

**MINUTES
STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
600 West Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30308**

August 21, 2008

9:00 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Bill Kuhlke, Chairman
Larry Walker, Vice Chairman
Roy Herrington
Johnny Floyd
Sam Wellborn
Robert L. Brown, Jr.
Emory McClinton
Brandon Beach
Rudy Bowen
Steve Farrow
David Doss
Raybon Anderson
Dana Lemon

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

DOT STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner Gena Abraham
Kevin Clark, COO
Buddy Gratton, Deputy Commissioner
Elizabeth Osmon
Earl Mahfuz
Gerald Ross
Jo Ann Chance
Sandra Burgess
Mike Thomas
Richard Sawyer
Michael Cooper
Ericka Davis

Chairman Bill Kuhlke opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Johnny Floyd gave the invocation.

Chairman Kuhlke asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 2008 meetings. Robert Brown made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 2008 meetings, seconded by Sam Wellborn and unanimously approved.*

Genetha Singleton, Assistant Director of Preconstruction, presented the projects proposed for the September 2008 Letting for approval. Chairman Kuhlke asked for a motion to approve. Sam Wellborn made a motion to approve the projects proposed for the September 2008 Letting, seconded by Roy Herrington and unanimously approved.*

Mike Thomas, Director of Planning, Data & Intermodal Development, gave update on revisions proposed for the Construction Work Program. Mike Thomas stated there were no revisions proposed for the Construction Work Program this month.

Melany Reynolds, Community Relations Project Manager, gave a presentation on the new Wildflower License Tag. Melany Reynolds stated that the new Wildflower Tag will have the Purple Cone Flower on it and is available for purchase.*

Jane Smith, State Transportation Data Administrator, gave a presentation on the 2009 Map Photo Selections from the Board members. Jane Smith also requested approval from the Board for the front and back cover of 2009 State Map. Chairman Kuhlke requested that the Board members review the photos and choose a photo for the front cover and a photo for the back cover and the Board secretary would count the choices and the photo with the most votes for the front and back cover would be selected for the 2009 State map.

Chairman Kuhlke requested that Gerald Ross, Chief Engineer, give an update on projects while the Board made their choices for the front and back cover of 2009 State Map.

Gerald Ross, Chief Engineer, gave an update on two projects, which included commuter rail and HOV to HOT Lanes. Gerald Ross stated that staff has met with Norfolk Southern to discuss next steps on commuter rail. Gerald Ross also stated that the notice to proceed with the Georgia Rail Passenger Authority has been done for the implementation plan and that staff will process the Request For Qualifications (RFQ) from the implementation plan for commuter rail. There was some discussion regarding the commuter rail line. Larry Walker requested that staff provide information on how much it will cost to build the commuter rail line; an estimate of how much the fare box will bring in and an estimate of the cost to operate over the fare box.

Gerald Ross also gave an update on the HOV to HOT Lane. Gerald Ross stated that he will be presenting a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to the Board next month between State Road Tollway Authority and the Department defining roles of each agency, procurement and funding. Gerald Ross also stated that he will provide copies of the MOU to the Board members before the next meeting. Gerald Ross stated there are areas regarding the HOV to HOT that will have to be addressed by the legislature. Gerald Ross also stated that he will update the Board members before presenting the issues to legislature.

Chris Tomlinson, General Counsel, gave a Legal Update, which included litigation regarding Douglas Asphalt. Chris Tomlinson also stated that there were no new law suits to date and staff is in the process of closing out law suits with the Law Department.

Chairman Kuhlke requested that Elizabeth Osmon, Board Secretary, give the winning vote for the selection of the front cover and the back cover of Georgia's 2009 State Map. Elizabeth Osmon stated that Emory McClinton, Congressional District 5, photo had the majority vote for the front cover of the map and Johnny Floyd, Congressional District 2, photo had the majority vote for the back cover of the map.

