

MINUTES
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
48th ANNUAL MEETING
BEAUMONT EVENT CENTRE
JANUARY 16, 2020, 6:30 PM

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) 48th Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers was held at the City of Beaumont Event Centre on Thursday, January 16, 2020, 6:30 p.m. A list of attendees may be obtained at the SETRPC, located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77703.

20-001 WELCOME

➤ Mayor Pro Tem Terri Gauthier, City of Bridge City, SETRPC 2019 3rd Vice-President, welcomed all in attendance to the 48th SETRPC Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers. Following the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Pro Tem Gauthier provided details regarding the logistics of the Event Centre facility and the Annual Meeting's schedule and agenda.

20-002 INVOCATION

➤ Judge Wayne McDaniel, Hardin County, SETRPC 2019 Secretary, gave the invocation.

20-003 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

➤ Commissioner Michael "Shane" Sinegal, Jefferson County, SETRPC 2019 Treasurer, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

20-004 THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

➤ Ms. Christine Jackson, Community Services, SETRPC, sang the National Anthem.

20-005 INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS AND 2019 OFFICERS

➤ Ms. Shanna Burke, Executive Director, SETRPC, expressed her appreciation to everyone for attending the SETRPC's 48th Annual Meeting, for being part of the installation of the new officers, and in celebration of the attendees' work and guidance throughout the region.

- Ms. Burke then introduced and recognized some special guests:
- 2019 SETRPC Officers
 - Judge Wayne McDaniel, Hardin County, Secretary
 - Commissioner Michael "Shane" Sinegal, Jefferson County, Treasurer
 - Mayor Pro Tem Terri Gauthier, City of Bridge City, 3rd Vice-President
 - Mayor Pro Tem Mary Adams, City of Kountze, 2nd Vice-President
 - Mayor Rebecca Ford, City of Bevil Oaks, 1st Vice-President
 - Judge John Gothia, Orange County, President
 - Federal Elected Officials and/or Staff
 - U.S. Congressman Brian Babin, District 36
 - Mr. Ben Couhig, Chief of Staff, U.S. Congressman Brian Babin, District 36
 - Mr. Kelly Waterman, District Director, U.S. Congressman Brian Babin, District 36
 - Ms. Lanie Brown, Senior Regional Director of Community Relations, U.S. Congressman Brian Babin, District 36
 - Mr. Ben Deleon, Deputy Regional Director for Southeast Texas, U.S. Senator John Cornyn
 - Mr. Jason Fuller, Regional Director, Southeast Texas, U.S. Senator Ted Cruz
 - State Elected Officials and/or Staff
 - Mr. Ivan Canales, District Director, State Senator Brandon Creighton, District 4
 - Mr. Cole Michalk, District Director, State Senator Brandon Creighton, District 4
 - Ms. Cydney Couthran, Community and Constituent Relations, State Representative James White, District 19
 - SETRPC Past Presidents
 - Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte, Orange County
 - Mayor Glenn Johnson, City of Port Neches
 - Commissioner Everette "Bo" Alfred, Jefferson County
 - Mayor Pro Tem Shirley Bonnin, City of West Orange
 - Mayor Roy McDonald, City of West Orange
 - Mr. Dean Robinson, Former Mayor, City of Silsbee
 - Judge Carl Thibodeaux (Retired Judge, Orange County) West Orange
 - Mr. Jim Dunaway, Former Mayor, City of Orange

- SETRPC Past Executive Directors
 - Mr. Don Kelly
 - Mr. Shaun Davis
- Additional Guests
 - Ms. Ginny Lewis-Ford, Executive Director, Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC)
 - Mr. Russell Devorsky, Executive Director, Heart of Texas Council of Governments
 - Judge Mark Allen, Jasper County
 - Retired District Judge Donald Floyd
 - Judge Jeff Branick, Jefferson County
 - Dr. Tom Johnson, President, Lamar State College - Orange
 - Dr. Brian Williams, Director of Master of Public Administration / Center for Public Policy Study Programs, Lamar University
- SETRPC Retirees or Surviving Spouses
 - Ms. Jacquelyn Solis
 - Mr. Fred Hellen
 - Ms. Joyce Philen
 - Ms. Corine Jones
 - Ms. Dana Wasser (Spouse of the late Mr. John Wasser)
- Ms. Burke's Family Members in Attendance
 - Ms. Debra and Mr. Chuck Lafayette
 - Mr. Glenn and Ms. Rebecca Chance
 - Ms Debra Holmes & Mr. H.L. Carter

