

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR  
AUTHORITY MONTHLY MEETING**

Meeting Minutes

April 16<sup>th</sup> 2009

1. Call To Order - Maurice Langston called to order the meeting of the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority at 10:00am EST on April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Wakulla County Commission Chamber Room, Crawfordville, Florida.

**Members Present:**

Maurice Langston

James Anders

Cheryl Sanders

Jason Alderman with FDOT

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

**Members Absent:** Randall A. McElheney/Chairman, Eddie Dixon, Jay Odom/Vice Chairman, Robert B. Montgomery Secretary/Treasurer, Stephen Norris

2. **Welcome** Maurice Langston welcomed everyone to the NFTCA meeting in Crawfordville.

3. **Approval of Minutes** Voting did not take place due to lack of quorum.

#### **4. New Business**

##### **A. 2010 Update by Jason Alderman with FDOT**

Jason Alderman with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) gave a 2010 update summary and provided informational pamphlets. Legislature requires a review every 5 years; public workshops will be conducted during summer months. In District 3, the Port of Port St. Joe has been approved as Pre-deemed Emerging Port. More information can be found on [www.sisupdate.org](http://www.sisupdate.org).

##### **B. 2009 Master Plan Updates**

Ray Reissener discussed the 2009 Master Plan updates, indicating his plans to meet with board members in order to obtain their suggestions. Plans to bring proposed updates to next meeting for review/revisions, with final approval at the June 2009 Board Meeting. Mr. Reissener also stated that the project priority rankings can be modified. Maurice Langston offered his suggestion that representative county officials be met with as well for their input.

##### **C. US 98 Franklin County Update**

Ray Reissener gave an update on the US98 Franklin County Project and stated that it is a federal project and the Authority will be applying for federal assistance. Mr. Reissener also indicated that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is only authorized to work with statewide agencies, and must work through the Florida Department of Transportation on this project. It was also discussed the US98 Franklin County project has been uploaded into the ETDM (Efficient Transportation Decision Making) system, and discussion regarding logical termini for the project have occurred between HDR and the Agencies. FHWA has expressed concern for projects terminating at a County boundary and would like to see a more physical terminus. Mr. Reissener discussed the needed improvements of Alligator Point Road and improvements needed to roads crossing the Ochlocknee River. Cheryl Sanders added that recently Roads 65 & 67 had excessive flooding and should be addressed.

##### **D. Eglin Bypass Update**

Mr. Reissener gave a project update on the Eglin Bypass project and stated that workshops were held with environmental organizations to study impacts to the Flatwoods Salamander and work on possible alignments. In the original plans, Hulbert Field was not included, but has since been added. Mr. Reissener said the Eglin Bypass project should now continue moving forward. There is currently \$2,000,000 in Federal funds left for this project, but

funds may be unable to be used for studies, rather they may be limited to master planning. The total budgeted cost for the Environmental Impact Statement is approximately \$10 million.

#### **E. Update on Unsolicited Proposal for US331**

Mr. Reissener indicated that the unsolicited proposal from Moving US331 Forward LLC has been withdrawn. Walton County passed a resolution against amending NFTCA statute to allow tolling of existing roads. Currently NFTCA statute does not allow for tolling of existing roads.

#### **Public Comments:**

Ann Marzak with Alligator Point thanked the NFTCA and stated that she supports work around Alligator Point, especially north/south routes.

Maurice Langston stated the next meeting of the NFTCA will be: **May 21, 2009**

Maurice Langston called to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am EST