

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

VARIOUS Counties

MINUTE ORDER

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TYLER District

Pursuant to Chapter 370 of the Transportation Code, and 43 TAC Chapter 26 (RMA rules), Gregg and Smith counties petitioned the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) for authorization to form a Regional Mobility Authority (RMA). The petition was filed on June 23, 2004.

By Minute Order 109829 dated October 28, 2004, the commission authorizes the creation of the North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority (NETRMA). The minute order authorized that the initial board of directors be composed of seven members, with six members appointed by the Gregg and Smith counties commissioners courts, and the presiding officer appointed by the Governor.

Texas Administrative Code (TAC), 43 TAC 26.21, provides that one or more counties may request the commission for approval to become part of an existing RMA. The NETRMA has received resolutions from the Cherokee, Harrison, Rusk and Upshur county commissioners courts indicating support for the request to join the NETRMA and the NETRMA has agreed, in writing, to the four county additions to the RMA.

The Commissioners courts of Gregg and Smith counties, the original petitioning counties, have both adopted resolutions indicating support for the request.

The resolutions propose that the board of directors shall be composed of the original seven members, with six members appointed by the Gregg and Smith counties commissioners courts, and the presiding officer appointed by the Governor, with each added county appointing one additional board member.

The commission finds that expansion of the RMA will result in direct benefits to the state, local governments, and the traveling public, and will improve the efficiency of the state's transportation systems. Expansion of the RMA will benefit the state by constructing needed roadway projects, such as the network identified in the original RMA petition. The expanded RMA will benefit local governments by increasing local control over transportation planning and through additional transportation projects that may be funded through surplus revenue earned by the RMA. The traveling public will also benefit through improved mobility and traffic safety throughout the region encompassed by the expanded RMA.

The commission also finds that the affected political subdivisions in the added counties will be adequately represented on the board.

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IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the commission authorizes the expansion of the NETRMA by the addition of Cherokee, Harrison, Rusk and Upshur counties.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the board of directors shall be composed of the original seven members, with six members appointed by the Gregg and Smith counties commissioners courts, and the presiding officer appointed by the Governor, with each added county appointing one additional board member.

Submitted and reviewed by:

Recommended by:

Director, Texas Turnpike Authority Division

Executive Director

Minute Number Date Passed