

# FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF: April 2, 2020

Teleconference Call

## **Attendance:**

Members on the call were: Chairman Ron Howse, Vice-Chairman Jay Trumbull, Commissioners John Browning, Richard Burke, Julius Davis, David Genson and Teresa Sarnoff.

## **Call to Order and Chairman's Opening Remarks:**

Chair Howse called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

## **Commission Business Discussed:**

- The Commission approved the meeting minutes from the March 19<sup>th</sup> conference call. The motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Burke. The motion passed unanimously.
- Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E. provided an update regarding COVID-19 on behalf of the department.
  - Over the last week, Executive Orders 20-85, 20-86, 20-87, 20-88, 20-89, 20-90, 20-91, and 20-92 have been released.
  - Weekly calls are being conducted with the FDOT leadership team.
  - Weekly teleconferences are being conducted with Florida Department of Health (FDOH) officials, passenger seaports, and public use airports.
  - Traveler checkpoints have been implemented pursuant to Executive Order 20-86.
    - Checkpoints have been put in place at I-10 eastbound at the Florida/Alabama line and I-95 Southbound at the Florida/Georgia line.
    - Commercial motor vehicles may bypass traveler checkpoints.
  - More than 1,500 traveler forms have been collected at the checkpoints and more than 8,100 traveler forms have been collected at public use airports.
  - Signs have been posted at the airports telling travelers to fill out the form.
  - Critical infrastructure projects are being accelerated while transportation facilities experience reduced traffic.
  - A full list of projects is attached.
  - Approximately 50-60% of FDOT employees are teleworking.
  - Microsoft Teams and GoToMeeting are both being utilized for virtual meetings.

- Vice-Chairman Trumbull asked Secretary Thibault if traveler forms are required at private airports.
  - Secretary Thibault stated that a plan should be in place within the next couple days.
- Commissioner Sarnoff asked about safety precautions for construction workers working on accelerated infrastructure projects. Commissioner Sarnoff also inquired on what services are available at rest areas for truckers.
  - Workers are encouraged to follow the CDC guidelines (remaining six feet apart from one another).
  - Many workers are taking separate trucks to construction sites vs riding together.
  - Secretary Thibault reached out to the Florida Trucking Association to see if any truckers are having trouble finding food.
- Chairman Howse asked if some of the changes could affect the way business is being conducted in the future.
  - Secretary Thibault mentioned that prior to COVID-19, only 5% of employees were teleworking. This could increase in the future.
- Commissioner Burke thanked Secretary Thibault for joining the call and providing a detailed COVID-19 department update.
- Executive Director Yoder briefly spoke about the Performance and Production Metrics Review conference call/webinar that will take place on April 23.
- Commissioners Genson and Sarnoff provided an update from the Florida Transportation Plan Steering Committee webinar that was held on March 26.

**Public Comment:**

Chair Howse asked for any public comments. No comments were made.

**Adjourn:**

Chair Howse adjourned the conference call.

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

THIS 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2020

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CHAIRMAN