

NORTHWEST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AUTHORITY MONTHLY MEETING

Meeting Minutes September 18, 2008

1. Call To Order-Chairman McElheney called to order the meeting of the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority at 10:00am CDT on September 18, 2008 at Council Chambers in Pensacola, Florida.

Members Present:

Randall A. McElheney, Chairman

Robert B. Montgomery, Secretary/Treasurer

James Anders

Stephen Norris

Maurice Langston

Jason Alderman with FDOT

Staff Present: Nick Beninate, General Counsel

Members Absent: Jay Odom/Vice Chairman , Eddie Dixon, Cheryl Sanders

2. **Welcome** Chairman McElheney welcomed everyone to the NFTCA meeting in Pensacola, Florida.
3. **Approval of Minutes** Monthly Meeting July 17, 2008.

Motion by Maurice Langston To approve minutes as amended.

Second by Robert Montgomery

Approved: 5-0

4. New Business

A. **Introduction of Amber Perryman, HDR Administrative Assistant**

Ray Reissener introduced Amber Perryman to the board. Amber will serve in administrative support for the Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority and HDR Engineering, Inc.

B. **Status Report on Gulf Coast Parkway**

Discussion by Mr. Ray Reissener on the Gulf Coast Parkway and the 5-year long range plan from the Transportation Planning Organization. Alignments and funding suggestions and comments were included in discussion as well as potential for funding to come through toll road possibilities.

C. **Status Report on Hwy 388**

An update on Highway 388 was given by Mr. Ray Reissener, with reports that the Department of Transportation is currently preparing environmental documentation. Discussion of future work plans was introduced.

D. **Status Report on Franklin County**

Mr. Nicholi Arnio presented a status report on Franklin County, with discussion on project scope for Franklin County EIS. The EIS schedule was presented through 2012, and funding methods for project were introduced. Mr. Arnio shared recent photographs of CR 370 after damages were sustained from Hurricanes Fay, Ike and Gustav. Alligator Point sustained damages as well due to these storms. Further discussion by board members and FDOT on damage sustained and potential action to be taken in order to repair damages and prevent future occurrences.

E. **Status Report on Eglin Bypass**

1. Mr. Chad Jacobs provided a status report on Eglin Bypass, with discussion on funding alternatives, the NEPA/EIS process, project roadblocks, and potential impact on Flatwoods Salamander. Mr. Jacobs discussed alternative routes via map presentation, and discussed handout titled "Federal Register". Mr. Jacobs recommended the board request a Public Hearing with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services to discuss the Federal Register.
2. **Motion by Maurice Langston** To request Public Hearing

 Second by Stephen Norris

 Approved: 5-0
3. Mr. Ray Reissener discussed in detail funding alternatives for Eglin Bypass, with explanation on the Revolving Trust Fund Loan. The Board and FDOT presented questions and clarifications on the Revolving Trust Fund Loan and its impact on

Eglin Bypass and impacted counties. Mr. Reissener requested the Board vote to approve application for Trust Fund Loan.

4. Motion by James Anders To approve application for Loan

Second by Robert Montgomery

Approved: 5-0

F. Approval of Invoice Task #3, Eglin Corridor Study, Invoice No. 46140 H, August 2008. Chairman McElheney presented Invoice for Task Order #3, Eglin Corridor Feasibility Study No. 46140-H for August 2008.

Motion by James Anders To approve Invoice No. 46140-H for August 2008

Second by Stephen Norris

Approved 5-0

G. Approval of Invoice Task #5, Franklin County Feasibility Study, Invoice No. 46088-H for August 2008.

Chairman McElheney abstained from voting due to a potential conflict of interest.

Chairman McElheney stated he owns real estate with some of the owners of Preble-Rish, Inc. and Preble-Rish, Inc. is a sub-consultant to HDR on the Franklin County project. To be cautious, Chairman McElheney abstained from voting because it is possible that this relationship could be considered a conflict with regard to the vote. He further stated he would submit Form 8B, "Memorandum of voting conflict for County, municipal, and other local public officers", to HDR to add to the public record.

Due to Chairman McElheney abstaining, there were not sufficient remaining board members to vote on Invoice No. 46088-H for Franklin County. This item was tabled until the October Board Meeting.

H. Approval of Invoices for Harrison, Sale, McCloy, Thompson, Duncan & Jackson, General Counsel, Account No. 110480 dtd 08/12/08 and dtd 09/09/08- Chairman McElheney presented the Invoices for Harrison, Sale, McCloy, Thompson, Duncan & Jackson, Invoices Account No.110480 dtd 08/12/08 and dtd 09/09/08

Motion by Maurice Langston To approve invoices for General Counsel

Second by Stephen Norris

Approved 5-0

I. 2008 Master Plan Project Addition- SR 30 in Gulf County

Discussion was held regarding SR 30 in Gulf County, and recent damages suffered due to hurricanes. Mr. Ray Reissener presented slide show pictures illustrating damages sustained to this section of road. Mr. Randall McElheney mentioned evacuation safety concerns, recommending SR 30 improvements be added to the 2008 Master Plan.

Motion by Maurice Langston To approve Project addition in Master Plan

Second by Stephen Norris

Approved 5-0

J. Approve TRIP Application for SR 30 in Gulf County

Discussion was held regarding requesting TRIP funds for SR 30 in Gulf County. Mr. Jason Alderman, FDOT, discussed in detail TRIP fund requesting procedures along with proper application and documentation submittals.

Motion by Maurice Langston To approve TRIP application for SR 30

Second by Stephen Norris

Approved 5-0

K. Approve TRIP Application for completion of Franklin County EIS

Mr. Ray Reissener requested that the board authorize application for TRIP funding to wrap up the Environmental Impact Study for Franklin County for Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012.

Motion by Robert Montgomery To approve TRIP application Franklin EIS

Second by Maurice Langston

Approved 5-0

L. Approve TRIP Application for Administrative Travel Fees

Discussion was held between the board members regarding the requisition of TRIP funding for administrative travel fees associated with NFTCA travel expenses. Currently

board members cover these travel costs personally. Mr. Randall McElheney suggested the board make application to request TRIP funding for these administrative costs.

Motion by Maurice Langston To approve TRIP application Admin Travel

Second by James Anders

Approved 5-0

Board Member Comments- Mr. Jason Alderman commented on future options for TRIP funds requests. Recommendation was made that The Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority submit a priority list of discussed projects when requesting funds.

Public Comments- Mr. Andrew Smith with Apalachicola Riverkeeper inquired as to if an update would be given on Franklin County during the October meeting.

Chairman McElheney stated that the next NFTCA Meeting would be: October 16, 2008

Chairman McElheney called to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Maurice Langston : To adjourn the meeting.

Second by Stephen Norris

Approved 5-0

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 CDT.