

# FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF March 5, 2013

MEETING NUMBER 195

The one hundred and ninety fifth meeting of the Florida Transportation Commission was held on March 5, 2013, at the Department of Transportation, 605 Suwannee Street, Tallahassee, Florida. Chairman Ron Howse provided opening comments and called the meeting to order at 8:10 A.M.

## ATTENDANCE:

Members in attendance were: Chairman Howse, Commissioners Ellington, Ferré, Frazier, Kigel, Maroño, Trumbull, and Tuck. There is one vacant seat on the Commission.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- Chairman Howse began the meeting with a motion to approve the minutes for both the December and January FTC meetings.
- Chairman Howse mentioned that on February 7<sup>th</sup> Commissioner Ellington made a presentation to the Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee in Ocala and that the Commissioner had also participated in a small business development meeting in District 2. He asked Ellington, if he'd like to comment.
- Commissioners Ellington, Ferré, Maroño and Tuck, were joined by FTC staff Tom DiGiacomo and Mark Reichert to attend the Florida Chamber Transportation Summit at the Honey Lake Plantation in Greenville, Florida
- Also mentioned, was how Mark and Tom have been attending legislative committee meetings and meeting with legislators.
- Chairman Howse provided a recap of yesterday's FTC Workshop:
  - "JONES ACT" explanation presented by Ned Bowman, Executive Director of the Florida Petroleum. He explained how the Act can affect the price of shipping/ports and fuel. Florida has only one fuel pipeline and how our state could be impacted if a hurricane, for example, disabled the pipeline.
  - Topics reviewed for this session's objectives were: Florida SW Passenger Rail Commission; Mid-Bay Bridge Authority oversight; Regional toll authorities; and distracted driving.  
On-going objectives included: Alternative transportation revenue sources; Regional governance; future corridors initiative; trade and logistics; and small business development.
  - The bi-weekly conference calls are back on schedule.
  - FTC will further discuss the fiber optic infrastructure issue at the first teleconference.

## AGENCY REPORT:

Ananth Prasad, FDOT Secretary, provided updates on the following:

- The filling of significant positions.
- Status of key vacancies statewide.

- Update on what has occurred and what to expect from 2013 Legislative Session, (highlighted FDOT's legislative package). The Secretary also discussed where the legislature stands on Vehicle Mile Tax and how/when to move forward.
- Recap of the I-4 Industry Forum.
- Secretary Prasad discussed meetings/conferences attended as well as the ones which are up-coming.

**The Fuel Tax, an Unsustainable Transportation Revenue Source:**

- Mark Reichert, Deputy Executive Director of the Florida Transportation Commission made the presentation. (Mark has given this presentation to various groups throughout the state.)
- The Chairman suggested a special workshop to take place next month in order to focus on the fuel tax.

**FTC Review of the Tentative Work Program:**

- Rick Gallant, Manager of Finance and Performance Monitoring for the Florida Transportation Commission presented this annual report.
- The report is a statutory requirement for the Florida Transportation Commission.
- This specific meeting serves as the Statewide Public Hearing on the Tentative Work Program.
- Secretary Prasad provided a response to the report.

**Review of the Work Program by the District Secretaries and the Turnpike Director:**

- District One (1) Secretary: Billy Hattaway presented a brief overview of his district's work program.
- District Two (2) Secretary: Greg Evans presented a brief overview of his district's work program.
- District Three (3) Secretary: Tommy Barfield presented a brief overview of his district's work program.
- District Four (4) Secretary: Jim Wolfe presented a brief overview of his district's work program.
- District Five (5) Secretary: Noranne Downs presented a brief overview of her district's work program.
- District Six (6) Secretary: Gus Pego presented a brief overview of his district's work program.
- District Seven (7) Secretary: Brian Blanchard, (Representing), presented a brief overview of district seven's work program.
- Turnpike Director: Diane Scaccetti presented a brief overview of the Turnpike's work program.
- Rail Enterprise Director: Fred Wise presented a brief overview of the Rail Enterprise's work program.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**      NONE

**CONCLUSION:** The next FTC workshop and meeting will be held on May 8-9, 2013 in Palm Beach County, Florida.

**ADJOURN:** Chairman Howse adjourned the FTC meeting at 12:40 P.M.

MINUTES APPROVED:   X   AS READ            AS AMENDED

THIS 9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2013.

  
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CHAIRMAN

Note: If further detail of these proceedings is required, please contact Commission staff at (850) 414-4105 or write 605 Suwannee Street, Mail Station 09, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450. Meetings of the Florida Transportation Commission are recorded on video and/or audio tape. Information may also be accessed on the Florida Transportation Commission website at: [www.ftc.state.fl.us](http://www.ftc.state.fl.us)