

## Texas Transportation Commission Minutes

### Introduction

These are the minutes of the regular meeting of the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) held on April 30, 2026, in Austin, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Acting Chairman W. Alvin New with the following present:

#### **Texas Transportation Commission**

W. Alvin New, Acting Chairman

Robert C. Vaughn, Commissioner

Alejandro "Alex" Meade III, Commissioner

Steven D. Alvis, Commissioner

Pat Gordon, Commissioner

#### **Administrative Staff**

Marc D. Williams, P.E., Executive Director

Jeff Graham, General Counsel

Amanda Brown, Commission Chief Clerk

A public notice of this meeting containing all items on the proposed agenda was filed in the Office of the Texas Secretary of State at 4:21 p.m. on April 22, 2026, as required by Government Code, Chapter 551, referred to as "The Open Meetings Act."

### Agenda

#### **Item 1. Safety Briefing**

Executive Director Marc D. Williams, P.E., directed the Dewitt C. Greer State Highway Building safety video be shown on the screens in the Ric Williamson Hearing Room.

**Item 2. Opening Comments from Commissioners and Executive Director**

The commissioners and executive director made opening remarks.

**Item 3. Approval of Minutes**

Consider the approval of the March 25, 2026, regular meeting of the Texas Transportation Commission

Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III. The commission approved the minutes of the March 25, 2026, regular meeting by a vote of 5-0.

**Item 4. Contracts**

Consider the award or rejection of contracts for highway construction and maintenance, and construction and rehabilitation of buildings

**a. Highway Improvements and Other Transportation Facilities**

This item was presented by Construction Division Director Duane S. Milligan, P.E. Commissioner Steven D. Alvis made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117161 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117161 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**b. Routine Maintenance**

This item was presented by Construction Division Director Duane S. Milligan, P.E. Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Pat Gordon, and the commission approved Minute Order 117162 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117162 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**Item 5. Discussion Items**

**a. Texas Bridges and Pavements**

This discussion was led by Engineering and Safety Operations Senior Director Jessice Butler, P.E., Maintenance Division Director James Stevenson, P.E., and Bridge Division Director Jamie Farris, P.E. The commission asked questions and discussed the topic. The commission received no comments.

**b. Population Update**

This discussion was led by Program Delivery Deputy Executive Director Brian Barth, P.E. and Texas State Demographer Dr. Xiuhong "Helen" You. The commission asked questions and discussed the topic. The commission received no comments.

**Item 6. Aviation**

**Various Counties** - Consider the award of federal non-primary entitlement grant funding, federal apportionment grand funding, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act grant funding, and state grant funding for airport improvement projects at various locations

This item was presented by Aviation Division Director Dan Harmon. Commissioner Steven D. Alvis made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn, and the commission approved Minute Order 117163 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117163 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**Item 7. National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program**

**Various Counties** - Consider approval to issue a request for grant applications to construct electric vehicle charging stations in rural county

seats and metropolitan areas

This item was presented by Transportation Planning and Programming Division Director Humberto "Tito" Gonzalez, Jr., P.E., M.B.A. Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Pat Gordon, and the commission approved Minute Order 117164 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117164 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**Item 8. Design-Build Contract**

**Brazoria and Galveston Counties** - Consider approving the selection of the proposer who submitted the best value proposal and the conditional award of a design-build contract and a corresponding capital maintenance contract to the selected proposer, for the design, construction, and maintenance of the State Highway 99 Grand Parkway Segment B-1 Design-Build Project and authorizing the executive director of the Texas Department of Transportation to negotiate and execute a Design-Build Agreement and associated Capital Maintenance Agreement with the selected proposer

This item was presented by Alternative Delivery Division Director Greg Snider. Commissioner Steven D. Alvis made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117165 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117165 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**Item 9. Promulgation of Administrative Rules** Under Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, and the Administrative Procedures Act, Government Code, Chapter 2001:

