

# TEXAS CITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020**  
**VIDEO CONFERENCE**

Those in attendance were TCMA Board members: President Kenneth Williams, City Manager, Buda; President-Elect Brad Stafford, City Manager, Navasota; Vice President Sereniah Breland, City Manager, Pflugerville; TML Board Representative Kelly Kuenstler, City Manager, Leon Valley; Immediate Past President Chris Coffman, City Manager, Granbury; Region 1 Director Shane Stokes, City Manager, Pampa; Region 2 Director Erik Rejino, City Manager, Levelland; Region 3 Director Paul Menzies, Assistant City Manager, Wichita Falls; Region 4 Director Mark Hindman, City Manager, North Richland Hills; Region 5 Director Jay Abercrombie, City Manager, Henderson; Region 6 Director Stephanie Russell, Finance Director, Freeport; Region 7 Director James Fisher, City Manager, Brenham; Region 8 Director E. A. Hoppe, Deputy City Manager, Kerrville; Region 9 Director, Brian DeLatte, Deputy City Manager, Portland; Director at Large Opal Mauldin-Jones, City Manager, Lancaster; Assistants' Organization Representative Ryan Cramer, Economic Development Coordinator, La Porte

Guests: Senior Advisors A.C. Gonzalez, Bob Livingston, and Greg Vick; John Bender, Communications Consultant, Bender & Becker; Ethics Committee Chair Nick Finan, Executive Director Management Services/City Secretary, Texas City; City Managers of Tomorrow Chair, Scott Sellers, City Manager, Kyle; Karen Daly, Mountain Plains Regional Director, ICMA

TML Staff: Bennett Sandlin, Rachael Pitts, and Kim Pendergraft

President Kenneth Williams called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed the TCMA Board members.

**On a motion by Brad Stafford and a second by Chris Coffman, the Board approved the absence of Region 10 Director Gabriel Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager, Harlingen.**

## **REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Regional representatives updated the Board concerning regional activities and openings.

## **SENIOR ADVISOR REPORT**

Senior advisors updated the Board on their activity.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Kenneth provided a report on his region visits. He reported that TCMA cancelled the William "King" Cole Series 2 and ICMA cancelled the Mountain Plains Regional Conference. **On a motion by James Fisher and a second by Mark Hindman, the Board approved to cancel the 2020 Annual Conference. Sereniah Breland will review the keynote speakers contracted for the Conference and determine if they are a good fit for the 2021 Conference. TML legal will review the keynote speaker contract cancellation policy. Kim Pendergraft will work with Kenneth to contact Conference sponsors. They will be offered two options:**

- **Refund**
- **Apply funds received toward the 2021 Conference (Since the Platinum sponsor level has changed for 2021, Platinum sponsors will have the option to sponsor under the new 2021 policy.)**

## MEETING MINUTES

**On a motion by Shane Stokes and a second by Sereniah Breland, the Board approved the January 31, 2020, TCMA Board meeting minutes as presented.**

## RECEIVE REPORTS FROM TCMA COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

Scott Sellers, City Managers of Tomorrow Committee chair, updated the Board on the Committee's activity. An IFrame has been added to the TCMA website to highlight internships posted on the TML Career Center. TML staff continues to encourage cities to post internships. **On a motion by Chris Coffman and a second by Sereniah Breland, the Board approved the structure of the Committee to include a chair, vice chair, each of the primary managers in residence, and five additional open seats.** A position for a communications coordinator was reviewed and discussed. **On a motion by James Fisher and a second by Kelly Kuenstler, the Board approved a position for a communication specialist. The Executive Committee and Scott Sellers will finalize responsibilities and funding for the position.**

Chris Coffman, Nominating Committee chair, reported that Jay Stokes, Deer Park city manager, will serve as the 2020-2021 vice president; and Hugh Walker, Bryan deputy city manager, will serve as the 2020-2022 TML representative. **TML staff will notify the membership.**

Nick Finan, Ethics Committee chair, provided an update on Committee activity including a report provided by ICMA on their review process of the Code of Ethics. Tenets 5 and 6 are currently being reviewed and the TCMA Ethics Committee provided feedback. **On a motion by James Fisher and a second by Kelly Kuenstler, the Board approved updates to tenets 1 and 2 of the Code of Ethics as presented.**

**Tenet 1: We believe professional management is essential to efficient and democratic local government by elected officials.**

**Tenet 2: Affirm the dignity and worth of local government services and maintain a deep sense of social responsibility as a trusted public servant.**

Kelly Kuenstler, Advocacy Committee chair, introduced John Bender, Bender & Becker communications consultant, who provided an update on the Campaign for Professional and Ethical City Management. He encouraged Board members to save video as they work through the current COVID-19 crisis.

Noel Bernal, Equity Task Force chair; and Debbie Maynor, Equity Task Force vice chair, provided an update on Task Force activities. The Task Force recommends that its name be changed to Allies Across Texas to better communicate inclusion. **On a motion by Kenneth Williams and a second by Chris Coffman, the Board approved to change the name of the Task Force to Allies Across Texas. Brad Stafford will meet with Noel and Debbie to discuss future objectives, appointment of committee members, and budget.**

## RECEIVE REPORT ON TML-RELATED ISSUES

TML Executive Director Bennett Sandlin provided an update on TML-related issues.

## RECEIVE REPORT ON ASSISTANTS-RELATED ISSUES

Ryan Cramer provided an update on statewide activities of the assistants' organizations.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Kenneth Williams provided the financials ending on February 29, 2020.

## **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Kim Pendergraft presented changes to the TCMA Constitution. **On a motion by Brad Stafford and a second by Kelly Kuenstler, the changes were approved as presented. TML staff will submit to the membership for approval.**

**Article III, Section 4. Vacancies. In the event that the TCMA President, President-Elect, Vice President, ~~TML Board Representative~~, Director-at-Large, or Immediate Past President resigns or is terminated from his/her city/COG employment, he/she shall either resign from the TCMA Board position held or petition within 30 days to complete the term of office. If the individual does not petition for completion of his/her term within 30 days, or the Board does not approve the petition, then a vacancy occurs.**

Future Board meeting schedule:

June 4, 2020, 3:00 p.m., video conference or the City of Buda pending COVID-19 status

August 6-7, Lost Pines Resort, Bastrop (in conjunction with the 2020-2022 strategic planning process)

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.