

**CITY OF LAREDO
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1110 HOUSTON STREET
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040
5:30 P.M.**

M99-R-19

M I N U T E S

JULY 6, 1999

I. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores called the meeting to order.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

IN ATTENDANCE:

Elizabeth G. Flores,	Mayor
Alfredo Agredano,	Councilmember, District I
Louis Bruni	Councilmember, District II
John C. Galo,	Councilmember, District III
Eliseo Valdez, Jr.	Councilmember, District V
Joe A. Guerra,	Councilmember, District VI
Mario G. Alvarado	Councilmember, District VII
Consuelo "Chelo" Montalvo,	Councilmember, District VIII
Gustavo Guevara, Jr.,	City Secretary
Florencio Pena, III	City Manager
Jaime L. Flores,	City Attorney

ABSENCES:

Motion to excuse Cw. Moreno.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IV. MINUTES

1. City Council Workshop, June 8, 1999
City Council Emergency Meeting, June 8, 1999
City Council Meeting, June 21, 1999

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

V. INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCE

2. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with Texas/Illinois Cellular Limited Partnership, by its general partner Southwestern Bell Wireless, Inc. to install, construct, operate, and maintain roof top mounted cellular antennas, appurtenant equipment and appropriate number of equipment buildings the Laredo Transit Center, located at 1301 Farragut, Laredo, Webb County, Texas.
 1. Term of lease shall be fifteen years commencing on June xx, 1999 and ending June xx, 2014, with an option for only one (1) successive renewal term of five (5) years.
 2. The annual base rent shall be \$7,700.00 each year during the term of the lease and will be adjusted on each anniversary of the commencement date according to changes in the Consumer Price Index, providing for effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

3. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with L.A. Ventures, Inc., for approximately 289 square feet of office space constituting Suite No. 8 of Building No. S-1 located at 1718 E. Calton Road.
 1. Lease term is for one (1) year commencing May 1, 1999, and ending April 30, 2000, and will be extended for one (1) year ending April 30, 2001. Lease may be terminated by either party upon giving a sixty (60) day written notice.
 2. Monthly rent shall be \$361.25 and will be adjusted annually during the primary and extension term of this lease according to changes in the Consumer Price Index. Previous monthly rent was \$339.99.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

4. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Border Maintenance Service, Inc., for approximately 2,304 square feet constituting Building #1421 located at 1817 Pappas Street at the Laredo International Airport.
 1. Lease term is for one (1) year commencing July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000,
 2. Monthly rent shall be \$725.00. Previous monthly rent was \$650.00.Leased premises are used for office space and maintenance service workshop.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

5. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Jose Mario Flores, Sole Proprietor, for approximately 8,184 square feet constituting Building #2075 located at 1720 Hillside Road at

the Laredo International Airport.

- 1. Lease term is for 15 consecutive years commencing on August 1, 1999 and ending on July 31, 2014 and may be extended for two five year options ending on July 31, 2019 and July 31, 2024.
- 2. Monthly rent shall be \$1,960.00 and will adjusted annually during the primary and extension terms of this lease according to changes in the Consumer Price Index, as well as appraisal on the 10th and 20th anniversary.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 6. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Foreign-Trade Zone Operators Agreement with Laredo Duty Free, Inc., to operate an approximately 10,000 square foot facility within Foreign-Trade Zone No. 94-Site 1 located at the Laredo International Airport for a term of ten (10) years.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 7. Closing as a public easement the west 97 feet of that section of the 100 block of E. Garfield Street between the east right-of-way line of Monterrey Avenue and Sanders Avenue north of the Texas-Mexican Railroad tracks, situated in the Eastern Division, City of Laredo, County of Webb, upon closing of said street, the City will retain the entire property as a utility easement and approve the improvement plan whereby the Texas-Mexican Railroad Company has agreed to provide, install and maintain the improvements for the elimination of any and all indications that said property was previously a street, at no cost to the City, and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 8. Closing as a public easement that section of the 800 block of Pace Street between San Bernardo and Santa Ursula Avenue situated in the Western Division, City of Laredo, County of Webb, Texas and providing for an effective date.

Ordinance Introduction: Cm. Alvarado

- 9. Setting the maximum speed limits in that portion of Loop 20 from IH35 to State Highway 359, within the City limits of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, as 45 MPH, 50 MPH, 55 MPH, and 60 MPH.

