Present:

1. J. D. Clark
2. Curtistene McCowan
3. Kevin Strength
4. Kelly Allen Gray
5. Gary Caplinger
6. Yvonne Davis
7. Bill Heidemann
8. Lee Kleinman
9. Bobbie Mitchell
10. Andrew Piel
11. Tito Rodriguez
12. Ken Shetter
13. Richard Stopfer
14. David Sweet
15. Glen Whitley
16. Ray Smith
17. Chris Hill
18. Clay Jenkins

Members of the Staff Present:
Mike Eastland, Tim Barbee, Doni Green, Michael Morris, Edith Marvin, Molly McFadden, Molly Rendon, Stephanie Cecil, Ken Kirkpatrick

REGULAR SESSION

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS
President Clark asked if there was anyone on the Conference Call that was interested in addressing the Board about an item on the Agenda. There being no one requesting to speak, he continued with the Agenda.

ACTION:

Item 1 Approval of Minutes

President Clark stated that the first item on the agenda was approval of the minutes from the March Board meeting.

Upon a Motion by Judge Whitley (seconded by Mayor Heidemann), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the minutes of the March Executive Board meeting.

Item 2 Resolution to Accept and Approve the Quarterly Investment Report

Molly Rendon, Director of Administration, asked for approval of the Quarterly Investment Report. She explained that the Investment Report, as required by the Investment Policy, shows the average rate of return, cumulative transactions, and beginning and ending balances for the quarter. In addition, she provided a supplementary schedule regarding the State’s investment activity of the Regional Toll Revenue funds as well as the NTTA Hwy 161 funds.

Exhibit: 2020-04-02-AA

Upon a Motion by Judge Whitley (seconded by Commissioner Mitchell), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.
Item 3  Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Arredondo, Zepeda & Brunz, LLC for a Western Regional Solid Waste Capacity Technical Study

Edith Marvin, Director of Environment and Development, asked for authorization of a contract with Arredondo, Zepeda & Brunz, LLC, Inc., for the Western Regional Solid Waste Capacity Technical Study, in an amount not to exceed $100,000. She explained that the purpose of the Study is to examine and identify gaps between current and desired waste disposal conditions and to develop opportunities to address these gaps. The contractor will complete three major tasks, including: 1) Facilitating meetings with the Project Advisory Group; 2) Identifying the waste disposal gaps in the western subregion, and, 3) Developing a matrix of alternatives to address waste disposal gaps.

Exhibit: 2020-04-03-ED

Upon a Motion by Mayor McCowan (seconded by Mayor Shetter), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

Item 4  Resolution Authorizing the Receipt of Federal Transit Administration Funding Allocations in Response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, requested authorization for submission of a grant application and receipt of approximately $10,776,382 through the US Department of Transportation’s Federal Transit Administration (FTA), from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. He explained that NCTCOG serves as the federal grantee for local public transit providers operating service in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington and Denton-Lewisville Urbanized Areas (UZA) with the responsibility for administration, grant management and compliance. This portion of available funds will be passed through to the following local small public transit providers to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19: City/County Transportation; Community Transit Services; Public Transit Services; Span, Inc.; and STAR Transit. All other entities will receive funds directly.

The DFWA UZA will receive a total of $318,629,129 in FTA funding allocations through the CARES Act. The Denton-Lewisville Urbanized Area will receive an additional $23,461,867. Funds will be used for eligible expenses to support the 11 transportation providers in North Texas. NCTCOG will only retain approximately $796,572 (0.25 percent, rather than the normal 1.0) of the DFWA UZA allocation for administrative purposes, in order to maximize the amount going to transit providers in the region.

Exhibit: 2020-04-04-TR

Upon a Motion by Mayor Heidemann (seconded by Judge Sweet), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

Item 5  Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Halff Associates, Inc. for Southern Dallas County Regional Veloweb Alignment Study

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, requested authorization to enter into a consultant contract with Halff Associates, Inc., in an amount not to exceed $288,000 ($230,400 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and local matching funds contributed by Dallas County of $57,600), to complete a Southern Dallas County Regional Veloweb Alignment Study. The study that will review the feasibility of various Regional Veloweb and bikeway segments in southern Dallas County, linking the cities of Cedar Hill, DeSoto, Duncanville, and Lancaster. The alignment is anticipated to focus on the gaps between various existing and planned shared-use paths and bikeways in each of the four cities.

Exhibit: 2020-04-05-TR

Upon a Motion by Mayor McCowan (seconded by Councilmember Caplinger), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.
Item 6  Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Dallas Area Rapid Transit for Western Extrusions Transit Pilot

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, asked the Board to approve an Agreement with Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), in an amount not to exceed $325,000, utilizing Regional Toll Revenue funds, for a Western Extrusions Transit Pilot for on-demand service. He explained that the City of Carrollton requested assistance to find a first/last mile solution to connect Western Extrusions employees with existing nearby rail stations and final destinations. The employees are currently located over a mile away from rail stations and are challenged with lack of sidewalks and unsafe crossings. This pilot on-demand service has been approved by the Regional Transportation Council.

Exhibit: 2020-04-06-TR

Upon a Motion by Commissioner Mitchell (seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

Item 7  Resolution Authorizing a Contract with HNTB Corporation for the Dallas to Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study

Morris requested approval of a contract with HNTB Corporation for the Dallas to Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study, in an amount not to exceed $11,000,000 of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds, to develop a comprehensive approach to planning and implementing high-speed rail in the Dallas-Fort Worth region, specifically in the Dallas to Fort Worth corridor. He explained that the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) is committed to the development and implementation of policies, projects, and programs to improve air quality and reduce emissions, including high-speed rail. Conducting high-speed rail planning studies is included in the Unified Planning Work Program for Regional Transportation Planning. This contract will be structured into two distinct phases. The initial notice for the consultant to proceed to Phase 1 will be limited to Alternatives Analysis activity, in an amount of approximately $3,500,000. Subsequent notices to proceed for Phase 2 activities are subject to funding availability and will include tasks associated with a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental study intended to conclude in a federal Record of Decision (ROD), with a cost of approximately $7,500,000. $5,000,000 in STBG funds are currently available now and the Regional Transportation Council has approved additional STBG funds to cover the remaining contract amount.

Exhibit: 2020-04-07-TR

Upon a Motion by Mayor Stopfer (seconded by Judge Whitley), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Item 8  Old and New Business

There was no old or new Business.

Item 9  Attendance and Calendar

The Board was provided with a Calendar of meeting and a record of Attendance.

President Clark adjourned the meeting at 1:56 PM

Approved by:  

J.D. Clark, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Wise County

Checked by:  

Curtistene McCawer, Executive Director  
North Central Texas Council of Governments