**a. Rule Proposals**

**(1) Chapter 7 - Rail Facilities**

New §§7.160-7.173, contained in new Subchapter H, concerning the Short Line Railroad Improvement State

### Fund Program

This item was presented by Rail Division Director Donald Franks. The commission heard comments from Texas Rail Advocate President Peter LeCody and Texas Shortline & Regional Railroad Association President Joey Evans. Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117166 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117166 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

### **(2) Chapter 30 - Aviation**

#### Amendments to §§30.202 - 30.203, §30.206, and §30.210 concerning Aviation Facilities Development Financial Assistance Rules

This item was presented by Aviation Division Director Dan Harmon. Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Pat Gordon, and the commission approved Minute Order 117167 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117167 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

### **(3) Chapter 30 - Aviation**

#### Amendments to §30.502 and §30.503 concerning Meteorological Evaluation Towers

This item was presented by Aviation Division Director Dan Harmon. Commissioner Steven D. Alvis made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Pat Gordon, and the commission approved Minute Order 117168 by a

vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117168 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**b. Final Adoptions**

**(1) Chapter 9 - Contract and Grant Management**

Adopts amendments to §§9.12-9.15 and §9.17 concerning contracts for highway projects

This item was presented by Construction Division Director Duane Milligan, P.E. Commissioner Pat Gordon made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117169 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117169 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**(2) Chapter 28 - Oversize and Overweight Vehicles and Loads**

Adopts amendments to §28.11 and §28.12(e), repealing the requirement for surety bonds to be approved by the Comptroller of Public Accounts and the Attorney General's Office

This item was presented by Maintenance Division Director James Stevenson, P.E. Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Steven D. Alvis, and the commission approved Minute Order 117170 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117170 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**c. Rules Review**

Consider the re-adoption of Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, Part 1, Chapter 10, Ethical Conduct by Entities Doing Business with the Department; Chapter 11, Design; Chapter 12, Public Donation and Participation Program; Chapter 13, Materials Quality; Chapter 15, Financing and Construction of Transportation Projects; Chapter 16, Planning and Development of Transportation Projects; Chapter 21, Right of Way; and Chapter 22, Use of State Property, in accordance with Government Code, §2001.039

This item was presented by General Counsel Jeff Graham. Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117171 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117171 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**Item 10. Contested Case**

**Travis County** - AZA Construction, Inc. v. Texas Department of Transportation - Consider action on proposal for decision by administrative law judge concerning Texas Department of Transportation's decision to debar AZA Construction, Inc. for a period of 12 months, final order for ethical violations

This item was presented by Associate General Counsel Dionne Barner. Commissioner Steven D. Alvis made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117172 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117172 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**Item 11. State Infrastructure Bank Loan**

**Various Counties** - Consider approval of applications for State

### Infrastructure Bank loans from various applicants

This item was presented by Senior Lead Portfolio Manager Dallas Teston. The commission heard comments from El Paso Metropolitan Organization (MPO) Executive Director Eduardo Calvo. Commissioner Pat Gordon made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn, and the commission approved Minute Order 117173 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117173 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

### **Item 12. Eminent Domain Proceedings**

#### **Various Counties – Consider the authorization of the filing of condemnation proceedings to acquire real property by eminent domain for non-controlled and controlled access highways**

This item was presented by Right of Way Division Director Kyle Madsen, J.D. Commissioner Pat Gordon made a motion in accordance with §2206.053(e) of the Texas Government Code for the Texas Department of Transportation's use of eminent domain to acquire certain properties described in the minute order therein. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Steven D. Alvis, and Minute Order 117174 was approved by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117174 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

### **Item 13. Routine Minute Orders and Reports**

This item was presented by Executive Director Marc D. Williams, P.E. Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn, and the commission approved Minute Orders 117175-117183 by a vote of 5-0.