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

VI. FINAL READING

Internet Available: <http://www.cityoflaredo.com>

Motion to waive the final reading #99-O-188, #99-O-189, #99-O-190, #99-O-191, #99-O-192, #99-O-193, #99-O-194, #99-O-195, and #99-O-196.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado
Second: Cw. Montalvo
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 10. 99-O-188 Ordinance creating a full-time position of Downtown Economic Development Coordinator at a Grade 37 within the Department of Community Development to facilitate the coordination of all projects in the Downtown Central Business District as well as the coordination of economic development programs for the City, including those related to loan assistance, federal grants, business expansion and retention and research and analysis. (Consuelo "Chelo" Montalvo)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-188.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-O-189 Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease with Entravision Communications Company, L.L.C., to install, construct, and maintain a self supporting tower for use in its communications business on a 1,225 square feet parcel of Vega Land lying south of Water Street and West of Santa Maria Street.

- 1. Term of lease shall be five (5) years commencing July XX, 1999 and ending July xx, 2004, with an option for three (3) successive renewal terms of five (5) years. The annual base rent shall be \$7,700.00 each year during the term of the lease and will be adjusted on each anniversary of the commencement date according to changes in the Consumer Price Index, providing for effective date. (City Council)

Motion to approve Ordinance #99-O-189.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 99-O-190 Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance (Map) of the City of Laredo by rezoning Lots 2 and 3, Block 1775,

Moved : Cm. Valdez
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 19. Consideration to approve change order no. 3, a net increase of \$15,762.50 to the construction contract with Summit Contracting, Inc., for the Laredo Northwest International Bridge (4th Bridge) to construct a temporary fence across the bridge to be located within the international span. Funding is available in the Bridge #4 - Tax Exempt Improvements Other Than Buildings.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 20. Consideration to approve change order no. 4, a decrease of \$2,072.75 for the balance of quantities actually constructed in place, acceptance of the Orilla Avenue Street Improvements project between Mann Road and Carrillo, and for Texas Avenue between Guadalupe and Chihuahua and approval of final payment in the amount of \$104,432.89 to Jimmy Closner and Sons Construction Co., Inc., Laredo, Texas. Funding is available in the 1998 CO Issue Orilla Project.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 21. Consideration to approve change order no. 5, a decrease of \$36,008.75 for recommended liquidated damages (24 working days), and for additional structural engineering services from the consultant; and to add three weather days to the construction contract time; acceptance of the City of Laredo New Main Library as complete; approval to retain \$40,000.00 for the completion of pending items and approval to release partial retainage in the amount of \$213,160.31 to Ramex Construction Company, Inc., Houston, Texas, for payments to the subcontractors. Final contract amount if \$5,747,372.53. Funding is available in the New Public Library Buildings.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Agredano
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 22. Consideration to approve amendment no. 2, an increase of \$16,023.77 to the Architectural/Engineering (A/E) Contract with Kell, Munoz, Wigodsky, San Antonio, Texas, associated with the firms of Turner, Hickey & Associates and Mejia Engineering Company for additional services for the replacement of the damaged concrete column, preparation of drawings to correct structural defects, and additional field trips and inspections due to Ramex Construction Co., Inc. not completing the project within the allotted time for the City of Laredo New Main Library. These additional services are to be paid from Ramex Construction Co., Inc. Change Order #5. Funding is available the New Public Library Project Engineering Fees. Upon approval by Council a transfer will be initiated from Reserve Appropriation.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Agredano

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 23. Consideration to refund property tax to the following taxpayer and companies:
 - a) a refund for Benigno Garcia, Jr. in the amount of \$599.74 due to corrected living area and land square footage.
 - b) a refund for U.S. Filter Distribution Group c/o Juan De Leon in the amount of \$987.32 due to a double assessed Merchandise Inventory
 - c) a refund for Jacaman Development, Inc., in the amount f \$671.08 due to a double assessment of property
 - d) the Vaugh Group Ltd. c/o Tax Department in the amount of \$1,344.40 due to double assessment of property.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

- 24. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to enter into a renewal contract with VERTEX TARGETED OPPORTUNITIES (hereinafter referred to as VERTEX) of Dallas, Texas, to complete Medicaid Administrative Claims for the City of Laredo Health Department for the period beginning October 1, 1998, through September 30, 1999.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni

Second: Cm. Alvarado

permission to construct, maintain and use an overpass at Railroad Milepost 399, in Laredo, Webb County, Texas, a/k/a the Unitec Railroad Overpass.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 29. Presentation by U.S. Customs and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a License Contract with U.S. Customs for the placement of License plates readers on city right-of-way.

