

NORTHWEST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2015

1. Call To Order

Chairman Montgomery called to order the meeting of the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority Financial Committee at 10:00am CST on January 22, 2015 in the Vince Whibbs Conference Room in City Hall, Pensacola, FL.

Members Present:

Robert B. Montgomery, Chairman
James F. Anders, Secretary/Treasurer
J. Carey Scott, III
Gordon Sprague

Staff Present: Nick Beninate, General Counsel; Robert Kellner, Client Manager and Alicia Stephen, Administration

Members Absent: Steve Norris, Vice Chairman; Scott Gaby and Cheryl Sanders, Board Members

2. Pledge of Allegiance & Welcome Chairman Montgomery welcomed everyone.

3. Approval of Minutes

Monthly Meeting: October 23, 2014

Due to the lack of quorum, there was no vote or approval of the Board's October meeting minutes.

General Discussion:

Chairman asked Nick Beninate if we can have discussions about the Authority's future and not vote, due to missing Board members. Mr. Beninate said yes. Chairman Montgomery mentioned that he didn't anticipate any particular projects coming up but was scheduling a meeting with Escambia County Administrator, Jack Brown. He's also hoping to schedule an introductory meeting with the new Secretary of Transportation, Jim Boxold.

Gordon Sprague asked if a quorum was required to create or change a committee to discuss potential projects. Chairman Montgomery said yes but agreed that a committee was a good idea. Bob Kellner said that the Destin Connector (1st project in Master Plan) might be a good project and meeting with the Destin City Council would be a first step. Also, the West Bay Parkway might be another good idea. If this could become a state project, the Corridor Authority could be a tolling facility handler. Lyle

Seigler, FDOT, agreed and said that a meeting with Authority Board members and Bob Romig (Exec. Dir. of Florida Transportation Commission) and Richard Biter (Asst. Sec. of Transportation Intermodal Systems Development) might be beneficial. Jay Trumbull, Chairman of the Florida Transportation Commission, could make the introductions. Chairman Montgomery said that he'd try to schedule this meeting.

Bob Kellner explained that the strength of the Corridor Authority lies in its ability to focus on one part of a project and run the required steps consecutively, which eliminates a lot of time and saves money.

Jim Anders mentioned that the Howard Group is looking for TRIP funds for a project at Inlet Beach. Maybe the Corridor Authority could be a sponsor to assist them with the TRIP application. Chairman Montgomery said that it was the intent of the Authority to have a toll feasibility project. Can the Authority be helpful to the Garcon Point Bridge Board, which must be made up of locals? Is this something that we want to do? Bob Kellner said that doing some outreach may be seen in a positive light by the locals. Chairman Montgomery will talk to Santa Rosa County Attorney, Roy Anderson about this.

4. Public Comments

Lyle Seigler, FDOT – District 3, wanted to inform Board that TRIP applications were due to FDOT in Chipley by May 1, 2015. Alicia Brininger is the FDOT contact.

5. Next Meeting Date: April 23, 2015 in Navarre

6. Adjournment:

Motion made to adjourn by Gordon Sprague, Seconded by Jim Anders and unanimously Approved. The meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m. EST.