

FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF: June 25, 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 May 28th conference call. The motion was made by Commissioner Burke and seconded by Commissioner Davis. The motion passed unanimously.
- Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Secretary Kevin Thibault provided an agency update.
 - The department is currently in the initial phase of employees returning to the office.
 - The department is following Governor Ron DeSantis' Return to Office plan
 - 60% of staff have been teleworking
 - The department brought back an additional 25%, mostly being supervisors
 - Over 200,000 traveler forms have been collected by FDOT at airports and checkpoints.
 - FDOT has deactivated the checkpoint for screening travelers seeking to enter Florida on Interstate 10 at the Florida/Alabama state line.
 - Weekly calls are being conducted with the public use airports and seaports.
- Secretary Thibault also provided an update on the Roosevelt Bridge.
 - Cracks were found on the southernmost span of the southbound Roosevelt Bridge during a routine biennial inspection.
 - On June 16th, the department closed the southbound bridge.
 - On June 17th, inspections of the northbound bridge identified areas of concern, so it was also closed.
 - FDOT assembled a statewide team of bridge experts to assess the situation.
 - No portion of the bridge will be opened until it has been determined to be safe.

- Motorists are instructed to follow detour signs.
- FDOT has suspended tolls for traffic entering and exiting Florida's Turnpike between milepost 133 and milepost 142.
- Equipment to calculate load rating is being brought in from Gainesville.
- Commissioner Burke asked the Secretary when the checkpoint on Interstate 95 will be removed.
 - Secretary Thibault stated there is no word yet on when it will be removed.
- Chairman Howse asked that the Secretary explain the bridge inspection process.
 - Secretary Thibault stated that the law requires inspections every two years. However, they can have more inspections if deemed necessary. Its important to look at all aspects of the bridge, like load ratings, etc.
- Executive Director Yoder provided an update on the Performance and Production Metrics Review meetings.
 - Four meetings have been held virtually.
 - The next meeting is later today (June 25th) at 3:00 PM.
 - The next meeting will be on July 14th.
- Executive Director Yoder also stated that the FTC renewed its legal services agreement with the Attorney General's office and reminded the Commissioners that Financial Disclosure Forms are due July 1st.
 - Chairman Howse reminded everyone that Financial Disclosure Forms can be submitted via email.
- Executive Director Yoder provided an update on future meetings and travel.
 - The Commission will continue with bi-weekly conference calls and will meet virtually for the time being.
- Chairman Howse asked Commissioner Sarnoff to provide an update on the Florida Transportation Plan during the next FTC conference call.

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 20th DAY OF AUGUST 2020

CHAIRMAN