George St. Claire, Program Officer for U.S. Customs and officer in charge of the license plate reader program, said that U.S. Customs and I.N.S. (Immigration and Naturalization Service) have received funding of \$35 million to set up automated plate readers in every crossing in the Southwest border. The automated plate readers will be used for both in-bound and out-bound traffic. The main purpose of this program is to increase enforcement capabilities. Getting the license plate numbers of people coming and going will greatly increase apprehension of drug smugglers. Also, they expect to make a big dent in stolen cars leaving the country. Mr. St. Claire added that this program is nationally funded and nationally maintained. If council gives their approval, the installation of the system will be done in September or October and whatever is required to have a safe installation.

A video depicting how the APR system (automated plate reading system) works was shown to council. Mr. Claire then said, that they are asking the City to agree in principle to allow them to put the system on the City's streets going out-of-town prior to the toll booths. Once an agreement in principle is made, then they can discuss with the City as to where exactly the readers will be installed, what problems there might be, and the data sharing which will be offered to law enforcement. He added that they are developing a vehicle counter system which works off of the sensor beams. The City may request this information to be shared so that it may serve to audit the bridge traffic totals.

Motion to authorize the City Manager to enter into a license contract with U.S. Customs for the placement of automated license plate readers on City's rights-of-way.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo
Second: Cm. Valdez
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

30. Consideration to approve City Staff's recommendation for termination of Professional Services contract with Ashley Humphries and Sanchez Architects Laredo - McAllen, for the Father Charles M. McNaboe Park under the terms as outlined in the Professional Services contract documents as stipulated in Division VIII, "Termination and/or Suspension of Work" and per the City Engineer's acknowledgment that sufficient cause exists to justify termination since the City of Laredo through the Engineering Department, Department of Public Works, and Parks, and Recreation Department administers and executes the project. Architect has acknowledged the termination intent and agrees with the action recommended. To date, Ashley Humphries and Sanchez Architects Laredo -McAllen has been paid a total of \$72,518.82 (or 80%) out of the \$90,648.53 total Professional Services contract, with a balance of \$18,129.71 remaining on his contract. Funding is available in the Capital Improvement Project Father McNaboe Park.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

31. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to terminate a contract agreement with World Tire Recycling, Inc. Brownsville, Texas for the collection, transportation, storage and disposal services of tires from the City of Laredo Landfill.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Bruni

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

IX. STAFF REPORTS

32. Quarterly report to the City Council by the Laredo Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Don Raulie, C&V Director, reported in reference to visitors guide used for promotional efforts. He said that the edition was printed in November 1998 and is still being used this year. They are in the process of developing specifications for the new guide. There are a number of changes that they plan to incorporate into the guide such as more information about Nuevo Laredo, more ads featuring Nuevo Laredo businesses, portions of the text will be in Spanish, increasing the number of copies that will be produced (by about 35%), plus additional copies

will be distributed in Mexico.

In addition, they are working with the office of tourism in Nuevo Laredo in the development of information and they will be responsible for the distribution of the guide in Mexico.

He spoke in reference to the Millennium Celebration. He said they have held informal meetings with people who have an interest in putting together some sort of a celebration for the city. City officials from Laredo/Nuevo Laredo have met to discuss the possibility of a joint effort/joint celebration that would take place on the eve of the new millennium. Things discussed include a major fiesta in the business districts of both cities, an international bridge ceremony, and a fireworks demonstration that would take place on the border. People invited to the meeting included customs, immigration, bridge officials, and police from both cities. The intent was to bring all those people together to discuss any concerns that they might have about the plans for that evening.

Next, he spoke of the position statement and said that the advisory board adopted a position last month which formally establishes the "Gateway to Mexico" as a slogan that will be used in all our advertising and promotional materials.

He also mentioned that an important point that developed during that process was a focus on our Laredo's rich heritage as a promotional resource. As they looked around the community to determine what there was about Laredo that people might be interested in coming to see, they did not find any beaches or major theme parks, but what they found was an enormous rich history.

He also reported that they are trying to establish a new "Welcome" billboard on the north side of town and they are still working on the project.

He noted that our inquiries are still running significantly ahead of last year. While they are only expressions of interest, nevertheless it is a good indication of interest to travel into the City of Laredo.

Cm. Guerra asked if they have any figures as to how much tourism is actually coming into the city.

Mr. Raulie said they will bring a report on the number of meetings and conventions held in Laredo, plus a report on group tourists with their next report.

They are in the process of developing a marketing plan and will have a draft ready to show the advisory board on August 4th.

33. Request for Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 in regards to deliberating the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property for additional City office space, because deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person; and return to Open Session for possible action.

Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 in regards to deliberating the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property for additional City office space, because deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person; and return to Open Session for possible action.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cw. Montalvo

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Cm. Guerra

Cm. Guerra recused himself from this item.

After executive session Mayor Flores announced that no formal action was taken.

