

Minutes
Finance & Personnel Association (FAPA)
Staff Association Meeting
September 18, 2024

MEMBERS' PRESENT

Allison Collier - CAPCOG
Alyce Acosta – RIOCOG
Angelica (Angie) Lara - BVCOG
Betsy Prado - MRGDC
Bianca Precise - GCRPC
Brandy Brannon - ETCOG
Brittaney Wagner GCRPC
Cathe Henderson - PBRPC
Cindy Chionsini - DETCOG
Crystal Balboa – LRGVDC
Deedra Johnson - AACOG
Diane Terrell – WCTCOG
Edith Wilder – CTCOG
Glenda Lacy - SETRPC
Jeff King - SETRPC
John C Minnix - HOTCOG
Judy Cisneros – RIOCOG
Lesli Flores - PBRPC
Lindsay Mikulenska - GCRPC
Lucinda Elizondo - AACOG
Maximiliano Pereda - MRGDC
Michelle Vasquez – HOTCOG
Richard Espinoza - BVCOG
Shauna Lyke - ETCOG
Silvia Alvarado - CAPCOG
Tim Schwartz - SPAG
Timothy Fuentes – PBRPC
Trenton Taylor – PRPC
Veronica Toomey – CBCOG
Wendi Horst - ETCOG

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

The Finance & Personnel Association (FAPA) met on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 8:30 am. Jeff King, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

FAPA BUSINESS MEETING 8:35 am

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the FAPA meeting held on September 18, 2024, were presented for approval. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. John Minnix with Heart of Texas Council of Governments and seconded by Ms. Brandy Brannon with East Texas Council of Governments. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

TREASURERS REPORT

Mr. John Minnix with Heart of Texas Council of Governments presented the Treasurer's Report as of July 31, 2024, and there were no questions. Mr. Trenton Taylor, Panhandle Regional Planning Commission made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, which was seconded by Ms. Wendi Horst, East Texas Council of Governments. The motion carried and was passed.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

FAPA TRAINING

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Ryan Burns, Cyber Risk Services Manager – TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool - Cybersecurity Risk Management for Local Governments

Mr. Ryan Burns introduced himself and presented The Cybersecurity Pandemic. He discussed how we think "It won't happen to us...", "Claims...What are Our Members Seeing" and "How Do I Protect Against Ransomware?" He presented examples of ransom attacks in Texas towns and displayed ransom notes for information purposes. He stated ways an organization can help prevent ransom attacks. He also discussed EFT Fraud – Fraudulent Instruction Loss. The members asked many questions about cybersecurity regarding their organizations.

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Katlyn Le, Director - Office of Area Agencies on Aging

Katlyn Le with Office of Area Agencies on Aging discussed the finance updates from her office. She discussed timelines, release of funds, (NOA) and clarified funding for FY25. Ms. Le said she could share presentation slides with members upon request.

11:00 am – 12:00 am

Sara Glaser, Chair – Lloyd Gosselink - Employment Law Practice Group

Ms. Sara Glaser, with Lloyd Gosselink, discussed Hot Topics in Employment Law - Employment Law Updates. She discussed the Top Ten Countdown of Mistakes Plaintiffs' Lawyer Love. This included workers' rights, FMLA, FLSA exempt salary threshold, employee's health, harassment and other employment law topics. Ms. Glaser stated members could request the slides.

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Using Artificial Intelligence to Enhance Local Government Capacity - GENERAL TRAINING SESSION

This was a general session for all to have a lively conversation from the professionals at Google to hear the impact that AI can have on local government operations and learn how public sector leaders can chart their path forward with appropriate frameworks, tools, and governance structures with a responsible approach across their organizations.

ADJOURN – 5:00 pm