

FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2004

MEETING NUMBER 143

The one hundred and forty-third meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission was held Tuesday, May 11, 2004 at St. Augustine City Hall, Alcazar Room, St. Augustine, Florida. Chairman Durden called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members in attendance were: Commissioners Earl Durden, Jim Holton, Bob Namoff, Janet Watermeier, Sidney Calloway, Heidi Eddins, Gasper Lazzara, David Straz and Marcos Marchena.

Chairman Durden began the meeting with a welcome to our newest member Marco Marchena from Orlando who is replacing David Brown.

MINUTES

Minutes of the March 2, 2004 Commission Meeting were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- **Chairman Durden** thanked Commissioner Eddins for hosting the Commission Meeting. Chairman Durden also thanked Paul Williamson, Phillip McDaniel and Wanda Bray from the City of St. Augustine for their support and assistance in arranging the meeting.
- Commissioner Calloway and the South Florida Business Alliance participated in a "fly-in" to Tallahassee on March 17, 2004 to meet Legislative members, transportation officials and committee staff and testified before the House Transportation Committee in support of the Department's Transportation Investment Policy.
- Commissioner Lazzara now serves on the TEAMFL board and attended his first TEAMFL meeting on April 7.
- Vice Chair Jim Holton, Commissioner Bob Namoff and Chairman Durden met with Governor Bush to discuss the FDOT Executive Compensation Study. Subsequent meetings with staff occurred to clarify outstanding issues. Follow-up discussions with the Governor will take place in the near future.
- Mark Reichert made a presentation on how to implement performance measures in Government at the annual ITS America meeting held in San Antonio, Texas.
- Laura Kelley attended the IBTTA Finance Summit in Washington, DC in early March and the MPOAC meeting held in Tallahassee on March 22.
- The Performance Measures Working Group met yesterday afternoon. They are looking at the possibility of revising some of the performance standards we are using now, adding new performance standards and basically updating and making sure we are current and measuring what needs to be measured.

- Vice Chairman Holton attended a CUTR Advisory Board Meeting and former Chairman David Brown has been named Transportation Citizen of the Year and will receive an award in August.
- Commissioner Calloway wanted to mention his work with the South Florida Business Alliance. The group has taken a fairly wide leadership role in South Florida on transportation issues, as well as some other issues. They are extremely interested in the Commission's work relating to regionalism transportation policy, particularly as it relates to the MPO legislation that the Commission has been involved with.
- Chairman Durden attended a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Hathaway Bridge in Panama City yesterday with Speaker Bense.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Namoff nominated to continue with the present Officers which are as follows: Earl Durden, Chairman, James Holton, Vice-Chairman and Janet Watermeier, Secretary. A vote was called and the officers were appointed as nominated with unanimous votes.

Ms. Karen Stern, Chair of the St. Johns County Commission welcomed the Commission to St. Augustine. She spoke on the transportation issues in the area.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Secretary Abreu gave the agency report.

- Secretary Abreu introduced Kevin Thibault, Assistant Secretary for Engineering and Operations.
- Carolyn Ismart will head up the Environmental Management Office.
- Chester Chandler, Intelligent Transportation Systems Manager will be leaving the Department to go to private sector.
- Interviews for the District Secretary position in District 5 will be conducted May 17th in Orlando.
- Legislative issues – SB 1456 contained the Department's organizational revisions that would allow for a third Assistant Secretary and flexibility for internal restructure by the Secretary. SB 1456 repealed the Transportation Outreach Program (TOP); authorized using STTF dollars for the SIS; directs that \$100M to be spent on the SIS (former TOP funds); provides that the MPO's give emphasis to SIS projects in their list of priorities; authorizes Public/Private partnerships between the DOT and private entities to build, operate or finance transportation facilities and provides this same authorization for Expressway Authorities. This bill also contains the repeal of the tax exemption for associated developments of the High Speed Rail System. The Governor stated he would veto all dollars for HSR until this repeal passed the Legislature. We are not aware of any controversial issues in this bill.

General Appropriations Bill (Budget) – there was no sweep to the General Revenue Fund. Also, the \$100M from TOP moved to SIS. The rural programs were funded at \$45M. The Department was also able to obtain salary increases of

5% for Motor Carrier law enforcement officers; a consolidated facility for law enforcement in the Palm Beach was approved in the budget.

