



## Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

**Meeting Date:** January 8, 2012

**Prepared By/Phone Number:** Melissa Velasquez, County Judge's Office  
**Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head:** Samuel T. Biscoe, County Judge  
**Commissioners Court Sponsor:** Samuel T. Biscoe, County Judge

### **AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING BOARD AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS FOR COMMISSIONERS COURT MEMBERS.

### **BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:**

Attached is the list of 2012 Commissioners Court assignments to various internal and intergovernmental board and committees.

Judge Biscoe requests that the Court postpone action on taking action with the exception of the CAPCOG appointment. **CAPCOG is requesting action as soon as possible.**

### **Possible changes to consider:**

- Anti-Defamation League Hate Crimes Task Force – in 2012 the court discussed rotating the appointment every year or two.
- Conference of Urban Counties Policy Committee – every year Pct 2 and Pct 4 alternate the committee assignment. In 2012 Commissioner Gomez was the appointee.
- Lone Star Rail District – requested that Commissioner Eckhardt be appointed, see attached email.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Appoint a Commissioners Court member to CAPCOG General Assembly and send letter to CAPCOG requesting that they also be appointed to the CAPCOG Executive Committee.
2. Request direction from Commissioners Court to revise the list and bring back for final approval.

### **ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:**

n/a

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: All agenda requests and supporting materials should be submitted as a pdf to the County Judge's office, [agenda@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:agenda@co.travis.tx.us) by **Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m.** for the next week's meeting.

From: Alison Schulze <amschulze@lonestarrail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2012 12:17 PM  
To: Sam Biscoe  
Cc: Sarah Eckhardt; Sid Covington; Ross Milloy; Melissa Velasquez; Peter Einhorn  
Subject: Lone Star Rail District: 2013 Appointments to Board of Directors (Action requested)  
Attachments: 2013 Lone Star Rail Board Appts.Memo to Appointing Jurisdictions 12-13-2012.pdf

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up  
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Judge Biscoe,

Travis County appoints two members to the Lone Star Rail District Board of Directors. The County's current appointments are Commissioner Karen Huber (representing the Commissioners Court) and Hays County Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe (representing CARTS, the rural transit authority).

In accordance with the Rail District's governing statute and bylaws, each Board member serves a two-year term; additionally, the terms are staggered so that one-half of the Board members' terms expire on February 1 of each year to ensure Board continuity. Consequently, Commissioner Huber's term will expire on February 1, 2013. Commissioner Ingalsbe's term does not expire until February 2014. Please see the attached memo and statutory authority on Board members' terms.

**Action Requested:**

The Rail District requests the Commissioners Court appoint a member of the Court to represent the County for a two-year term to run from February 2013 - February 2015. Per the attached memo, the County may not reappoint Commissioner Huber since she will no longer be a member of the governing body. On a related note: Commissioner Eckhardt currently serves on the Rail District Board as CAMPO's representative, not as the County's representative; but Commissioner Eckhardt could certainly represent the County and CAMPO could appoint a different representative to our Board. Commissioner Eckhardt is a valued member of our Board and very active and engaged in Rail District issues; we would be honored and delighted to have her represent Travis County if that's the will of the Court.

If you would like to discuss the appointment further or if you need additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me by phone (512/589-2709) or by e-mail (AMSchulze@LoneStarRail.com).

Thanks so much for your consideration of this important matter,  
Alison Schulze

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# LONE STAR RAIL DISTRICT

## MEMORANDUM

Via e-mail

**To:** Appointing Jurisdictions  
City of Austin                      Bexar County                      VIA Metropolitan Transit  
City of Georgetown              Travis County                      Texas Department of Transportation  
City of New Braunfels            Capital Area MPO  
City of San Antonio              San Antonio-Bexar Co MPO

**From:** Alison Schulze, AICP, Rail District Administrator/Senior Planner

**Date:** December 13, 2012

**Re:** Appointment of Members to Lone Star Rail District Board of Directors

This memo serves to notify appointing jurisdictions that their current representative's term on the Lone Star Rail District Board of Directors will expire February 1, 2013. In accordance with the Rail District's statutory authority (attached), one-half of the Board members' terms expire each year. The terms of the Board members listed below will expire on February 1, 2013. Newly appointed Board members will serve a two-year term that runs from February 1, 2013 to February 1, 2015. **All Board members are eligible to serve another two-year term (except where noted below), and all Board members remain on the Board until they or another representative is appointed by the jurisdiction.**

We request the jurisdictions listed below appoint members to the Rail District Board by February 2013, and notify the Rail District when the appointment is made. We appreciate your attention and action on the appointments listed below. If you need additional information, please contact me by phone (512/589-2709) or by e-mail ([AMSchulze@LoneStarRail.com](mailto:AMSchulze@LoneStarRail.com)).