34. Presentation of the Chacon Creek Flood Protection Plan by Brown and Root. This project is being made possible through a grant from the Texas Water Development Board. The study includes hydrological and hydraulic data for the submittal of a letter of Map Revision (LOMR) to the Federal Emergency Management Agency which will establish a storm water information database identifying hydraulic structures in the floodplain, develop a Flood Protection Plan including proposed regulations for structural improvements, and will provide the City with a computer model to plan the scheduled maintenance of stream beds and structures.

John Acevedo, from Brown & Root Services, made the presentation before the council. He showed watershed and hydrology maps, and explained that other tributaries were studied plus gave an overview of the 10-year storm, 25-year storm, 50-year and the 100-year storm events. He gave an overview of discharges and quantities that we are dealing with and explained the following tables.

- 1) **Flood Insurance Study Update.**

This study will be used to up date and enhance the existing Flood Insurance Study information dated May 17, 1982 for portions of Chacon Creek and five (5) tributaries within the City and County jurisdictional boundaries. The detailed study streams consist of:

- 1) Chacon Creek, from the Rio Grande River to Lake Casablanca
- 2) Tributary No. 1, to Chacon Creek
- 3) Tributary No. 2, to Chacon Creek
- 4) Tributary No. 3, to Chacon Creek

2) Master Drainage Plan

A) Interim (Existing) Development Condition

The Interim Drainage Plan provides the recommended improvement plan for each channel to relieve the existing flooding conditions identified in the Updated Flood Insurance Study. Included are the preliminary construction costs for implementation. This estimate did not include the costs associated with the acquisition of the right-of-way requirements for the channel improvements. These improvements are consistent with the Future Development Drainage Plan improvements for the different channels. The table below presents the summary of the preliminary construction cost estimates for implementing the Interim Drainage Plan for each of the different channel system. These costs are in addition to the Future Development Master Drainage Plan recommendations.

B) Future Development Condition

The Future Development Drainage Plan provides the recommended improvement plan for each channel in order to accommodate the 100-year discharge resulting from the full development conditions within each watershed. Included are the preliminary construction costs for implementation. These improvements are consistent with the Interim Drainage Plan improvements for the different channels. The following table presents the summary of the preliminary construction cost estimates for implementing the Future Development Master Drainage Plan for each of the different channel systems. These costs are in addition to those in the Interim Drainage Plan.

COST FOR MASTER DRAINAGE PLAN IMPROVEMENTS

CHANNEL	A. INTERIM DRAINAGE PLAN (\$)	B. FULL DEVELOPMENT CONDITION (\$)
Chacon Creek	\$16.4 M	\$0.0 M
Tributary 1	\$10.1 M	\$1.23 M

Tributary 2	\$ 1.92 M	\$3.83 M
Tributary 3	\$ 5.74 M	\$1.62 M
Tinaja Creek	\$ 0.21 M	\$0.72 M
TOTAL COST	\$34.37 M	\$7.4 M

**CHACON CREEK WATERSHED MASTER DRAINAGE PLAN
CHANNEL CONSTRUCTION COST
CHACON CREEK**

ALTERNATIVE 1 -EARTHEN CUT CHANNEL

DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	COST
Clearing	Acre	250	\$1,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
Grubbing	Acre	250	\$1,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
Excavation & Haul	CY	804000	\$ 4.00	\$ 3,216,000.00
Bridge Installation				
Hwg 359	SF	45984	\$ 57.00	\$ 2,621,088.00
Tex Mex*	SF	3 * 13927	\$ 57.00	\$ 2,353,200.00
Clark Blvd.	SF	27011	\$ 57.00	\$ 1,539,627.00
Hwy 59	SF	41454	\$ 57.00	\$ 2,362,878.00
Culvert Installation	LS	0	\$ -	-
Slope Protection & Concrete Lining	CY	0	\$ 225.00	\$ -
Backslope Drains	Each	34	\$2,500.00	\$ 85,000.00
Seeding & Mulching	Acre	250	\$1,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
Sub-total				\$12,927,793.00
Contingencies (15%)				\$ 1,939,169.00
Total Construction Cost				\$14,866,962.00
Engineering & Administration (10%)				\$ 1,486,696.20
Total				\$16,353,659.00

*use of spur recommended, original price is tripled

There was lengthy discussion on how the drainage improvements, including building a new water retention facility were to be incorporated. Also, one of the remarks made was that development should not be allowed in the high flooding areas.

Mr. Acevedo stated that some alternatives for the improvement of Chacon Creek include a detention pond on Lake Casa Blanca, earthen, and channalization. Currently most channels are fully

vegetated, so clearing the channels from bank to bank would reduce the flood level approximately one half to one-foot. Regarding the bridges, the recommendation is to salvage three bridges and replace four. Out of the four, one is included in TxDOT's project for US 59, and another one near HWY 359, can possibly be include with another TxDOT project.

