

# NORTHWEST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AUTHORITY MONTHLY MEETING

## Meeting Minutes

April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010

1. Call To Order-Chairman Montgomery called to order the meeting of the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority at 10:00am EST on April 22, 2010 at the Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce, Crawfordville, Florida.

### **Members Present:**

Robert B. Montgomery, Chairman

Stephen K. Norris, Vice Chairman

James F. Anders, Secretary/Treasurer

Cheryl Sanders

Robert E. McGill III

Jason Alderman with FDOT

**Staff Present:** Nick Beninate, General Counsel

### **Members Absent:**

J. Carey Scott III

Ashton J. Hayward III

2. **Welcome** Chairman Montgomery welcomed everyone to the NFTCA meeting in Wakulla County, Florida.
3. **Approval of Minutes** Monthly Meeting February 25, 2010.

**Motion by:** James Anders To approve minutes.  
**Second by:** Cheryl Sanders  
**Approved:** 5-0

4. **New Business**

**A. Approval of US 98 Franklin County Invoice No. 190873-H for \$23,905.22**

**Motion by:** Cheryl Sanders                      To approve invoice #190873-H  
**Second by:** Stephen Norris  
**Approved:** 5-0

**B. Administrative Funding Update/Status**

Chairman Montgomery stated that he is working with FDOT and FHWA to secure \$1.2 million for funding Board Member expenses such as travel costs to Board Meetings and administrative fees such as attorney fees and audit services.

Mr. David Tassinari, with the Florida Transportation Commission (FTC), stated that the if/when the requested funds are available to the NFTCA, these funds cannot be used to fund work previously completed, such as previous audits or existing attorney fees.

**C. Florida Transportation Commission (FTC) Report Summary**

Mr. David Tassinari briefly discussed the FTC reporting process and explained that the Draft Report will be presented to the FTC on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in Panama City, FL.

**D. Discussion Regarding FTC Meeting on May 6th**

Chairman Montgomery invited the other Board Members to join him at the FTC Meeting May 6<sup>th</sup> to network with some of the other Transportation Authorities. Mr. Beninati stated that due to the Sunshine Laws, the meeting would need to be advertised as a Public Meeting. Mr. Jason Alderman with FDOT stated that the FDOT would be willing to publish the necessary Public Notice.

Chairman Montgomery stated that a couple items the NFTCA is noted as being delinquent on are the audit and adoption of a budget. Mr. Beninati stated that the audit should be complete soon and that it was a complete audit covering 2006 through 2009. Mr. Reissener stated that HDR would provide a financial report of funds spent to date.

Mr. Tassinari briefly discussed the purpose of the FTC Meeting and how it may benefit the NFTCA to have Board Members present. Discussion was held regarding other Transportation Authorities and possible solutions to funding issues.

Chairman Montgomery stated that Mr. Tassinari has been very helpful with the request for administrative funding. Mr. Anders asked if there were additional funds that should be applied for from the Transportation Trust Fund. Mr. Tassinari stated that he did not recommend applying for that type of funds due to the limited quantity remaining. Mr. McGill inquired about his recommendations on where additional funding may be found. Mr. Alderman stated that the NFTCA is currently using State Funding through the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) and that the administrative funds are Federal Funds. Chairman Montgomery stated that Counties are a possible source of funding as well. He also stated that another funding source is a Public Private Partnership, or P3.

**E. Request Comments/Updates to the Master Plan in order to be adopted at the May 2010 Meeting**

Mr. Nick Arnio with HDR gave a brief presentation on the suggested updates to the 2010 Master Plan. Mr. Arnio stated that the project limits for the U.S. 98 Project in Franklin County have been modified. The segment from Eastpoint to Carrabelle is no longer included in the current Study and that FDOT has provided documentation regarding the recent improvements to that section of roadway. That segment of roadway has been designed to withstand a Category 2 Hurricane which meets the goals established by the NFTCA.

Mr. Arnio suggested that the 2010 Master Plan reflect this change as well as splitting the north/south evacuation routes into separate projects.

**F. Approval of 2010 Budget**

Mr. Arnio stated that the current budget is \$22,879.46, which is the remaining budget for the U.S. 98 Franklin County Study. The Board discussed the remaining funds and expressed concerns about adopting a 2010 budget when they were uncertain about the 2009 budget. Mr. Reissener stated that HDR would provide the Board with a financial statement, 2009 and proposed 2010 budget at the May Board Meeting.

Chairman Montgomery inquired about the timeliness of adopting a budget. Mr. Tassinari stated that the Board could table this item and adopt the budget at their next meeting. He also suggested that the Board review the budget and funds available at each Board Meeting.

**Motion by:** Cheryl Sanders  
**Second by:** Robert McGill  
**Approved:** 5-0

To table the adoption of the 2010 budget.

**G. Presentation by Kelley Parker (FDOT District 3) on 2060 Florida Transportation Plan (Informational Item)**

Ms. Parker gave a presentation regarding the 2060 Florida Transportation Plan. Information Items were available for the public.

**Board Member Comments-**

Chairman Montgomery stated that he had received a letter from the Florida Turnpike Enterprise stating that they could perform the Planning Level Study for a segment of the Eglin Bypass (From SR 85 to SR 87). Mr. Alderman stated that he received this letter late on the evening of April 21<sup>st</sup> and that he would ensure that the remaining Board Members were provided a copy. Mr. Alderman also explained the three levels to evaluating toll feasibility of roadways. He stated that the first level is a Sketch Level, which HDR has completed. The Turnpike Enterprise has committed to conducting Planning Level study, which is the second level and for this type of project, usually takes about one year. The most detailed study is called a Bond Grade study.

Mr. Reissener stated that a Bond Grade study can only be completed after the design of the roadway is complete. This study is completed immediately prior to bidding the project for construction.

Chairman Montgomery stated that the vacancy in the Wakulla Board member position has not been filled and that he is not aware of any applicants.

Mr. McGill asked whether the message board was completed for the website. Mr. Arnio stated that HDR was still working on that and would have an operational message board prior to the next Board Meeting.

**Public Comments-**

No Public Comments were received.

Chairman Montgomery stated that the next NFTCA Meeting would be:  
05/27/2010 Fort Walton Beach, FL – Okaloosa

Chairman Montgomery called to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion by:** Robert McGill : To adjourn the meeting.

**Second by:** Cheryl Sanders

**Approved: 5-0**

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am EST