FREIGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

**John D. Esparza**
President and CEO, Texas Trucking Association

Mr. John D. Esparza, a graduate of Texas Tech University in Lubbock and a fourth generation West Texas native, serves as president and chief executive officer of Texas Trucking Association and as the executive director of Southwest Movers Association (SMA).

Mr. Esparza’s prior posts include service as senior advisor to Texas Governor Rick Perry, focusing on policy, legislative and political issues. During his tenure he was tasked to a major Perry Administration initiative; economic growth, prosperity and job creation in Texas. He assisted in facilitating the state’s first ever $295 million economic development endeavor called the Texas Enterprise Fund and in developing the $200 million Texas Emerging Technology Fund. In addition, Mr. Esparza has also served as special assistant to the Governor working as a senior liaison to the Texas Military Preparedness Commission during the 2004 Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) hearings in Texas and Washington DC. Mr. Esparza also served as the State Coalitions Director for Governor George W. Bush.

The Honorable Clay Lewis Jenkins, Dallas County Judge

Dallas County Judge Clay Lewis Jenkins began his first term in office on January 1, 2011. A first-time public official, Judge Jenkins brings business acumen, legislative experience, and an unparalleled commitment to the office of County Judge. He is the President of Jenkins & Jenkins, a successful law practice with offices in Dallas and Waxahachie. He is also the co-owner of Brown Dental Health Services, which employs 13 dentists and provides dental care to residents in over 100 facilities in North and East Texas.

As the chief-elected official in one of the state’s largest counties, Judge Jenkins is responsible for the county courts that hear truancy cases. Working with educators and business partners in the community he is helping to reduce truancy to boost graduation rates and ultimately providing the foundation for a skilled labor force. He is also responsible for the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department that provides around the clock staff to protect Dallas County citizens through coordinated security and emergency-management resources with regional and national partners.

Judge Jenkins is working collaboratively to jump-start the Inland Port project through targeted infrastructure improvements. He is also committed to ensuring that the new Parkland hospital is built on time and on budget, and expanding its ability to provide care by improving protocols and adapting technological advances.

**Kenneth Dierschke**
President, Texas Farm Bureau

Mr. Kenneth Dierschke of San Angelo became president of the Texas Farm Bureau and its affiliated companies in December 2002 after serving on the TFB Board of Directors since 1996. In January 2003, he was elected to the American Farm Bureau Federation Board of Directors. He also serves on the Boards of Directors of Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company and Farm Bureau Bank, and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Farm Bureau Bank.

Mr. Dierschke is a member of the United States Trade Representatives Advisory Council. Since 1998, he has served as agricultural representative on the Region F Water Planning Group created by Senate Bill 1. He is a member of the Cotton Board, served on its executive committee, and is a director of the Southern Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Association. Mr. Dierschke is a member of the USDA Trade Representative Advisory Committee and has served on the American Farm Bureau Trade Advisory Committee.
Mr. James Beauchamp is a lifelong resident of Texas and the Permian Basin. He attended the University of Texas at Austin, and began working as a legislative aide in the Texas House of Representatives. After receiving his bachelor’s degree from Concordia University at Austin, Mr. Beauchamp became a congressional aide and ran numerous political campaigns in Texas. In 2003, Mr. Beauchamp served as President of the Midland-Odessa Transportation Alliance. Over the years, he has been a tireless advocate for the interests of West Texas and the Permian Basin, serving on several committees related to transportation policy.

In 2003, Mr. Beauchamp was re-elected to a third term as the Midland County Republican Chairman. He also serves as a board member of the Midland Chamber of Commerce and the Midland-Odessa Transportation Alliance. He is an original member and current president of the La Entrada al Pacifico Rural Rail District.

Mr. Brian Lucas is a seasoned professional in the area of supply chain logistics rail distribution. Since 2011, he has owned and operated an independent rail service company that provides rail transportation services to a variety of industries. Over the last four years Mr. Lucas has served as CFO of trucking and rail trans-loading companies. He’s offered his expertise in issues such as safety reporting, training, drug testing and compliance. As a consultant to three trucking companies located in the Midland/Odessa area, he has assisted with the development of equipment tracking systems, accounting systems, driver retention and driver log accuracy. Mr. Lucas has also consulted with organizations using analytics and business models to help owners and operators improve their bottom line results through optimum performance management.

Mr. D. Kirk Edwards, President, Las Colinas Energy Partners, Odessa, Texas

Mr. D. Kirk Edwards earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 1981, and has worked for several years in the oil and gas industry. Mr. Edwards was appointed by Speaker of the House Tom Craddick to the Oilfield Cleanup Advisory Committee from 2003-2008. He was reappointed by Speaker of the House Joe Straus in 2008 where he presently serves. Mr. Edwards is the past president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association. He was also appointed by Governor Rick Perry to the West Texas Regional Center for Innovation and Commercialization. Currently, Mr. Edwards manages diverse oil and gas royalty base and surface lands with properties located throughout the United States and the Gulf Coast of Mexico. He is also a lead manager for Macquint Energy, LP, Axiom Energy, LP, Noile Land & Minerals LLC, and various mineral estates of the Mays Foundation for Medical Education and Research in Rochester, Minnesota.

Dr. Brianne Glover is an attorney and counselor at law, licensed to practice in the state of Texas. She joined TTI in 2010 and has been involved with numerous research projects within the Mobility Analysis Program and Infrastructure Investment Analysis Program that focus on transportation financing as well as the economic impacts associated with transportation improvements. Dr. Glover’s main focus is the maintenance and future development of the Transportation Revenue Estimator and Needs Determination System (TRENS) model. The TRENS model is designed to provide transportation planners, policy makers and the public with a tool to forecast transportation revenues and expenses based on a user-defined level of investment at both the state and local level. Other projects include benefit cost analyses for TIGER grant applications and economic impact assessments for both the public and private sectors.

NOON-1:00PM  LUNCH SPEAKER

James Beauchamp, MOTRAN

Mr. James Beauchamp is a lifelong resident of Texas and the Permian Basin. He attended the University of Texas at Austin, and began working as a legislative aide in the Texas House of Representatives. After receiving his bachelor’s degree from Concordia University at Austin, Mr. Beauchamp became a congressional aide and ran numerous political campaigns in Texas. In 2003, Mr. Beauchamp served as President of the Midland-Odessa Transportation Alliance. Over the years, he has been a tireless advocate for the interests of West Texas and the Permian Basin, forming the Permian Basin Coalition to educate local officials about the energy industry and its impact, as well as, the Drive SMART campaign to raise driver awareness and reduce crashes and fatalities. In 2004, Mr. Beauchamp was appointed by House Speaker Tom Craddick as a Commissioner for the State Commission on Emergency Communications. He was reappointed by Speaker of the House Joe Straus in 2007 and again, by Speaker Joe Straus in 2013.

In 2014, Mr. Beauchamp was re-elected to a third term as the Midland County Republican Chairman. He also serves as a board member of the Southwest 66 Credit Union, the U.S.-Mexico Export Council, and previously served as a representative to the Border Trade Advisory Committee.