The bill that allows an 8 cent reduction in gas taxes during the month of August passed. The Wekiva Parkway bill passed which allows projects proposed by the OCEA to move forward in the Orange County area.

- TEA-21 Reauthorization – Tyler Duvall is here today from Washington and will cover this in detail. Secretary Abreu was in Washington last week and met with officials from USDOT including FHWA Administrator Mary Peters, Assistant Secretary for Policy Emil Frankel, FTA Administrator Jenna Dorn and others. He also met with a number of members of Florida’s Congressional delegation.

THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

Mr. Tyler Duvall, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, USDOT spoke before the Commission and gave a status report on reauthorization activities and to share the Administration’s vision for future transportation funding.

The President’s proposal of \$256B over six years has not been accepted by either house at this point. The basic position of the President and the administration is to extend the tax receipts that they collect over the next six years. The Senate bill basically brings in new money into the trust fund from other sources, which the administration opposes.

The top three issues in Washington for Florida are: Safety, Environment and Innovative Finance/Tolling.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Sally Patrenos briefed the Commission on other legislative issues that would be of interest to the Commission.

THIRD QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT

Mark Reichert reported on the Third Quarter Performance Report. The Department continues to be on track to have another outstanding year. There are only two areas of concern. The minority business and disadvantaged enterprise programs are tracking below last year’s effort. They are tracking below last year’s effort because of issues that are outside of the Department’s control and the Department is doing it’s best to try to rectify the situation.

OVERVIEW OF EXPRESS TOLL LANES ON FLORIDA’S INTERSTATE SYSTEM

Jim Ely, Executive Director, Turnpike Enterprise and Kevin Hoeflich, Deputy Program Director, Turnpike Enterprise gave a presentation on the Overview of Express Toll Lanes

on Florida's Interstate System. Before making the presentation, Mr. Ely reported good news and a recent achievement of the Turnpike – the Turnpike has now reached the goal (set by the Commission) of hitting 50% participation of SunPass users eight months ahead of schedule.

Please refer to the Florida Transportation Commission website (www.ftc.state.fl.us) under "Presentations Made Before the Commission at Commission Meetings" to view this presentation.

TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE MARKETING STRATEGIES

Kim Poulton, Director of Communications and Marketing, Turnpike District gave a presentation on Turnpike Enterprise Marketing Strategies.

Please refer to the Florida Transportation Commission website (www.ftc.state.fl.us) under "Presentations Made Before the Commission at Commission Meetings" to view this presentation.

THE FUTURE OF FLORIDA'S TOLL AGENCIES

Brady Sneath, Chairman, TEAMFL Finance Focus Group gave a presentation on the Future of Florida's Toll Agencies.

Please refer to the Florida Transportation Commission website (www.ftc.state.fl.us) under "Presentations Made Before the Commission at Commission Meetings" to view this presentation.

TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

Mr. Robert W. Poole, Jr., Director of Transportation Studies and Founder, Reason Foundation gave a presentation on Transportation Solutions.

Please refer to the Florida Transportation Commission website (www.ftc.state.fl.us) under "Presentations Made Before the Commission at Commission Meetings" to view this presentation.

AREA TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

The following speakers stood before the Commission and discussed transportation issues in the local area of St. Augustine:

Mayor George Gardner, City of St. Augustine
Wayne George, St. Augustine/St. Johns County Airport Authority
Bruce Maguire, MPO Liaison, St. Johns
Edward George, City of St. Augustine Beach
Mike Blaylock, Jacksonville Transportation Authority

SUPER BOWL XXXIX HOST COMMITTEE BRIEFING

Michael Sullivan, Vice Chair of Logistics and Operations for the Super Bowl Committee briefed the Commission on the Super Bowl activities planned for Jacksonville.

The meeting adjourned at noon.

MINUTES APPROVED _____AS READ_____AS AMENDED

THIS 14th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2004

CHAIRMAN

NOTE: If further detail of these proceedings is required, please contact Commission staff at 850-414-4105 or write to 605 Suwannee Street, Mail Station 09, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450. Meetings of the Florida Transportation Commission are recorded on video and audiotape.