

# NORTHWEST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AUTHORITY MONTHLY MEETING

## Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2007

1. **Call To Order-** Chairman McElheney called to order the meeting of the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority at 1:00pm EST on October 18, 2007 at the Franklin County Annex Courthouse in Apalachicola, Florida.

### **Members Present:**

Randall A. McElheney, Chairman

Robert B. Montgomery, Secretary/Treasurer

Cheryl Sanders

Stephen Norris

Eddie Dixon

Maurice Langston

Tommy Barfield with FDOT

**Staff Present:** Mike Duncan, General Counsel

**Members Absent:** Jay Odom, James Anders

### **Pledge of Allegiance-**

2. **Welcome-** Chairman McElheney welcomed everyone to the NFTCA meeting in Apalachicola, Florida.
3. **Approval of Minutes-** Monthly Meeting September 20, 2007.

**Motion by Mr. Dixon:** To approve minutes of meeting.

**Second by Mrs. Sanders**

**Approved 6-0**

#### 4. New Business –

- A. Status Report on Task #2, Franklin County Study-** Ray Reissener with HDR stated a public kickoff workshop was scheduled for Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. He said it would be held at the Lanark Boat Club beginning at 5:00pm. Mr. Reissener said there would be maps on display with no lines. He stated the purpose of this workshop was to give the public an opportunity to give input. Mrs. Sanders suggested having a Q & A session for a portion of the workshop to allow the public to ask their questions and have them answered. She stated this would also help eliminate the same questions being asked repeatedly because a lot of people have the same questions. The board members agreed and Mr. Reissener said he would accommodate that. The board also suggested having a frequently asked questions sheet. It was also suggested to have the public workshop in a larger facility to accommodate more people such as the Senior Citizen Center which could hold 150-200 people. Therefore it was decided that the public workshop be held at the Senior Citizens Center on November 13, 2007 in Franklin County from 5:00pm EST until.
- B. Status Report on Task #3, Eglin Bypass Study-** On behalf of the NFTCA, HDR has presented a revised preferred alternate alignment to minimize the impacts to Eglin for impact analysis. On October 4<sup>th</sup> a final technical meeting was held to approve the final modifications to the preferred alignment. The Air Force is currently writing a letter of conceptual approval detailing the preferred alternate alignment limits and project stipulations. HDR expects to receive this letter before October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- C. Status Report on Task #4, Public Outreach** – Mr. Reissener stated he had met with the Commissioners in all eight counties. He said there would be a few more meetings. He said the next step is to meet with the TPO.

Chairman McElheney reported he had met with Mr. M.C. Davis on October 17, 2007. He said Mr. Davis owns about 50 acres of land. Mr. Davis gave a suggestion to look at Highway 20 again and consider the options. Chairman McElheney stated he would like HDR to re-examine SR 20 from Highway 331 east for project 40. He also said Mr. Davis would be willing to provide right-of-way.

**Motion By** Mrs. Sanders: For HDR to re-examine SR20 from Highway 331 east.

**Second by** Mr. Langston

**Approved** 6-0

**Approval of Invoices-** Chairman McElheney presented the invoice for the Franklin County Corridor Study to the board for approval.

**Motion by Mrs. Sanders:** To approve the invoice for Task #2 Franklin County

**Second by Mr. Dixon**

**Approved 5**

**Abstained 1**

Chairman McElheney presented the additional 2 invoices from HDR and one invoice from Harrison, Sale, Thompson, McCloy, Duncan & Jackson for approval.

**Motion by Mr. Dixon:** To approve the invoices.

**Second by Mrs. Sanders**

**Approved 6-0**

#### **E. Public Comments-**

1. **Andy Smith-** Mr. Smith stated Franklin County has requested funding through DCA in the amount of \$25,000 to use for a more diverse public outreach program outside of the NFTCA. He suggested reconsidering SR 20 as an option for Franklin County also.
2. **Steven Allen-** Mr. Allen with the CDC said his efforts over the next few months will be to get public input to the NFTCA.
3. **David Butler-** Mr. Butler suggested moving the public workshop to the Senior Citizen Center in Crawfordville. He said it needed to be a larger facility so that more people can attend and the Lanark Boat Club was not set up to accommodate this meeting.
4. **Grant Peeples-** Mr. Peeples requested a copy of the Summary Report fold out maps. He said they should be available at all meetings.
5. **Bob Fulford-** Mr. Fulford said he would like to become more familiar with the NFTCA. He requested the website address.
6. **John Spolina-** Mr. Spolina asked how the goals were decided on. He stated it seems like the NFTCA board members were going to do what they wanted

without public input. He said the transportation planner deleted Gulf Breeze Garson Point Bridge portion of Hwy 98. He suggested it be re-evaluated.

7. **Nancy Model-** Ms. Model suggested when re-evaluating the Master Plan that HDR look at the segment from Naval Live Oaks Reservation to Garcon Point Bridge. She said this is not in Range Transportation Plan for funding.
8. **Kenneth Osborne-** Mr. Osborne stated the public workshops were to keep the public input out. He said he supported the meeting to be at the Senior Citizen Center. He said he met with Will Stewart of HDR and the meeting was good.
9. **John Hedrick-** Mr. Hedrick asked what actions have taken place since the adoption of the Master Plan and what was going to change regarding the public concerns and dislikes. He said he felt that something has already been decided and the public input won't be considered.
10. **Rod Gashie-** Mr. Gashie asked how the NFTCA could use land and funds set aside by Wakulla County. He said the lines on the map through wildlife corridors.
11. **Ted Russom-** Mr. Russom stated Hwy 98 should continue being maintained by the FDOT. He asked if the NEPA process will be implemented. He said he doesn't see how anything could go through Tate's Hell and using SR 20 as an alternative was a better idea. He commented the Chamber of Commerce was against this project.
12. **Leslie Cox-** Ms. Cox stated SR 20 was a good idea. Also suggested upgrading SR65 & 67. She stated Hwy 98 should not be considered. It would impact her business as well as other businesses.
13. **Ann McQueen-** Ms. McQueen requested the total budget for the NFTCA.
14. **Frank Venable-** Mr. Venable asked when the NFTCA started. He asked how many miles of the Eglin Bypass were owned by St. Joe Company. He stated to forget justification for hurricane evacuation. He said he was concerned with what percentage of the public comments was considered in the decision making.
15. **Chris Stahl-** Mr. Stahl with the DEP stated his concern is with conservation land. He said he's glad the board decided to go back and consider Hwy 20 and he strongly supports that.
16. **Gathana Parnemas-** Ms. Parnemas said she sent an email through the website and never received a response. She stated the economic impact in would be tremendous to the local community.

**17. Allan Lofton-** Mr. Lofton asked what the impacts would be to Hwy 98. He asked who would take over maintaining Hwy 98. He said he agreed SR20 was the best solution.

**18. Commissioner Crofton-** Mr. Crofton stated he doesn't want Franklin County affected economically and environmentally. He said the county cannot fund any repairs for Hwy 98.

Chairman McElheney called to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion by Mr. Langston:** To adjourn the meeting.

**Second by Mr. Dixon**

**Approved 6-0**

The meeting adjourned at 2:45pm.



**APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)**

- A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

**DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST**


I, Randall Adams McElheney, hereby disclose that on October 18, 20 07 :

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one)

- inured to my special private gain or loss;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, Philip Jones, William Kennedy, David Kennedy, Clifford Knaver, Christopher Forehand;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, \_\_\_\_\_, by whom I am retained; or
- inured to the special gain or loss of \_\_\_\_\_, which is the parent organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.

(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:

10-18-07  
Date Filed

  
Signature

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.