Chairman Kuhlke requested that the Board take a break at 10:15 a.m. and reconvene at 10:25 a.m.

Commissioner Gena Abraham gave her monthly report. Commissioner Abraham asked Steve Henry, Director of Operations, to give an update on the storm in South Georgia.

Commissioner Abraham stated that she met with Chick Krautler, Executive Director, ARC, and he presented a planning proposal. Commissioner Abraham stated the need to review which studies are being duplicated by multiple agencies, such as GRTA, SRTA, ARC & DOT, then to determine which studies should proceed and which ones Federal Highway should end. Commissioner Abraham stated the need to focus on the studies that will move forward. Commissioner Abraham stated they will be looking at the implementation of the Freight Logistic Study that Mr. Bowen and Mr. Anderson are involved in. Commissioner Abraham also stated that there are areas in the study that effect the Department and she will be bringing this information to the Board.

Commissioner Abraham stated that Mary Peters was in Cobb County and announced the release of the Transportation Reform Proposal, and one of the reasons she chose Georgia to make the announcement was because Georgia may be part of a pilot project. Commissioner Abraham stated that part of the transportation reform is performance measures, which is very important regarding project prioritization.

Commissioner Abraham stated she is having quarterly meetings with the Department of Economic Development to talk about projects involving economic development. Commissioner Abraham stated it is very important to start planning and setting aside funds for economic developments projects as they transpire and to prepare a list on what we are anticipating over the next year.

Commissioner Abraham invited the Board members to go to Texas with the Governor to look at what they have done on Public Private Partnerships and tolling operations.

Commissioner Abraham stated she had a meeting with the Department of Community Affairs regarding a law passed that will go in to effect July 2009 that will create a total of 12 regional commissions across the state that will tie into the Regional Development Centers (RDCs). There was some discussion regarding the RDCs. Commissioner Abraham stated that the RDCs need to be encouraged to assist with transportation planning, although it is different then what has been done in the past.

Commissioner Abraham stated that DOT staff has been looking at miscellaneous funds. Commissioner Abraham stated the first report showed \$113 or \$119 million in our miscellaneous income fund but realistically there is about \$900,000 available in miscellaneous funds. Commissioner Abraham stated staff also looked at additional accounts and there is about \$4.9 million in a separate account for roadside enhancement for expenses like wildflowers, which was set up according to statue. Commissioner Abraham stated she has been working with Sam Wellborn through the Finance committee on what should be set up as a reserve account and an escrow account. There was some discussion regarding the funds. Sam Wellborn made a motion to instruct the Commissioner to make certain where

we have sources of funds that need to be segregated, funds to be set aside and funds that need to be spent only on particular uses, that the Commissioner make sure those segregations take place so that when the time comes to fund the Gateway Program or the Wildflower Program, those funds will be available for use, seconded by Raybon Anderson, and there was some discussion regarding the motion. Dana Lemon made a motion to add to Sam Wellborn's motion that the Commissioner defines how to use the funds and develop a process to request the funds, seconded by Emory McClinton and unanimously approved. Chairman Kuhlke requested that Sam Wellborn make the motion with the additions. Sam Wellborn made a motion to instruct the Commissioner and the Treasurer to make certain where we have sources of funds that need to be segregated, funds to be set aside and need to be spent only on particular uses, that the Commissioner make sure those segregations take place so that when the time comes to fund the Gateway Program or the Wildflower Program, the funds will be available for use, and to develop a process on the correct use of funds and a process to request the funds, seconded by Raybon Anderson and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Gena Abraham gave presentation on the USDOT PPP Trip to Australia. Commissioner Abraham stated that there were five states involved in the trip and named Michigan, California, Florida and Georgia. Commissioner Abraham stated that the purpose of the trip was to gain a better understanding of Public Private Partnerships and their successes and failures. The presentation included levels of government examined and lesson learned.* Commissioner Abraham stated that before the Department moves forward with Public Private Partnerships, there needs to be a better understanding of how Public Private Partnership works. There was some discussion. Commissioner Abraham stated she will be bringing a policy on Public Private Partnership to the Board for consideration in the future. David Doss requested that Commissioner Abraham provide a copy of their standard contract for their Public Private Partnerships. There was some discussion regarding the risk analysis Melbourne and Sydney used on their Public Private Partnerships. Chairman Kuhlke requested that the Commissioner provide the list of obstacles DOT would have in conforming to their model of Public Private Partnerships.