**The following Board members' terms expire February 1, 2013, except as noted:**

APPOINTING JURISDICTION	CURRENT BOARD MEMBER
City of Austin (business community representative)	Board Chairman Sid Covington
City of Georgetown	Council Member Patty Eason
City of New Braunfels	Council Member Sandy Nolte
City of San Antonio (business community representative)	Board Member Carroll Schubert
Bexar County	Commissioner Tommy Adkisson
Travis County	Commissioner Karen Huber ( <i>appoint elected member of governing body to replace Commissioner Huber</i> )
Capital Area MPO	Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt
San Antonio-Bexar County MPO	Senator Jeff Wentworth ( <i>appoint elected official to replace Senator Wentworth</i> )
VIA Metropolitan Transit	VIA Board Member Mary Briseño
Texas Transportation Commission	Board Member Mariano Camarillo

# ***LONE STAR RAIL DISTRICT***

**Rail District Statutory Authority**  
Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes  
Title 112  
Chapter 13—Miscellaneous Railroads

## **Article 6550c-1. Intermunicipal Commuter Rail Districts**

### **Section 3: BOARD**

Sec. 3. (a) A district is governed by a board of directors. The board is responsible for the management, operation, and control of the district.

(b) The board is composed of the following members:

- (1) two public members appointed by the commission;
- (2) one elected member of the governing body of each political subdivision that has become a part of the district under Section 2 of this article;
- (3) one elected member appointed by the regional planning organization of which a creating municipality is a part;
- (4) one member appointed by each creating municipality to represent the business community of the municipality;
- (5) one member appointed by each authority created under Chapter 451, Transportation Code, that serves a creating municipality;
- (6) one member appointed by each county in which a creating municipality is located to represent transportation providers that provide service to rural areas in the county;
- (7) one member appointed by each entity that has become a part of the district under Section 2 of this article; and
- (8) one member appointed by all other board members to represent all municipalities in the district that do not otherwise have representation on the board and who shall be an elected official of one of those municipalities.

(c) If a vacancy occurs on the board, a successor shall be appointed or elected in the same manner as the original appointment or election. Each member serves a staggered two-year term with as near as possible to half of the members' terms expiring February 1 of each year. If one or more members are added to the board, the board members other than the new members shall determine the lengths of the new members' terms so that one-half, or as near one-half as possible of the members serve terms expiring each year.

## Commissioners Court Assignments to Board and Committees

Board/Committee	Appointee	Date Appt'd.	Miscellaneous Information
Anti-Defamation League Hate Crimes Task Force	Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Gomez	1/31/2012	first appointed January 24, 2012 They Agreed to rotate the appointment every year or two.
Austin City Council, Austin Independent School District Board of Trustees, and Travis County Commissioners Court Joint Subcommittee	Judge Biscoe and Commissioner Gómez	1/31/2012	first appointed January 13, 2009
Bail Bond Board	Judge Biscoe	1/31/2012	
Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Coordinating Committee	Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	
Capital Area Council of Governments - General Assembly Member (CAPCOG)	Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Eckhardt and Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	Davis and Huber reappointed 1/10/2012. Eckhardt first appointed 1/24/2012
Capital Area Council of Governments - Executive Committee Board (CAPCOG)	Commissioner Eckhardt and Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	1/24/2012 approved letter to CAPCOG members of the Executive Committee are appointed by the CAPCOG Executive Comm not Commissioners Court
Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO)	Judge Biscoe, Commissioner Eckhardt, and Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	
Capital Area Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CARTPO)	Commissioner Gómez	1/31/2012	direction from court 1-10-12 Each county in the 10-county CAPCOG region may choose three (3) elected officials to serve as voting members. Individual counties are encouraged to include at least one municipal representative in their voting membership. They serve until replaced, resign or no longer qualify.
Capital Area Rural Transportation System (CARTS)	Commissioner Gómez	1/31/2012	
City of Austin/Travis County Subcommittee	Commissioner Huber and Commissioner Gómez	1/31/2012	To coordinate Intergovernmental issues.
Civil Family Courthouse Subcommittee	Judge Biscoe and Commissioner Eckhardt	1/31/2012	approved 1/24/2012
Clean Air Coalition	Judge Biscoe	1/31/2012	
Clean Air Force	Commissioner Davis	1/31/2012	Commissioner Eckhardt alternate

