

**Meeting of the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
**POLICY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, February 18, 2026 – 1:30 PM**  
**Presiding: Chair Mayor John Cowen**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Mayor John Cowen (City of Brownsville) called the Transportation Policy Board meeting to order at 1:30 PM, and a quorum was established. The meeting was held in person with members present.

**2. Roll Call**

**RGVMPO Transportation Policy Board Representatives in attendance were as follows:**

<b>Members Present:</b>	
<b>Entity</b>	<b>Individual</b>
City of Brownsville	Mayor John Cowen (Chair) - PRESENT Comm. Pedro Cardenas (Alternate)
City of McAllen	Mayor Javier Villalobos (Designee) Deputy City Manager Michelle Rivera (Proxy) - PRESENT
Hidalgo County	Comm. Everardo Villarreal (Designee) - PRESENT Judge Richard F. Cortez (Alternate)
Cameron County	Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr. (Designee) Pete Sepulveda, Jr. (Alternate) - PRESENT
City of Edinburg	Mayor Omar Ochoa (Designee) - PRESENT Tomas Reyna (Proxy)
City of Mission	Mayor Norie Gonzalez Garza (Designee) Assistant City Manager Juan Pablo “JP” Terrazas - PRESENT
City of Pharr	Mayor Ambrosio “Amos” Hernandez (Designee) Maria Rangel (Proxy) - PRESENT
City of Harlingen	Mayor Norma Sepulveda (Designee) - ABSENT City Manager Gabriel Gonzalez (Alternate) – ABSENT
City of San Benito	Mayor Ricardo “Rick” Guerra (Designee) - ABSENT Tom Goodman (Proxy) - ABSENT
Starr County	Judge Eloy Vera (Designee) Reyna Guerra (Proxy) - PRESENT
Cameron County RMA	Frank Parker, Jr. (Designee) - PRESENT Arturo A. Nelson (Alternate)
Hidalgo County RMA	Robert L. Lozano (Designee) - PRESENT Ramon Navarro (Proxy)
Valley Metro	VACANT (Designee) Nancy Sanchez (Alternate) - ABSENT
TxDOT Pharr District	Pedro “Pete” Alvarez (Designee) - PRESENT Rex A. Costley (Alternate)
<b>EX-OFFICIO</b>	
LRGVDC	Javier Dominguez
<b>Others Present:</b>	
RGVMPO Executive Director	Michael Medina
Caso Law firm	Jose Caso
RGVMPO Staff	

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**  
**NONE**

## DISCUSSION AND ACTION

4. Approval of minutes for January 21, 2026.

**Presenter:** RGVMPPO Chairperson

**Commissioner Everardo Villarreal of Hidalgo County made a motion to approve minutes. The motion was seconded by Reyna Guerra from Starr County. The item was unanimously approved.**

5. Discussion, consideration and possible action to adopt the Safety Performance Measures (PM1).

**Presenter:** RGVMPPO Staff

**Reyna Guerra from Starr County made a motion to approve the item as presented. The motion was seconded by Pedro “Pete” Alvarez from TxDOT Pharr District. The item was unanimously approved.**

6. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to grant the Executive Director the authority to sign Letters of Support for local applications for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program.

**Presenter:** RGVMPPO Staff

**City of Edinburg Mayor, Omar Ochoa made a motion to approve item as presented. The motion was seconded by Reyna Guerra from Starr County. The item was unanimously approved.**

7. Discussion regarding location of the RGVMPPO office (no action).

**Presenter:** RGVMPPO Staff

8. Discussion regarding the creation of the RGVMPPO Executive Committee (no action).

**Presenter:** RGVMPPO Staff

## REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

9. Discussion on the Development of a Strategic Transportation Funding Plan.

**Presenter:** RGVMPPO Staff

**10. MPO Reports**

- A. Inclusion of Category 7 and Category 9 Planning Studies in the UPWP.
- B. Draft 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Timeline.
- C. Development of Bylaws for Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

**11. Agency Reports**

- A. TxDOT

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**12. Closed Session:**

Yes

**13. Open Session:**

Motion to authorize the RGVMPPO Executive Director Michael Medina to enter into an agreement to extend the RGVMPPO's current office lease agreement with Valley Metro for a period of 6 months as discussed in executive session

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**Adjournment at 2:41 p.m.**

*Minutes Approved: Wednesday April 15, 2026.*