Cm. Guerra requested from the Engineering Department to review the information provided by the Brown & Root Study and see if the information is adequate.

Florencio Pena, City Manager, said that the Brown and Root Study provides the baseline data needed for our three creeks: Chacon, Zacate, and Manadas. Also, it would help us to develop a plan to handle those basins more efficiently, and to give direction to the developers on how these areas should be developed. In the meantime, staff will evaluate the information provided by the study and probably come with its recommendation in two weeks.

35. Informing City Council of the need to defer the Public Hearing for Impact Fees originally set for July 19, 1999, for a date not yet determined, to accommodate the necessary review work by community representatives and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Motion to accept.

Moved : Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Bruni
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

36. Presentation of Budget Calendar for the confirmation of upcoming scheduled budget workshops and townhall meetings.

Heberto Ramirez, Budget Officer, presented the proposed calendar to council and changes were made as follows:

- Saturday, July 14, at 5:30 p.m.
City Council Workshop, aid to other agencies.
(Special City Council Meeting)
- Saturday, July 24, at 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
City Hall at the Mall (City of Laredo Showcase Workshop)
Mall del Norte Center court
- Monday, July 26, 1999
Present Operating Budget to City Council at regular City Council Meeting.

- Monday, August 9, Townhall Meeting
 - *Cw. Montalvo (District VIII):
 - Laredo Civic Center (Meeting Rooms) at 5:30
- Tuesday, August 10, Townhall Meetings
 - *Cm. Galo (District III):
 - Daiches Elementary
 - *Cm. Valdez (District V):
 - Northeast Recreational Center (Hillside)
- Wednesday, August 11, Townhall Meetings
 - *Cm. Guerra (District VI):
 - Northeast Recreational Center (Hillside) at 5:30 p.m.
 - *Cm. Alvarado (District VII):
 - Finley Elementary at 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, August 12, Townhall Meetings
 - *Cm. Bruni (District II):
 - Neumann Elementary at 5:30 p.m.
 - *Cm. Agredano (District I)
 - Cigarroa Recreation Center at 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Friday, Saturday -August 19th, 20th, & 21st
City Council workshops with City Manager and Dept. Directors
 - Thursday -August 19th to begin at 5:00 p.m.
 - Friday -August 20th to begin at 5:00 p.m.
 - Saturday -August 21st to begin at 9:00 a.m. (all day)
- Tuesday, September 7, 1999
Public hearing and introduction of budget & tax levy ordinance
- Monday, September 20, 1999
Final reading of budget & tax levy ordinance

X. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Tobacco Free, That's me! Students from the 12 local middle schools participated in a tobacco abuse prevention contest.

Jerry Robinson, Health Director, presented 6 of the 12 first place winners of the Tobacco T-shirt/Poster Contest.

School:	Student's name	Grade
Cigarroa Middle School	Tomas Robles	8th
Clark Middle School	Randy Gonzalez	8th
Salvador Garcia M.S.	San Juanita Mendoza	6th
Trautmann Middle School	Denise Kirby	7th
Trautmann Middle School	Monica Flores	7th
Washington Middle School	Joshua Nunez	6th

- B. Cm. Bruni submitted an e-mail letter for the record dated June 28, 1999 from Eleazar Martinez of the Eastwood Estates complaining about loud noises coming from the airport. He asked that the Airport Director respond to it.

(Letter quotes)

"Dear Mr. Bruni,

My name is Eleazar Martinez, Jr. and I live in the Armadillo "Eastwoods" subdivision. Our concern is that the airplanes that pass through here pass at very low attitude. The noise that they make is excessively loud.

I would like to know if you have this matter in your agenda and what is your opinion on it. My e-mail is eleazar@rio.bravo.net.

Thank you"

(End of letter)

- C. Cm. Bruni submitted the flight activity report for May and June, the rainfall report for four counties (Dimmit, LaSalle, Webb, and Zavala) for June which indicate that the total four county average rainfall for the month of June was 10.33 as reported by rain gauge participants for Southwest Texas Rain Enhancement Association and the rain enhancement report for June 21, 1999 through June 27, 1999 as follows:

Flight Activity for May

Flight date: 5/10/99 Time: 5:25 - 8:10

Counties: LaSalle

Seeding Materials: 50g -AgI 22 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight date: 5/26/99 Time: 5:30 - 9:15

Counties: Dimmit-LaSalle-Webb

Seeding Materials: 4-50g AgI BIP 12 25gAGI BIP
5 gal AgI Acetone Solution

Flight date: 5/27/99 Time: 9:15 p.m.

