

MINUTES
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
ANNUAL MEETING AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
BEAUMONT EVENT CENTRE
JANUARY 19, 2023, 6:30 PM

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers was held at the City of Beaumont Event Centre on Thursday, January 19, 2023, 6:30 p.m. A list of attendees may be obtained at the SETRPC, located at 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77703.

23-001 WELCOME

➤ Judge Wayne McDaniel, Hardin County, SETRPC 2022 2nd Vice-President, welcomed all in attendance to the SETRPC Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers. Following the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance, Judge McDaniel provided details regarding the logistics of the Event Centre facility and the Annual Meeting's schedule and agenda.

23-002 INVOCATION

➤ Judge Mark Allen, Jasper County, SETRPC 2022 4th Vice-President, gave the invocation.

23-003 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

➤ Commissioner Johnny Trahan, Orange County, SETRPC 3rd Vice-President, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

23-004 THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

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

23-005 INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS AND 2022 OFFICERS

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

➤ Ms. Burke then introduced and recognized some special guests:

- 2022 SETRPC Officers
 - SECRETARY, Councilmember Amanda Gates (Son - Dylan), City of Kirbyville
 - TREASURER, Kimberly Cline (Spouse – Jason), City of Lumberton
 - 4TH VICE-PRESIDENT, Judge Mark Allen, Jasper County
 - 3RD VICE-PRESIDENT, Commissioner Johnny Trahan (Spouse – Becky), Orange County
 - 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT, Judge Wayne McDaniel, Hardin County
 - 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT, Commissioner Michael “Shane” Sinegal (Spouse – Yvette), Jefferson County
 - PRESIDENT, Councilmember Terri Gauthier (Spouse - David)
 - (5th VICE-PRESIDENT - Mayor Glenn Johnson, City of Port Neches, was unable to attend)
- Federal Elected Officials and/or Staff
 - U.S. Congressman Brian Babin, District 36
 - Ms. Lanie Brown, Senior Regional Director, U.S. Congressman Brian Babin, District 36
 - Mr. Kelly Waterman, District Director, U.S. Congressman Brian Babin, District 36
 - Ms. Janet Brown, Regional Case Worker, U.S. Congressman Randy Weber, District 14
 - Mr. Hudson Peterson, Deputy Regional Director for Southeast Texas, U.S. Senator John Cornyn
 - Mr. Jason Fuller, Regional Director for Southeast Texas, U.S. Senator Ted Cruz.
- State Elected Officials and/or Staff
 - Ms. Jennifer Harris, District Coordinator, State Senator Robert Nichols, District 3
 - Mr. Cole Michalk, District Director, State Speaker of the House Dade Phelan, District 21
 - Ms. Rhonda Masters, Community Outreach Director, Texas General Land Office
- SETRPC Past Presidents
 - Former Commissioner Ed Moore, Jefferson County (Spouse – Loretta)
 - Former Commissioner Ken Pelt, Hardin County (Spouse - Vickie)
 - Commissioner Everette “Bo” Alfred, Jefferson County
 - Former Mayor Roy McDonald, City of West Orange (Daughter – Beverley)
 - Former Mayor Dean Robinson, City of Silsbee
 - Former Mayor David Moore, City of Beaumont (Spouse – Elaine)
 - Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte, Orange County, and Former Mayor of City of Bridge City (Spouse – Christy)
 - Judge John Gothia, Orange County, and Former Orange County Commissioner (Spouse – Glynis)
 - Former Mayor Rebecca Ford, City of Bevil Oaks (Spouse – Paul); and,
 - Mayor Pro Tem Mary Adams, City of Kountze.

- Additional Guests
 - Ms. Kim Lile Dowty, Associate Director, Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC)
 - Dr. Brian Williams, Director of Master of Public Administration Program and the Center for Public Policy Study Programs, Lamar University
 - Mr. Keith Jones, Associate Dean of Technical Studies, Lamar State College – Orange
- SETRPC Retirees or Surviving Spouses
 - Ms. Jacquelyn (Jackie) Solis, Administration
- Family
 - Debra and Chuck Lafayette (Mom and Stepdad)
 - Glenn and Rebecca Chance (Dad and Stepmom)
 - Debra Holmes (Aunt)
 - Natoshia and Jason Brown and Lori Thurman (Special Friends)

23-006 REMARKS BY SETRPC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

➤ Ms. Shanna Burke, Executive Director, SETRPC, opened her remarks by answering the question, “What is it about Southeast Texas that makes it so special?” She stated that for the past few years it would have been about how resilient the region is through different types of disasters. This year was different in that we had “a chance to breathe”. She then noted several things that came to mind as to why Southeast Texas is so important or special: (1) Industry and how it is important to the United States; (2) various types of recreation provided in the area; (3) educational opportunities; (4) a small town feel yet close to Houston and Louisiana; (5) important museums and landmarks that convey history and learning; (6) many celebrities and/or notable people from the region.

