

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LAREDO

Special Board of Commissioners Meeting
City of Laredo Conference Room 1st Floor
1110 Houston Street
Laredo, Texas 78040
Wednesday, January 27, 2016
12:00 Noon

A-16-S-1

MINUTES

January 27, 2016

1. **CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Jose L. Ceballos at 12:00 noon.
2. **ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM** Roll call and declaration of quorum by Melissa Ortiz, Acting Interim Executive Director.

Commissioners Present

Joe Aranda, Commissioner
Jose L. Ceballos Commissioner
Dr. Sergio D. Garza, Commissioner
Mrs. Gina Magallanes, Commissioner
John R. Soliz, Commissioner

Commissioner Absent

Staff Present

Melissa Ortiz, Acting Interim Executive Director
Luis Calderon, MIS Coordinator
Bulmaro Cruz, Director of Public Housing
Orlando Guerrero, Director of Finance
Jose Collazo, Resident Services Coordinator
Mary De La Rosa, Executive Secretary
Christy Ramos, Administration Clerk

Other Attendees

Douglas A. Poneck, Attorney at Law

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman Nominations:

Commissioner Ceballos entertained a motion to nominate a Chairman.
Commissioner Garza moved to nominate Jose L. Ceballos as Board Chairman.
Commissioner Solis seconded the motion.

Commissioner Ceballos called to entertain any other nominations.

No other nominations.

Chairman Election:

Commissioner Ceballos called for a vote for Chairman.
Board voted unanimously to elect Jose L. Ceballos as Board Chairman.
Motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Nominations:

Chairman Ceballos entertained a motion to nominate a Vice-Chairman.

Chairman Ceballos Commissioner Solis moved to nominate Dr. Sergio Garza as Board Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Solis seconded the motion.

Chairman Ceballos called to entertain any other nominations.

No other nominations.

Vice-Chairman Election:

Chairman Ceballos called for a vote for Vice-Chairman.

Board voted unanimously to elect Dr. Sergio Garza as Board Vice-Chairman.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. CITIZENS COMMENTS

This is the opportunity for visitors and guest to address the Board of Commissioners on any issue. The Board may not discuss any presented issue, nor may any action be taken on any issues at this time. (Texas Attorney General Opinion-JC-0169). No comments.

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. Discussion and possible action to enter into an agreement with Escamilla & Poneck, LLP to provide special counsel to the Housing Authority of the City of Laredo.

Chairman Ceballos stated that this item is in the agenda due to legal matters that have arisen since the transition at the authority and will be discussed in executive session.

Chairman Ceballos announced entertaining a motion to approve Item 5A.

Commissioner Aranda moved to approve the item.

Commissioner Solis seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

B. Discussion and possible action to update signature cards.

Chairman Ceballos stated that the bylaws call for the Chairman and Executive Director should sign unless the Board decides otherwise.

Chairman Ceballos announced entertaining a motion to approve Item 5B

Commissioner Aranda moved to approve the item.

Vice-Chairman Garza seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

C. Discussion and possible action to appoint an Acting/Interim Executive Director.

Chairman Ceballos announced entertaining a motion to appoint an Acting/Interim Executive Director.

Commission Aranda moved to appoint Melissa Ortiz to Acting/Interim Executive Director and have a salary adjustment in the amount of \$20,000.00 until a permanent Executive Director is appointed.

Chairman Ceballos seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE

The Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Laredo reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed on the posted agenda, above, as authorized by the Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (consultation with attorneys), 551.072 (deliberations about real property), 551.073 (deliberations about gifts and donations,) 551.074 (personnel matters), 551.076 (deliberations about security devices), and 551.086 (economic development).

A. Consultation with special counsel regarding review of current legal matters.

B. Discussion with Acting/Interim Executive Director regarding duties and assignments.

Chairman Ceballos moved to enter into Executive Session.

Vice-Chairman Garza seconded the motion.

Motion was approved.

The Board of Commissioners entered into Executive Session at 12:06 p.m.

The Board of Commissioners reconvened from Executive Session at 1:20 p.m.

Chairman Ceballos replied there was no action taken.

7. ADJOURNMENT Chairman Ceballos announced entertaining a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Aranda moved to adjourn.

Vice-Chairman Garza seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.



Jose L. Ceballos
Board Chairman



Melissa Ortiz
Acting Executive Director