Counties: Zavala-Dimmit-Webb

Seeding Materials: 23 23g AgI BIP

Flight date: 5/28/99 Time: 12:25 - 2:15

Counties: LaSalle-Webb

Seeding Materials: 13 25g AgI BIP

Rainfall Report for June 1999				
<u>Date</u>	<u>Dimmit</u>	<u>LaSalle</u>	<u>Webb</u>	<u>Zavala</u>
06-12	1.49	No report	No report	2.92
06-13	1.8	3.37	0.891	0.13
06-14	0.43	1.51	1.48	2.31
06-15	9	1.64	0.48	0.49
06-16	3.3	3.8	4.26	No report
06-17	0.5	No report	0.36	--
06-18	No report	--	No report	--
06-19	0.21	0.2	0.81	0.5
06-20	2.66	0.31	0.042	0.71
06-21	3.76	0.301	0.22	1.5
06-22	20	1.88	0.28	No report
Total	5.32	6.07	6.07	12.92

Total four county average rainfall for the month of June, 1999 was 10.33, as reported by rain gauge participants for Southwest Texas Rail Enhancement Association.

Flight Activity for June

Flight #5, date: 6/14/99 Time: 8:28 - 10:45
 Counties: Dimmit & Zavala
 Seeding Materials: 450g AgI 18 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #6, date: 6/14/99 Time: 11:45 - 13:50
 Counties: Webb
 Seeding Materials: 550g AgI 22 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #7, date: 06/14/99 Time: 14:23 - 15:49
 Counties: LaSalle (all), Dimmit & Webb
 Seeding Materials: 550g AgI 22 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #8, date: 06/14/99 Time: 15:45 - 17:48
 Counties: South 1/2 Webb
 Seeding Materials: 375g AgI 15 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #9, date: 06/15/99 Time: 14:20 - 17:00
 Counties: LaSalle (all), Webb, Zavala & Dimmit
 Seeding Materials: 550g AgI 22 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #10, date: 06/16/99 Time: 13:45 - 15:55
 Counties: East 1/2 of Webb & LaSalle
 Seeding Materials: 575g AgI 23 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #11, date: 06/16/99 Time: 16:38 - 18:15

Counties: LaSalle, Webb & Dimmit
Seeding Materials: 273g AgI 1.2 Liquid Generator

Flight #12, date: 06/17/99 Time: 14:10 - 16:20
Counties: LaSalle, Zavala, & Webb
Seeding Materials: 598g AgI 0.3 Liquid Generator,
19 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #13, date: 06/17/99 Time: 17:25 - 19:10
Counties: Webb
Seeding Materials: 200g AgI 8 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #14, date: 06/18/99 Time: 16:35 - 18:00
Counties: Webb & LaSalle
Seeding Materials: 450g AgI 18 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #15, date: 06/19/99 Time: 14:37 - 17:15
Counties: LaSalle (all), Webb, Dimmit & Zavala
Seeding Materials: 600g AgI 24 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #16, date: 06/19/99 Time: 18:10 - 19:19
Counties: Zavala
Seeding Materials: 50g AgI 2 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #17, date: 06/20/99 Time: 13:40 - 17:05
Counties: Dimmit & Webb
Seeding Materials: 600g AgI 24 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #18, date: 06/21/99 Time: 14:12 - 17:48
Counties: LaSalle, Zavala, Webb & Dimmit
Seeding Materials: 600g AgI 24 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #19, date: 06/21/99 Time: 18:00 - 20:05
Counties: Webb & LaSalle
Seeding Materials: 225g AgI 9 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #20, date: 06/24/99 Time: 18:00 - 20:30
Counties: LaSalle, Zavala & Dimmit
Seeding Materials: 657g AgI 1.5 Liquid Generator
14 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #21, date: 06/25/99 Time: 13:35 - 15:30
Counties: Webb & LaSalle
Seeding Materials: 550g AgI 22 Burn-In-Place Flares

Flight #22, date: 06/25/99 Time: 16:00 - 17:50
Counties: Dimmit & Webb
Seeding Materials: 450g AgI 18 Burn-In-Place Flares

Totals: 18 Flights, 304 Flares, 3.0 of Generator time using 10.3 gallons of solution.

Note: Counties are listed in the order of most coverage to least coverage.

**Southwest Texas Rain
Enhancement Association**

Weather forecast (6/21/99):

No forecasts received due to very active cloud seeding.

Activities Summary:

Two flights, first flight was a cell in Zavala County and a cell in SW LaSalle/N. Central Webb Counties. Second flight N. Central LaSalle County and SW Webb County.