Chairman Kuhlke stated he attended the Alternative Finance Committee meeting in July and there was a proposal presented on Georgia 400. Chairman Kuhlke requested that the Commissioner look into that particular project to see how it ties into the approaches taken in Melbourne on public private projects.

Commissioner Abraham requested that the Board to approve the following Comprehensive Zoning Resolution. Sam Wellborn made a motion to approve the following Comprehensive Zoning Resolution, seconded by Raybon Anderson and unanimously approved.

Resolution

WHEREAS, the State Transportation Board did, in regular session on November, 18, 1971 adopt a policy on outdoor advertising; and

WHEREAS, said policy adopted by the State Transportation Board contained a Schedule "A" pertaining to cities and counties in Georgia which maintained comprehensive zoning plans; and

WHEREAS, that State Transportation Board has directed its staff to make necessary recommendations in order that Schedule "A" of the said Outdoor Advertising Policy may be kept current with changing conditions in cities and counties regarding comprehensive zoning plans; and

WHEREAS, the State Transportation Board did, in regular session on December, 18, 1975, adopt a resolution that said that the Board would review all comprehensive zoning plans submitted for initial approval, to ascertain and determine if said zoning plans can be certified for purposes of outdoor advertising consistent with the State and Federal Law or the Federal/State Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation has determined that the following recommendation is appropriate regarding comprehensive zoning plans:

<u>CITY/COUNTY</u>	<u>COMPREHENSIVE ZONING</u>	
<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>		
Liberty County	Amendment to Zoning Plan	Approve
DeKalb County	Amendment to Zoning Plan	Approve
City of Clermont	Comprehensive Zoning Plan	Approve
Polk County	Amendment to Zoning Plan	Approve

NOW, THEREFORE, be resolved that the State Transportation Board, in regular session this date does hereby amend Schedule "A" of the Department of Transportation Outdoor Advertising Policy by including the above recommendations.

Resolved this 21st day of August, 2008.

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Emory McClinton gave a report from the Transportation Agency Partners Committee. Emory McClinton stated that Dick Anderson, Executive Director, GRTA, gave a presentation on GRTA's role and responsibilities. Emory McClinton also stated that Transportation Agency Partners Committee approved the Mission Statement.* Emory McClinton made a motion that the Board approve the Mission Statement for the Transportation Agency Partners Committee, seconded by Brandon Beach and unanimously approved.

Larry Walker gave a report from the Intermodal Committee, which met on August 14, 2008. Larry Walker stated David Doss showed a video on Maglev technology and gave an update on the High Speed Ground Transportation Study between Atlanta and Chattanooga. There was some discussion regarding a

resolution supporting funding for the Maglev study. Larry Walker made a motion to waive the 10 Day Rule to approve the following resolution, seconded by Robert Brown and unanimously approved. Larry Walker made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by David Doss and unanimously approved.

