

## **FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**MINUTES OF MAY 24, 2007**

**MEETING NUMBER 161**

The one hundred and sixty first meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission was held Monday, May 24, 2007 at the Florida Department of Transportation, 605 Suwannee Street, Tallahassee, Florida. Chairman Jim Holton called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Members in attendance were: Commissioners Jim Holton, Janet Watermeier, Sidney Calloway, Gabriel Bustamante, Marty Lanahan, Marcos Marchena and Marshall Criser. Commissioner David Straz was unable to attend.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

### **MINUTES**

Prior to approving the minutes, Commissioner Marchena asked Commissionerasked Commissioner Watermeier to clarify her stance regarding the issue of the Commission retaining legal counsel. In particular, he asked whether if it was the intent was to retain legal counsel for all meetings, all matters or just for the selection process. Commissioner Watermeier responded all meetings, all matters. Minutes of the March 5, 2007 Commission Meeting were approved.

**Chairman Holton** reported on the following:

- The Commission had a very good workshop yesterday where the Commission discussed HB 985 – which expands the authority of the Transportation Commission as an oversight board for the certain statutorily specified Expressway/Tolling, and Transit Authorities beginning in July, providing Governor Crist signs the bill into law. Commissioner Marcos Marchena will head up the Subcommittee to work with the staff over the summer to begin implementation. Any Commissioner that would like to serve on this committee, should contact Sally Patrenos.

Secretary Tom Pelham of the Florida Department of Community Affairs attended the workshop to brief the Commission on the state of activities at his department and how they plan to improve on the linkage between land use and transportation planning.

Senator Dan Webster gave his input (via teleconference) on HB985, and he also presented his thoughts on what was to be expected from the Transportation Commission.

- Commissioner Watermeier reported on her representation of the Commission at AASHTO's National Subcommittee on Right of Way conference recently in Orlando.
- Commissioner Marchena spoke to the FICE (Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers) group's conference..
- Commissioner Marchena also attended the TEAMFL meeting as a member of the Board.

- Election of Officers is usually held in May, however, six five of the Commissioners are up for reappointment in at the end of September and the Commission would like to defer the election until the next Commission meeting in SeptemberOctober in Ft. Lauderdale.

## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Sally Patrenos, Executive Director gave an update on the legislative session. The most important impact to the Commission is HB985 which requires the Florida Transportation Commission to monitor expressway authorities, transit authorities and regional transportation authorities' authorities for ccompliance with applicable laws and accounting principles.

## **GROWTH MANAGEMENT AND TRANSPORTATION**

Wade L. Hopping of Hopping, Green & Sams in Tallahassee, spoke to the Commission on Growth Management and Transportation.

## **TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY – UPDATE**

Steve Reich, Interim Executive Director of the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority gave a brief update on where the Expressway Authority is today.

## **LAKE BELT MINING UPDATE**

Kevin Thibault, Assistant Secretary gave a brief update on the Lake Belt Mining issue. Everything is before the Judge - everything keeps going until the Judge makes a ruling. There is about a 30–60 day stockpile at the mine. The Department is pursuing an emergency revision to Rule 14-103.

## **AGENCY REPORT**

Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos gave an update on the Department.

- Alexis Yarbrough, General Counsel appointed Robert “Bob” Burdick as the Assistant General Counsel.
- Jesse Manzano has been hired as the Deputy Chief of Staff.
- When District visits begin – the Commissioners are welcome to attend.
- The Department just opened the Bridge Alliance in Martin County.
- The Department is in negotiations with CSX – there are a couple of issues still remaining, but the Department is getting close to completion soon.
- I-595 Managed Lanes in Broward County – the Department applied for an Urban Partnership Grant to the Federal Government.
- I-95 Corridor Application - Corridors of the Future Program. A final decision should be made by mid-summer.
- Revenues – The Department took a \$400 million hit in the last revenue estimate. The Department will hold a Revenue Estimate Estimating Conference in July.

## **PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS (P3's) UPDATE**

Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos briefed the Commission on the progress of the Public Private Partnerships.

## **STATE AND NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION ISSUES**

Eric Eikenburg, Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Charlie Crist briefed the Commission on the Governor's interest in transportation needs.

## **UPDATE ON TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM**

Mark Reichert, Deputy Executive Director gave a brief update on the Department's Tentative Work Program.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

David Tassinari, Manager of Finance and Performance Monitoring gave a brief update on the Department's production and performance through the first half of this fiscal year.

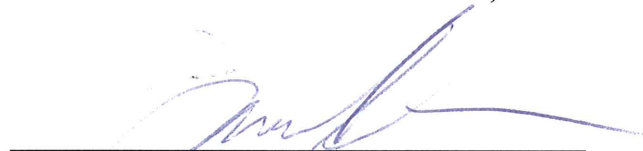
## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

The Florida Transportation Commission meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ AS READ \_\_\_\_\_ AS AMENDED

THIS 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2007

  
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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.