Ms. Burke concluded with the observation that, above all, it’s the people and the heart of the people that make this region so special. It’s in “being supportive and serving others to ensure their health, safety, and general well-being, on both an individual and community level, that is important.” And, the SETRPC works at doing all that can be done “to be successful in providing needed services and support to others.”

➤ Ms. Burke then provided notable items for SETRPC divisions from January 2022 through January 2023 as follows:

- Administration – continued Jasper County integration, funding administered by the agency, AAA and Community Services divided back into two separate divisions;
- Area Agency on Aging / 2-1-1 Texas – statistics regarding congregate and home delivered meals, senior case management, Ombudsman program, and the 2-1-1 Area Information Center;
- Community Services – statistics on Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAp), Community Services Black Grant (CSBG), Lighthouse program, Homeless Coalition, and Veteran Stand Down events;
- Criminal Justice / Homeland Security – Orange County tower installed; Jasper County tower installed; STAN (SETX Alerting Network); and Regional Police Academy / Regional Juvenile Alternative statistics;
- Disaster Recovery – QAQC contract with the General Land Office, and preparation of \$142,878,000 in Method of Distribution;
- 9-1-1 Emergency Network – statistics on 9-1-1 calls and texts, hours of call taker training; public education materials, and regional map books provided;
- Transportation and Environmental Resources – Rural Transportation Program and Hazardous Household Waste Event statistics, and broadband study conducted; and finally,
- Volunteer Programs – SETX Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) statistics; Golden Triangle RSVP statistics and Jasper County integration into the RSVP program.

➤ Ms. Burke then thanked the SETRPC staff for their dedicated service at the Planning Commission and recognized staff in attendance.

➤ In conclusion, Ms. Burke presented the Executive Director Award to Mr. Bob Dickinson, Director, Transportation & Environmental Resources Division, in recognition of his 45 years of service to Southeast Texas through his work at the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission. U.S. Congressman Brian Babin presented Mr. Dickinson with a U.S. flag that was flown over the Capitol, along with a certificate. Ms. Janet Brown, Regional Casework Director, on behalf of U.S. Congressman Randy Weber, also presented Mr. Dickinson with a certificate in recognition of Mr. Dickinson’s 45 years of service to Southeast Texas.

23-007 INTRODUCTION / INSTALLATION OF 2023 SETRPC OFFICERS

➤ Ms. Shanna Burke, Executive Director, SETRPC, introduced Judge John Gothia, Orange County, who then administered the Oath of Office to the 2023 SETRPC officers as shown below.

- Mayor Cathy Nagel, City of Pine Forest, Secretary
- Councilmember Amanda Gates, City of Kirbyville, Treasurer
- Councilmember Kimberly Cline, City of Lumberton, 5th Vice-President
- Judge Mark Allen, Jasper County, 3rd Vice-President
- Commissioner Johnny Trahan, Orange County, 2nd Vice-President
- Judge Wayne McDaniel, Hardin County, 1st Vice-President
- Commissioner Michael “Shane” Sinegal, Jefferson County, President

- (Mayor Glenn Johnson, City of Port Neches, Incoming 4th Vice-President, will be sworn in at the first Executive Committee Meeting of 2023.)

23-008 REMARKS BY 2022 PRESIDENT

- Ms. Shanna Burke, introduced 2022 President, Councilmember Terri Gauthier, City of Bridge City, who gave some brief and inspiring remarks.

23-009 INTRODUCTION OF 2023 PRESIDENT

- Ms. Shanna Burke, Executive Director, SETRPC, introduced Commissioner Michael Sinegal, Jefferson County, 2023 SETRPC President.

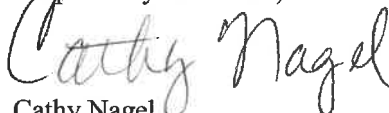
23-010 REMARKS BY 2023 PRESIDENT

- Commissioner Sinegal introduced his family and guests and gave some brief and positive remarks regarding Southeast Texas, the SETRPC, and working together as a region.

23-011 BENEDICTION / ADJOURNMENT

- First, Ms. Shanna Burke, Executive Director, SETRPC, thanked Mr. Brent Christopher, photographer; Mr. Kirby Gasaway and staff, Beaumont Event Centre; Mr. Chuck Harris, Chuck's Catering; and Ms. Leah McMorris and staff, Events/Pour09.
- Ms. Burke then thanked Ms. Christine Jackson, SETRPC, for singing the National Anthem.
- Finally, Ms. Burke thanked the SETRPC Annual Meeting Committee: Ms. Cherika Gathers, Ms. Debbie Garlington, Mr. James Moore, Ms. Halie Smith, Ms. Hannah Klauss, Ms. Lila Rueda-Junious, Ms. Tyronna McKenzie, Ms. Rachael Robinson, and Ms. Suzanne Carver (Chair) for their work on the committee and the Annual Meeting.
- In conclusion, Judge Mark Allen, Jasper County, SETRPC 4th Vice-President, gave the Benediction.
- Ms. Burke then once again thanked everyone for coming as the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy Nagel
SETRPC Secretary
Mayor, City of Pine Forest