

FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF JANUARY 15, 2010

MEETING NUMBER 177

The one hundred and seventy-seventh meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission was held January 15, 2010, at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport, 9300 Airport Boulevard, Orlando, Florida. Chairman Marty Lanahan provided opening comments and called the meeting to order at 9:45 A.M.

ATTENDANCE:

Members in attendance were: Chairman Marty Lanahan, Commissioners Conrecode, Howse, Marchena, Mazurkiewicz, Pullum, and Walton. Commissioner Rose did not attend due to a prior commitment.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the December 3, 2009 Commission Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Lanahan opened the meeting by acknowledging the joint meeting of FTC and TEAMFL. The joint meeting provides an opportunity for the FTC to interact with the state's expressway authorities and tolling authorities and to be briefed on the state of the industry.

Chairman Lanahan welcomed Congressman John Mica, one of the leading advocates for transportation in Washington for the majority of his nine terms in Congress. Congressman Mica provided comments on transportation authorization, future rail for the State of Florida, and insights on the job creation associated with the stimulus package.

Commissioner Ronald "Ron" Howse was introduced as the newest Commissioner, appointed by Governor Crist in December, filling the vacancy created in May 2009 by the resignation of Commissioner Calloway.

At the December meeting, the Commission elected new officers for 2010. December marked the end of the two-year Chairmanship of Commissioner Marchena. Chairman Lanahan, on behalf of the Commission, recognized Commissioner Marchena for his accomplishments during his term and presented him with a gavel as a token of appreciation. Chairman Marchena's terms were focused on improving the safety on our highways, and he led the way in establishing tougher performance measures to reduce fatalities in the state. He also served during the largest

expansion of the FTC's statutory responsibilities when, in 2007, the Legislature added oversight of all the expressway authorities, tolling authorities, and some of the transit authorities to the list of FTC responsibilities. He championed the call to provide more choice in public transportation options and continued the visionary approach to the increased utilization of Public Private Partnerships. Commissioner Marchena thanked the Commissioners and staff for their support during his term as Chairman and recognized the experience and knowledge represented on the Commission.

Chairman Lanahan addressed the three key areas which she feels are critical to the transportation industry, Florida residents, visitors, and business people that will be the emphasis of her term as FTC Chair. These areas are: (1) Job Creation, (2) Return on Investment, and (3) Succession Planning.

AGENCY REPORT:

Chairman Lanahan welcomed FDOT Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos. Secretary Kopelousos recognized Commissioner Marchena for his service as Chairman of the Commission and thanked him for his many contributions to the state.

Secretary Kopelousos reported on the following:

-Sink holes on I-4 in Central Florida were caused by a 50 foot drop in the water table. This was unexpected and has created many challenges and opportunities for the department. Most of the roadways affected have been reopened. This situation will be monitored and work will continue in this area.

-Personnel:

- Freddie Simmons has been appointed as the department's new Production Manager.
- Interviews have been completed for the District Two Secretary position.
- Initial screening of applicants for the Assistant Secretary of Finance and Administration is completed.
- An Interim Rail Enterprise Executive Director will be appointed shortly.

-Stimulus Projects:

- The department has advertised over 487 highway and bridge projects in the amount of \$1.5 billion.
- I-95 express lane project is now open and is very successful. The department is now ready to move to Phase Two of the project.
- The department should soon hear about funding for the High Speed Rail Project. They were asked to submit final draft documentation for funding to the Federal Rail Administration.
- Tiger Grants are still in the review process. The final results should be announced no later than February 17.

- The department is continuing work on the SAFETEA-LU resolution. They are currently on the third extension and looking at the possibility of a longer extension.
- The House passed a “Jobs for Main Street” bill. If implemented, it would require that 50% of projects be under contract within 90 days. The department is working to ensure that they are prepared for this requirement.
- The department is reviewing the current Legislative package and cleaning up any issues that need to be addressed.
- Revenue fees were discussed (i.e., motor vehicle fees, fuel, title and tags).
- The contract for the I-4 Connector project was signed on January 11, 2010.
- Meetings have been held with Federal Transit on the SunRail project. Work continues in this area.

-Public Private Partnerships:

- The Port of Miami Tunnel project continues to move forward.
- I-75 is now complete, one year ahead of schedule.
- Work continues on the Outer Beltway project in Jacksonville (St. Johns/Clay Counties).
- The department is continuing outreach to military bases through the Military Leadership Forum.

I-95 CORRIDOR COALITION – 2010 AND BEYOND:

Chairman Lanahan welcomed Mr. George Schoener, Executive Director of the I-95 Corridor Coalition. Mr. Schoener provided a briefing entitled “I-95 Corridor Coalition: 2010 and Beyond”. The I-95 Corridor Coalition is a partnership of state departments of transportation, regional and local transportation agencies, toll authorities and related organizations, including law enforcement, port, transit, and rail organizations. These partnerships range from Maine to Florida, with affiliate members in Canada. The Coalition’s focus is on long distance passenger travel and freight movement both domestically and internationally (US-Canada). They have developed the “2040 Strategic Vision Study: Framework for the Future”.

Mr. Schoener shared the “Set of Consensus Policy Principles” which guided the development of the 2040 Vision and discussed the actions which will need to be taken in order to achieve the vision.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment was received.

CONCLUSION:

The next Commission meeting will be held on March 1, 2010, in Tallahassee.

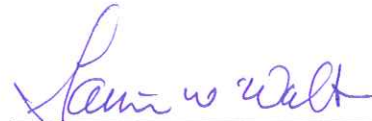


ADJOURN:

The Florida Transportation Commission meeting adjourned at 10:45 A.M.

MINUTES APPROVED ✓ AS READ _____ AS AMENDED _____

THIS 1ST DAY OF MARCH, 2010.



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, and Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450. Meetings of the Florida Transportation Commission are recorded on audiotape and/or videotape. Please see presentations made before the Commission on the Florida Transportation Commission web site at www.ftc.state.fl.us.

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