Weather forecast (6/22/99):

Partly cloudy skies with possible late afternoon thunderstorms.

Activities Summary:

No seeding operations.

Weather forecast (6/23/99):

Partly cloudy with isolated afternoon thunderstorms and showers.

Activities Summary:

No seeding operations.

Weather forecast (6/24/99):

Partly cloudy skies with isolated thunderstorms developing.

Activities Summary:

One seeding flight was conducted, consisting of two small cells in E. Zavala, one on Dimmit/La Salle Line and two in E. LaSalle, conditions were fair.

Weather forecast: (6/25/99)

Partly cloudy skies with late afternoon scattered thunderstorms.

Activities Summary:

Two flights: first was a cell in Central Webb County, a second cell in S. LaSalle County and a third cell in NE LaSalle County. Second flight was a large cell in SE Dimmit, traveling SW into NW Webb County, Conditions were considered excellent.

Weather forecast: (6/26/99)

Partly cloudy skies with late afternoon isolated thunderstorms.

Activities Summary:
No seeding operations.

Weather forecast: (6/27/99)
Partly cloudy skies

Activities Summary:
No seeding operations.

- D. Mayor Flores shared a letter of appreciation from the Volunteer Texas Department of Human Services in which they commended her and the City Council for giving the volunteers that worked in Laredo a beautiful certificate during the Central Texas Conference Youth in Mission.
- F. Mayor Flores, thanked Justice of the Peace Valdez, Judge Vasquez, and Mr. Jorge Haynes from International Bank of Commerce for bringing World Champion Basketball player Avery Johnson to Laredo.
She also thanked the Parks and Recreation Director and staff, the Girls/Boys Club of Laredo who work hard on this endeavor.

XI. CITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

- 37. Requests by Mayor and City Council members for presentation and discussion.

A. Request by Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores

- 1. Presentation and status report by the Citizens Environmental Committee.

Maria Eugenia Guerra, Chair of Citizens Environmental Committee, said that the committee had met for the last several months to start designing the scope of their work. However, some meetings have not been successful because of they lacked quorum. She asked Councilmembers to contact their appointees and see if their appointee is interested and willing to participate in this committee meetings.

Ms. Guerra then gave a overview of the committee's general focus which is to watch over all aspects of the environment, such as water, air, soil, watershed, wildlife, wetlands, and native vegetation as they are affected by industrial, commercial and residential

development. She also mentioned that the committee believes that the City of Laredo should serve as a model of environmental best practices, on water, resource conservation, and recycling.

The committee is in the process of writing and revising ordinances to safeguard the watershed and environment in this region. Also, the committee is working with the City's environmental engineer to make ready the water pollution prevention ordinance that EPA has mandated pursuant to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. The ordinance that the committee will be delivering to council will have stringent standards and definitions and will set minimum standards for protecting the environment. There must be a balance within the needs of the environment and the needs of the business community.

B. Request by Council member Louis H. Bruni

1. Request for a legal opinion from the City Attorney on the City's authority to enforce any and all oil and gas City Ordinances within the City's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) with possible action.

City Attorney, Jaime Flores, stated that the short answer on enforcing our city ordinances in the ETJ is "no", however he understands the concern with regards to conveying the city's concern with the development of oil and gas industry in our ETJ and its impact. He said he will explore what we can do in this regard with the Senator and with the Railroad Commissioner in terms of conveying those concerns to see what kind of controls or what kind of enforcement there is besides the city ordinance. He added that the Texas Government Code allows us to regulate the city ordinances and said that the state law allows just platting, therefore there isn't a state law that enables regulation of oil/gas in the ETJ. He will explore the issue and will deliver a written response.

Cm. Guerra also spoke of another concern, whereby some producers refuse to plug the wells after they have stopped producing because of the language in our city ordinances.

Cm. Bruni asked that the City Manager and the City Attorney petition the Railroad Commissioner and tell them that there are safety concerns out there, the well has been depleted, but all natural gas wells even if depleted

will prevent vehicles exiting the post office to turn left. On the HEB's (at Saunders) issue, he said that TXDOT is aligning HEB's driveway with Milmo St. This will enable vehicles to exit into Hwy 59 without getting crossed in the left turn way. Other driveways at Jarvis Street will also be realigned, and the issue regarding the vacant K-Mart driveway was also addressed. Mr. Sanchez feels that most of the risks have been considerably reduced.