### Commissioners Court Assignments to Board and Committees

Board/Committee	Appointee	Date Appt'd.	Miscellaneous Information
Community Action Network (CAN)	Judge Biscoe and Commissioner Eckhardt	1/31/2012	
Community Justice Council	Commissioner Gómez	1/31/2012	Per Chapter 76 Texas Government Code; a county commissioner or a county judge from a county served by the department, chosen by the County Commissioners and county judges of the counties served by the department.
Conference of Urban Counties Policy Committee (CUC)	Commissioner Gomez	1/31/2012	Commissioners Eckhardt and Gómez have been alternating appointments to CUC Policy Comm and Downtown Austin Alliance since 2007; <b>Commissioner Gomez was appointee</b> <div style="background-color: black; width: 200px; height: 15px; margin-top: 5px;"></div>
CORPORATIONS - Travis County Housing Finance Corporation; Travis County Health Facilities Development Corporation; Capital Health Facilities Development Corporation; Capital Industrial Development Corporation; Travis County Development Authority; Travis County Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corporation	President, Judge Biscoe; Vice President, Commissioner Eckhardt; Secretary, Commissioner Gómez; Treasurer, Commissioner Huber; Assistant Secretary, Commissioner Davis	<b>Appt by Corps. 1/31/2012</b>	<b>These positions must be appointed by the Corporations.</b>
Downtown Austin Alliance	Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	As a result of redistricting, Comm. Huber is taking on this appointment. Commissioners Eckhardt and Gómez had been alternating appointments to CUC Policy Comm and Downtown Austin Alliance since 2007
E-Government Committee	Commissioner Eckhardt and Commissioner Gómez	1/31/2012	
Emergency Services Subcommittee	Commissioner Eckhardt and Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	

### Commissioners Court Assignments to Board and Committees

Board/Committee	Appointee	Date Appt'd.	Miscellaneous Information
Exposition & Heritage Center Subcommittee	Judge Biscoe and Commissioner Davis	1/31/2012	
Greater Austin-San Antonio Corridor Council	Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	Comm Huber is an Executive Committee member
Investment Advisory Committee	Commissioner Eckhardt and Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	
ITS Subcommittee	Commissioner Eckhardt and Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	approved 1/10/2012
Juvenile Agency Coordinating Subcommittee of the Community Justice Council	Commissioner Davis	1/31/2012	
Juvenile Board	Judge Biscoe	1/31/2012	
Legislative Subcommittee	Commissioner Eckhardt and Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	originally appointed Feb 2007
Lone Star Rail District	Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	Two year terms to expire February 1, 2013; formerly Austin-San Antonio Intermunicipal Commuter Rail District Board of Directors
Organizational Planning Team (OPT)	Judge Biscoe and Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	direction from the court to appoint on 1-10-12 and 1-17-12
Oversight Board for the Offices of Child and Parent Representation	Judge Biscoe and Commissioner Eckhardt	1/31/2012	Formed to provide operational oversight & guidance to the PDO-CR and to resolve any conflicts of interest that may occur between the PDO-CR and the Office of Parental Representation. (PDO-PR) This Committee will consist of (1) two County Commissioners or their appointees (2) two Civil Judges (3) one private attorney with a background in CPS cases; (4) one representative of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

### Commissioners Court Assignments to Board and Committees

Board/Committee	Appointee	Date Appt'd.	Miscellaneous Information
Oversight Committee - Administrative Operations	Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Gómez	1/31/2012	Two by Two meeting with Staff to discuss department related issues
Oversight Committee - Health and Human Services	Judge Biscoe and Commissioner Davis	1/31/2012	Two by Two meeting with Staff to discuss department related issues
Oversight Committee - Justice and Public Safety	Judge Biscoe and Commissioner Gómez	1/31/2012	Two by Two meeting with Staff to discuss department related issues
Oversight Committee - Planning and Budget	Judge Biscoe and Commissioner Gómez	1/31/2012	Two by Two meeting with Staff to discuss department related issues
Oversight Committee - Transportation and Natural Resources - Pct 1 & Pct 3	Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	Two by Two meeting with Staff to discuss department related issues
Oversight Committee - Transportation and Natural Resources - Pct 2 & Pct 4	Commissioner Eckhardt and Commissioner Gomez	1/31/2012	Two by Two meeting with Staff to discuss department related issues
Pflugerville/Travis County Subcommittee of Elected Officials	Judge Biscoe and Commissioner Eckhardt	1/31/2012	To coordinate Intergovernmental issues.
Purchasing Board	Judge Biscoe and Commissioner Huber	1/31/2012	
Space Planning Committee	Commissioner Eckhardt and Commissioner Gómez	1/31/2012	formerly Capital Improvement Planning Committee; revised 01-10-06 to include only 2 court members