20-006 REMARKS BY SETRPC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Ms. Shanna Burke, Executive Director, SETRPC, opened her remarks by noting Tropical Storm Imelda and the TPC Plant explosion in Port Neches this year, and how we as individual entities and as a region “banded together” to find a “path to recovery”.
- Ms. Burke continued by highlighting some of the SETRPC divisions’ “everyday staple services that benefit the three-county region”. The divisions highlighted included: Criminal Justice and Homeland Security; Community Services, along with the 2-1-1 Area Information Center; Transportation and Environmental Resources; Disaster Recovery; and the 9-1-1 Emergency Network.
- Also, Ms. Burke highlighted the SETRPC’s three different volunteer programs: Golden Triangle RSVP; AARP Experience Corps of Southeast Texas, of which 2020 marks its 25th year anniversary; and the Foster Grandparent Program, which just celebrated its 30th year of service.
- Ms. Burke then introduced retired Chief James “Bubba” Martin of the Jefferson County Juvenile Probation Department, who was the “brainchild” of the FGP. Ms. Burke presented him with a plaque in appreciation of “his continued support and dedicated service to the FGP”. Chief Martin then presented Ms. Burke with a plaque in appreciation and observance of the FGP’s 30 years of service.
- Next, Ms. Burke thanked the SETRPC staff for their service and recognized staff in attendance by having them stand.
- In conclusion, Ms. Burke presented the Executive Directors Award to Ms. Sue Landry, Director, Criminal Justice and Homeland Security, “for extraordinary service and commitment to the people of Southeast Texas”.

20-007 SETRPC 50 YEAR RECOGNITION

- Ms. Shanna Burke, SETRPC Executive Director, introduced the founding Executive Director of the SETRPC, Mr. Don Kelly, who served as Executive Director for the first 30 years. Mr. Kelly gave a brief history of the first 30 years of the SETRPC.
- Ms. Burke then provided highlights of the SETRPC’s next 20 years. She mentioned that after Mr. Kelley retired as Executive Director, Mr. Chester Jourdan served as the SETRPC Executive Director from 2000 – 2006, Mr. Pete De La Cruz, Director, 9-1-1 Emergency Network, served as Interim Executive Director until Mr. Shaun P. Davis became Executive Director from 2007 – 2018. Ms. Burke has served as Executive Director since November 2018.
- Ms. Burke concluded by stating that “while we have some large, challenging and exciting projects ahead of us... we will continue to maintain our core programs and provide services within the area, as well as adjust and adapt to any changes, in order to improve the safety and quality of life in Southeast Texas as has been done for the last 50 years and will be for years to come.”

- Next, Ms. Burke once again introduced Congressman Brian Babin, who spoke, recognized and congratulated the SETRPC on its 50th Anniversary.
- Ms. Burke then introduced a brief video greeting from Governor Greg Abbott, who congratulated the SETRPC on 50 years of service and regionalism.

20-008 INTRODUCTION / INSTALLATION OF 2020 SETRPC OFFICERS

- Ms. Shanna Burke, Executive Director, SETRPC, introduced Judge Jeff Branick, Jefferson County, who then administered the Oath of Office to the 2020 SETRPC officers as shown below.
 - Commissioner Johnny Trahan, Orange County, Secretary
 - Judge Wayne McDaniel, Hardin County, Treasurer
 - Commissioner Michael "Shane" Sinegal, Jefferson County, 3rd Vice-President
 - Mayor Pro Tem Terri Gauthier, City of Bridge City, 2nd Vice-President
 - Mayor Pro Tem Mary Adams, City of Kountze, 1st Vice-President
 - Mayor Rebecca Ford, City of Bevil Oaks, President

20-009 REMARKS BY 2019 SETRPC PRESIDENT

- Ms. Shanna Burke, Executive Director, SETRPC, introduced Judge John Gothia, Orange County, SETRPC 2019 President, who then gave brief remarks to the Executive Committee and guests. Ms. Burke followed by presenting Judge Gothia with the SETRPC President's Plaque.

20-010 INTRODUCTION OF 2020 SETRPC PRESIDENT

- Judge John Gothia, Orange County, introduced and welcomed Mayor Rebecca Ford, City of Bevil Oaks, 2020 SETRPC President.

20-011 REMARKS BY 2020 PRESIDENT

- Mayor Rebecca Ford, City of Bevil Oaks, SETRPC 2020 President, gave some brief remarks.

20-012 TOAST / BENEDICTION / ADJOURNMENT

- First, Ms. Shanna Burke, Executive Director, SETRPC, thanked the SETRPC Annual Meeting Committee: Ms. Amy Bradberry, Ms. Debbie Garlington, Ms. Cherika Gathers, Mr. Michael Hawthorne, Ms. Tyronna McKenzie, Ms. Halie Smith, many other staff who assisted, and Ms. Suzanne Carver, Chair of the Annual Meeting Committee.
- Ms. Burke then thanked Ms. Christine Jackson for singing the National Anthem and for the music she would provide shortly; Mr. Brent Christopher, Photographer; Ms. Stacey Gonzales and Ms. Emily Wilson and Staff of the Event Centre; Ms. Becky Burleson and Ms. Amy Young and Staff from Two Magnolias Catering.
- In closing, Ms. Burke stated the evening would end with a special toast in honor of the SETRPC 50th Anniversary. Ms. Burke then introduced Ms. Christine Jackson who sang a musical selection, which was followed by the special toast.
- Mayor Pro Tem Mary Adams, City of Kountze, gave the Benediction.
- Ms. Burke then once again thanked everyone for coming as the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Johnny Trahan
SETRPC Secretary
Commissioner, Orange County