

NORTHWEST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AUTHORITY MONTHLY MEETING

Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2007

I. Call To Order- Chairman McElheney called to order the meeting of the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority at 10:00am on January 18, 2007, at the Panama City Commission Chambers in Panama City, Florida.

II. Members Present:

Randall A. McElheney, Chairman

Jay Odom, Vice-Chairman

Robert B. Montgomery, Secretary/Treasurer

Eddie Dixon

James Anders

Stephen K. Norris

Maurice Langston

Tommy Barfield with FDOT

Staff Present: Mike Duncan, General Counsel

Members Absent: Cheryl K. Sanders

III. Pledge of Allegiance-

IV. Welcome- Chairman McElheney welcomed everyone to the NFTCA meeting in Panama City, Florida.

V. Approval of Minutes from last meeting- Monthly Meeting December 21, 2006

Motion By Mr. Dixon: To approve the Minutes

Second By Mr. Norris

Approved 7-0

VI. Old Business

- a) **Eglin Update**-Steve Wilson reported that HDR had given the Alternatives Development Presentation to the Eglin Staff on January 16, 2007. This was the same presentation given to the Authority at their December 21, 2006, meeting. He further reported that a package was being developed by the Air Force granting approval in concept to a new transportation facility from SR 87 to US 331 generally following the southern boundary of the reservation. The Air Force indicated the package should be sent to the Authority by the end of January 2007.

VII. New Business

- a) **Master Plan Phase II Status Report**- Steve Wilson gave a status report on The Master Plan Phase II. He reported that as of December 31, 2006, the Master Plan development is 47.50% complete and on schedule.
- b) **Approval of Invoices**- Mr. Wilson presented the invoices from HDR, Inc. and Harrison, Sale, McCloy, Thompson and Duncan covering the period from December 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006. He requested approval of the invoices.

Motion by Mr. Norris: To approve Invoices

Second by Mr. Dixon

Approved 7-0

- c) **Consideration of Resolution to Designate US 98 as a SIS Facility**- the Florida-Alabama, Okaloosa-Walton, and Bay County TPO's have asked for support from the NFTCA in requesting that US 98 from the Florida\Alabama line to the Gulf County line be designated as part of the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS). A draft resolution has been developed by the board counsel that would provide NFTCA support for this initiative. Chairman McElheney asked that each Board member review the resolution. He further instructed HDR to develop an information package outlining the advantages and disadvantages of the SIS designation and send to all Board members within the next couple of weeks. The matter will be on the agenda for discussion at the February 2007 meeting.
- d) **Master Plan Public Meeting Format and Dates**- Steve Wilson presented the planned format for the public meetings to be held in late February and early March to present the Master Plan alternatives. The format would be an open house from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The public will be able to come by at anytime during these hours and view a 15 to 20 minute audio-visual presentation that will discuss the Master Plan development. A one page handout will also be provided to the attendees. Maps and other exhibits will be available for viewing with consultant staff present to answer questions. Public comments may be received at the meeting either through written form

or as spoken to a court reporter. Comments may also be received through the website comment page.

The tentative meeting dates and locations are as follows:

February 20, 2007	Wakulla County
February 22, 2007	Bay County
February 27, 2007	Escambia County
March 1, 2007	Okaloosa County

Dates and locations are subject to change based upon availability of meeting facilities.

- e) **Presentation-** Steve Wilson and Jason McGlashan with HDR and Rob Schiffer with Cambridge Systematics gave a presentation on the updated draft alternatives analysis. The presentation was a continuation of the presentation given at the December 21, 2006, Board Meeting. Modifications to the alternatives have been made based upon input from the Board. Mr. McGlashan presented additional data used to measure the performance of each alternative. These included additional trips such as Panama City to Pensacola and their associated travel times. An overall matrix comparing the five alternatives was presented. Chairman McElheney asked what maximum speed was being used for the limited access projects. Mr. McGlashan replied that it was in the low 60 mph range. Chairman McElheney replied that higher speeds than average may should be considered. HDR agreed to reevaluate the speeds being used and determine what the impacts would be on the calculated travel times. Discussion from several Board members was made regarding the trips being used to develop the travel paths and corresponding travel times. HDR agreed to evaluate additional trips and include the results in the alternative analysis. Chairman McElheney asked about the need to consider possible revisions to the Goals and Objectives now that more detailed information was available. Steve Wilson replied that it would be appropriate to reevaluate the Objectives in light of the more detailed information. The Goals would remain as they are since they were developed from the Authority's enabling legislation. There was a lengthy discussion from several Board members in regard to the performance measures being used to evaluate safety. Vice-Chairman Odom suggested that site specific safety improvements be considered for US 98 based upon historical crash data with special emphasis on crashes resulting in fatalities. Steve Wilson replied that HDR would secure historical crash data from the FDOT crash database and plot the accident locations to identify high crash locations. This would be used to identify safety improvement project needs.

VIII. Public Comments- No public comments were made.

Chairman McElheney announced the next NFTCA meeting will be held on February 15, 2007 in Bay County at the Panama City Commission Chambers. Chairman McElheney adjourned the meeting at 11:25am.

Motion by Mr. Dixon: To adjourn

Second by Mr. Norris

Approved 7-0