

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

HIDALGO County

MINUTE ORDER

Page 1 of 1

PHARR District

Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, §26.51(b) prescribes conditions for a person to serve as a director or chief administrative officer of a regional mobility authority (RMA). Under 43 TAC §26.51(b)(1)(A), a person is not eligible to serve as a director or chief administrative officer of an RMA if the person or the person's spouse is employed by or participates in the management of a business entity or other organization, other than a political subdivision, that is regulated by or receives funds from the Texas Department of Transportation (department), the RMA, or a member county.

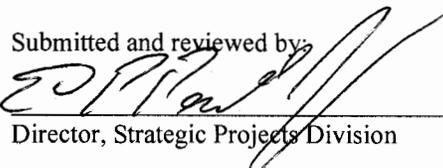
The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority (HCRMA) has recently hired Pilar Rodriguez as its Executive Director. Mr. Rodriguez participates, in a voluntary capacity, in the management of the City of Pharr Volunteer Fire Department and the Rio Grande Valley Communications Group, both of which receive funds from Hidalgo County, a member county of the HCRMA. Both the Fire Department and the Rio Grande Valley Communications Group serve their respective regions during emergency situations.

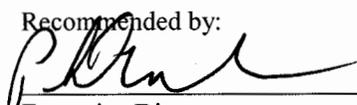
Section 26.51(b)(4) provides that the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) may approve an exception to the requirements of Section 26.51(b)(1)(A) if (1) the RMA or the applicable county has properly disclosed to the public the details of the potential conflict, (2) the potential conflict concerns employment with an entity that receives funds from a member county, and (3) the commission determines that the employment will not result in the director or chief administrative officer incurring any obligation of any nature that is in substantial conflict with the director or officer's proper discharge of his or her duties on behalf of the RMA.

Pursuant to 43 TAC §26.51(b)(4), the HCRMA has disclosed to the public the details of the potential conflict by posting a notice on the HCRMA website. The notice informs the public that Mr. Rodriguez while employed as the HCRMA Executive Director, will also continue serving as the Deputy Volunteer Fire Chief for the City of Pharr and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Rio Grande Valley Communications Group, and that Mr. Rodriguez is not compensated for either of these roles.

IT IS THEREFORE DETERMINED by the commission, pursuant to 43 TAC §26.51(b)(4), that by serving as Deputy Volunteer Fire Chief for the City of Pharr and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Rio Grande Valley Communications Group, Mr. Rodriguez will not incur any obligation of any nature that is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his duties as Executive Director of the HCRMA.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that an exception to the requirements of 43 TAC §26.51(b)(1)(A) is approved, and therefore Pilar Rodriguez is eligible to serve as Executive Director of the HCRMA.

Submitted and reviewed by: 
Director, Strategic Projects Division

Recommended by: 
Executive Director

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Minute Number Date Passed