#### **a. Donations to the Department**

##### **Various Counties – Consider the acknowledgment of donations with a value of \$500 or more, including donations of money,**

materials, services, or real property, that are made to the Texas Department of Transportation (department) for the purpose of assisting the department in carrying out its functions and duties or for improving access to or from a highway on the state highway system

Minute Order 117175 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**b. Real Estate Dispositions**

**(1) Atascosa County** - State Highway (SH) 97 - Consider the sale of right of way to an abutting landowner

Minute Order 117176 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**(2) Collin County** - United States Highway (US) 75 - Consider an easement release to the underlying fee owner

Minute Order 117177 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**(3) Denton County** - US 380 - Consider an easement release to the underlying fee owner

Minute Order 177178 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**(4) Grayson County** - US 377 - Consider the sale of right of way to an abutting landowner

Minute Order 177179 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**(5) Grayson County** - US 377 - Consider an easement release to the underlying fee owner

Minute Order 177180 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**(6) Grimes County - Farm to Market Road (FM) 244 -**

Consider the sale of right of way to an abutting landowner

Minute Order 177181 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**c. Reports**

**(1) Compliance Division Report**

The written report was provided to the commission.

**(2) Letting Allocation Report**

Quarterly report on the fiscal year 2026-2027 letting allocation, the actual allocation utilized through the quarter, and proposed remaining highway maintenance and construction contract letting for the fiscal year

The written report was provided to the commission.

**(3) Quarterly Cash Report**

Quarterly report on fiscal year 2026 State Highway Fund 6 cash activity

The written report was provided to the commission.

**d. Toll Rates**

**SH 99 (Grand Parkway) Segment B-1 Toll Rates** - Consider approval of the initial toll rates for a portion of Segment B of SH 99 (Grand Parkway) from Interstate Highway 45S to south of FM 2430 Segment B-1 in Galveston and Brazoria counties

Minute Order 177182 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**e. Speed Zones**

**Various Counties** – Consider the establishment or alteration of regulatory and construction speed zones on various sections of highways in the state

Minute Order 117183 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

**Item 14. Executive Session Pursuant to Government Code, Chapter 551 §551.071** - Consultation with and advice from legal counsel regarding any item on this agenda, pending or contemplated litigation, or other legal matters

The commission did not meet in executive session.

**Open Comment Period**

At the conclusion of all other agenda items, the Texas Transportation Commission will allow an open comment period, not to exceed one hour, to receive public comment on any other matter that is under the jurisdiction of the Texas Department of Transportation. No action will be taken. Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of three minutes. Speakers must be signed up prior to the beginning of the open comment period.

The commission heard comments from Pecos City Manager Charles Lino on the Regional Mobility Authority for Reeves County; Brownsville City Commissioner Nurith Galonsky spoke about Texas Department of Transportation funds being used in Brownsville and the East Loop Trade Corridor; TAG Houston Executive Director Christina Cabral spoke about the SH 99 Grand Parkway Segment B-1 Project and the Port of Houston; Economic Alliance Houston Port Region President and Chief Executive Officer Chad Burke spoke about Houston Port Region transportation projects; Blue Energy Principal Project Manager John Scott spoke about the Texas State Highway 35 bridge over the Victoria Barge Canal; El Paso MPO Executive

Director Eduardo Calvo spoke about El Paso MPO items; Barton Hills Neighborhood Association President Barb LaFollette spoke about the South Mopac Expansion Project; and Lithified Technologies Department of Transportation Practice Leader Tom Clemons spoke about full depth reclamation as a process/tool for rebuilding roads. The commission received no further comments.

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III motioned adjournment and Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn seconded the motion. The commission voted 5-0 to adjourn. The regular meeting of the Texas Transportation Commission was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Approved by the Texas Transportation Commission on May 21, 2026.



W. Alvin New, Acting Chairman

Texas Transportation Commission

### **Certification of Minutes**

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing pages constitute the full, true, and correct record of all proceedings and official records of the Texas Transportation Commission at its regular meeting on April 30, 2026, in Austin, Texas.



Amanda Brown, Commission Chief Clerk

Texas Department of Transportation