There was a lengthy discussion on whether to approve the original plan or make some minor revision to it. Mr. Pena said that Commerce Bank, TXDOT, and planning staff got together and discussed two basic alternatives. For instance, one was to connect by Mercy Hospital and provide a frontage road. Because TXDOT obtained federal funds for this project, only minor changes can be made to the original proposed plans since those were the plans approved.

Motion to rescind motion of June 21, 1999, adopt TxDOT proposed median, and if there can be changes made without jeopardizing the funding, discuss those changes with Commerce Bank.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 6

Against: 1
Cm. Guerra
Abstain: 0

C. Request by Council member Eliseo Valdez Jr.

1. City Council confirmation of Mrs. Mucia Dovalina to the Laredo Women's Commission.

Motion confirming Mrs. Mucia Dovalina to the Laredo Women's Commission

Moved : Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Bruni
For: 7

Against: 0
Abstain: 0

D. Request by Council member Cecilia May Moreno

1. Request for traffic study relating to accidents on Stone and Clark.

Motion to table.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

- 2. Discussion and possible action regarding improvements needed for Dr. Al King Little League Field.

Motion to table.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 38. Public hearing amending the FY1998-99 budget of the Laredo Municipal Transit Systems Fund Revenues to appropriate funds in the amount of \$837,600 from the Texas Department of Transportation Grant Agreement No. TX 03-0204; providing for grant funds to be deposited in the City Transit Department Accounts, and transferring \$209,400 from the Transit Sales Tax process budget reserve account to automotive.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance amending the FY1998-99 budget of the Laredo Municipal Transit Systems Fund Revenues to appropriate funds in the amount of \$837,600 from the Texas Department of Transportation Grant Agreement No. TX 03-0204; providing for grant funds to be deposited in the City Transit Department Accounts, and transferring \$209,400 from the Transit Sales Tax process budget reserve account to automotive.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cm. Bruni
Second: Cm. Galo
For: 7

Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 39. Public hearing authorizing the issuance of City of Laredo, Texas Combination Tax and Airport Revenue Refunding Bonds,

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

Second: Cm. Valdez

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

Moved : Cw. Montalvo

Second: Cm. Guerra

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Ordinance Introduction: City Council

- 41. Public hearing authorizing the issuance of City of Laredo, Texas Combination Tax and Waterworks System Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 1999, in the principal amount of \$3,850,000 for the purpose of paying all or a portion of the City's Contractual Obligations for the purpose of improving and extending the City's Waterworks System, constructing and equipping an addition to the City's Public Works Building, and the payment of legal and fiscal fees in connection with this project, approving an official statement, authorizing the execution of a purchase contract, and other matters relating thereto.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE

Ordinance authorizing the issuance of City of Laredo, Texas Combination Tax and Waterworks System Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 1999, in the principal amount of \$3,850,000 for the purpose of paying all or a portion of the City's Contractual Obligations for the purpose of improving and extending the City's Waterworks System, constructing and equipping an addition to the City's Public Works Building, and the payment of legal and fiscal fees in connection with this project, approving an official statement, authorizing the execution of a purchase contract, and other matters relating thereto.

Motion to open the public hearing.

Moved : Cm. Galo

Second: Cw. Montalvo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

There was no public input.

Motion to close the public hearing and introduce.

43. 99-RT-093 Authorizing the City Manager to accept and execute a Texas Department of Transportation Grant Agreement No. TX03-0204, in the amount of \$1,047,000 from the State Public Transportation Fund for the fiscal year 1999; and providing for grant funds to be deposited in the City Transit Department accounts.

Motion to approve.

Moved : Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Valdez
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion to adjourn as The Laredo Mass Transit Board and convene as City Council.

Moved : Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XIV. MOTIONS

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to execute an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) to fund approximately \$1,022,225.00 for water and sewer utility adjustment work necessary for the Milo Interchange Project scheduled for letting in July. Funding for the utility adjustments will come from the City's current State Infrastructure Bank Loan proceeds, subject to TXDOT review of funding alternatives.

Motion to approve with a correction in the amount of \$1,822,225.00.

Moved : Cm. Galo
Second: Cm. Alvarado
For: 7 Against: 0 Abstain: 0

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Adjournment time: 9:10 p.m.

Moved : Cm. Alvarado

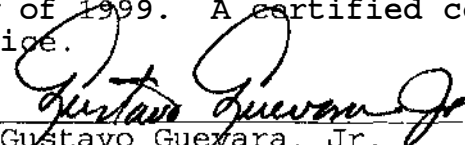
Second: Cm. Galo

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

I hereby certify that the above minutes contained in pages 01 to 33 true, complete, and correct proceedings of the City Council Meeting held on the 6th day of July of 1999. A certified copy is on file at the City Secretary's Office.


Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary

Minutes Approved : August 2, 1999