Resolution

Whereas, congestion is increasing on Interstate 75 between Atlanta and Chattanooga, Tennessee; and

Whereas, increasing congestion poses a severe risk to the safety of the travelling public, the productivity of northwest Georgia and the environment and air quality for the region; and

Whereas, federal, state, regional and local support has existed for over a decade to enhance the mobility of this region with a high-speed ground transportation system; and

Whereas, the Atlanta Regional Commission in a maglev deployment study recommended that these issues be addressed by implementing a superspeed magnetic levitation (maglev) system from Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport along the Interstate 75-CSX corridor to Chattanooga and its airport; and

Whereas, the States of Georgia and Tennessee have a long and successful cooperative record in working together for regional priorities; and

Whereas, the Georgia Department of Transportation has initiated completion of a Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement that is studying high-speed ground transportation alternatives between Atlanta and Chattanooga in compliance with federal regulations which includes consideration of technology choices, alignment, station locations and project phasing; and

Whereas, the Congressional delegations of the affected areas of Georgia and Tennessee have worked hard to obtain additional maglev funds for the Atlanta-Chattanooga project as indicated by correspondence to the Secretary of the USDOT; and

Whereas, the President has recently signed into law new funds for maglev projects east of the Mississippi River which may be available to the Atlanta-Chattanooga project.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the State Transportation Board urges the Commissioner to indicate to the US Secretary of Transportation the Board's preference for deploying maglev technology along the Interstate 75-CSX corridor.

Be it further resolved that the Board directs the Commissioner to prepare correspondence to our Congressional delegation urging that all necessary steps be taken to secure any and all funding that may be available for high-speed railway transportation between Atlanta and Chattanooga, including, but not limited to, funds authorized for the deployment of magnetic levitation transportation in SAFETEA-LU which authorized \$45 million for the three existing projects located east of the Mississippi River.

Adopted this the 21st day of August, 2008.

Rudy Bowen gave a report from the Administrative Committee. Rudy Bowen stated Richard Sawyer, Chief Acquisition Officer, gave a presentation on the new procurement initiative. Chris Tomlinson gave an update on the Board Training that is scheduled for October 29, 2008. Sandra Burgess gave a presentation on Board Policies and an update on Outdoor Advertising rule modifications.

Johnny Floyd gave a report from the Equal Access Committee. Johnny Floyd stated that Buddy Gratton, Deputy Commissioner, discussed issues involving the DBE program goal approval process and introduced Rodney Strong, Attorney, Griffin & Strong, to explain the process and methodology used to obtain the 2009 DBE Goal. He also stated that Rodney Strong recommended an overall annual goal of 13%, with 9% race conscience and 4% race neutral.

Robert Brown gave a report from the Program Delivery Committee. Robert Brown stated that Gerald Ross gave presentation on the Business Rules regarding the Project Prioritization Process, which included the methodology for project prioritization. Chairman Brown stated he requested that the committee review the information and provide feedback to Gerald Ross by September 8, 2008.

Raybon Anderson gave a report from the Statewide Transportation Plan committee. Raybon Anderson stated that the committee met on August 14, 2008 and August 20, 2008. He stated that Carrie Thompson, McKinsey Group, made a presentation on Objectives and Goals for IT 3, which included performance measures and interviews with Board members and stakeholders and prioritizing objectives.

David Doss gave a report from the Alternative Finance Committee. David Doss stated that the purpose of the meeting was to give existing proposers the opportunity to present their proposal and give updates or changes to their proposals since they were first submitted. He also stated that that committee will report back to the full Board in 60 to 90 days on where we are with PPI and Alternative Financing. David Doss also made a motion that, relative to the Georgia 400 Project, the Evaluation Committee meet prior to September 18, 2008, for the purpose of considering the GA 400 proposal; and encourage a favorable passage of the proposal back to the DOT in order to start working on technical issues; and request the Financial Advisor, Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), in the meantime, to develop a strategy or recommendation on how DOT should proceed with the Georgia 400 Project, seconded by Brandon Beach and unanimously approved.

Under New Business, Sam Wellborn requested that Board members review the draft job description for the vacant Treasurer's position and provide comments and recommendations to add or change the job description to the Board secretary by next Friday.

There being no further business, Chairman Kuhlke asked for a motion to adjourn. Raybon Anderson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Roy Herrington and unanimously approved.

Approved:



Bill Kuhlke, Chairman

Respectfully submitted:



Elizabeth Osmon, Board Secretary

*Denotes documentation in file.