

**MINUTES  
STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

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

**March 19, 2009**

**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  
Dana Lemon

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**DOT STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

Gerald Ross, Commissioner  
Elizabeth Osmon  
Earl Mahfuz  
Gerald Ross  
Jo Ann Chance  
Sandra Burgess  
Mike Thomas

Chairman Bill Kuhlke opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Robert Brown gave the invocation.

Chairman Kuhlke asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 2009 meetings. Roy Herrington made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 2009 meetings, seconded by Steve Farrow and unanimously approved.\*

Genetha Singleton, Assistant Director of Preconstruction, presented the projects proposed for the April 2009 Letting for approval. Chairman Kuhlke asked for a motion to approve. Steve Farrow made a motion to approve the projects proposed for the April 2009 Letting, seconded by Rudy Bowen and unanimously approved.\*

Angela Alexander, Director of Planning & Data, presented the proposed revisions to the Construction Work Program for March 2009. Chairman Kuhlke asked for a motion to approve the proposed revisions to the Construction Work Program for March 2009. Johnny Floyd made a motion to approve the proposed revisions to the Construction Work Program for March 2009, seconded by Roy Herrington and unanimously approved.\*

Angela Alexander stated there were no revisions proposed for the Construction Work Program for April 2009 to be approved at the April 2009 Board meeting.\*

Steve Henry, Chief Operating Officer, gave a presentation on the March 2009 Snow Storm, which included the emergency operation procedures.\*

Sandra Burgess, Deputy General Counsel, gave a Legal Update, which included civil actions. Matt Cline, TEA, gave an update on the Douglas Asphalt Case.

Ben Rabun, Assistant Chief Engineer, gave an HOV to HOT Update, which included system wide activities underway.\* There was some discussion regarding HOV to HOT. Commissioner Gerald Ross stated that he would be requesting a decision from the Board on the HOV to HOT lanes next month. Larry Walker requested that staff provide a list of issues, pros and cons, from other areas for a comparison at the next meeting.

Angela Alexander, Director of Planning & Data, gave a presentation on the Transportation Enhancement Program, which included an overview of the program and response to concerns and steps to move forward.\*

Commissioner Gerald Ross gave his monthly report, which included state fund collections; total employment figure ending February 28, 2009; major projects open to traffic; stimulus activities; legislative and the Decatur Beltline.\*

Steve Henry requested that the Board approve the following comprehensive zoning resolution. Dana Lemon made a motion to approve the following Comprehensive Zoning Resolution, seconded by Roy Herrington 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>
City of Cornelia	Comprehensive 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 19<sup>TH</sup> day of March, 2009.

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Meg Pirkle, Assistant to Chief Engineer, gave an update on the Federal Economic Stimulus Package, which included the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 federal requirements and guidance for the transportation economic stimulus; Phase 1 selection-DOT allocation; Georgia's prioritization and Phase 1 for ARRA highway funding and future steps.\* Meg Pirkle stated the approval of the Phase 1 list is subject to the Governor's approval. There was some discussion regarding Phase 1 of the stimulus package. Chairman Kuhlke requested approval for Phase 1 of the Stimulus Package. Robert Brown made a motion to approve the Phase 1 of the Federal Economic Stimulus Package as submitted, seconded by Rudy Bowen and unanimously approved. There was some discussion regarding Phase II of the stimulus package. Larry Walker made a motion that DOT staff provide each Board member a project list that is eligible for funding before the final decision is made on the project list and make every attempt to include congressional balancing, seconded by Brandon Beach and unanimously approved. There was some discussion regarding Congressional Balancing and the stimulus package. Robert Brown made a motion to waive the 10 Day Rule to waive the requirement of Congressional Balancing for Phase 1 and Phase II of the Economic Stimulus Package due to the implementation of shovel ready projects, seconded by Roy Herrington and unanimously approved. Dana Lemon made a motion to waive the requirement of Congressional Balancing for Phase 1 and Phase II of the Economic Stimulus Package due to the implementation of shovel ready projects, seconded by Steve Farrow and unanimously approved.

Dana Lemon gave a report from the Legislative Committee. Dana Lemon stated that Chris Tomlinson, General Counsel, gave an update on the Legislative session.

Larry Walker gave a report from the Intermodal Committee. Larry Walker stated that Erik Steavens gave an update on the Decatur Beltline, which included alternative solutions for the Decatur Beltline. Larry Walker also stated that the committee approved the recommendation to take to the full Board to remove our objections to the abandonment of the Decatur Belt. There was some discussion regarding the abandonment of the Decatur Belt. Larry Walker made a motion for the Board to approve removal of DOT objections to the abandonment of the Decatur Belt, seconded by Dana Lemon and unanimously approved.

Sam Wellborn gave a report from the Finance Committee. Sam Wellborn introduced Jeff Baker, State Utilities Engineer, to give an update on Utility Right of Way Use Fees, which included utility right of way use agreements; utility permit collections; types of utility expenditures and utility budget.\* There was some discussion regarding the resolution regarding utility fees. Dana Lemon requested that staff research the law regarding utility fees and come back to committee with specific information so the committee can proceed with the utility fee process. Also Greg Mayo gave the final report on project closeouts. There was some discussion regarding the project closeouts and funds received from the project closeouts. Sam Wellborn requested that funds received from the project close outs be used to fund LARP and State Aid. Also, an update was given on the external audit; motor fuel collections through February 2009; and an overview of the Budget.\*

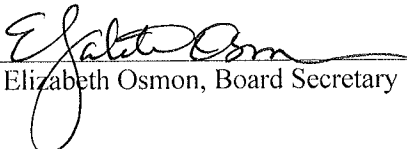
Rudy Bowen gave a report from the Administrative Committee. Rudy Bowen stated that the committee reviewed the proposed changes to the Board policies, which included three substantive changes.\* Rudy Bowen made a motion to approve the proposed changes to Board policies recommended by DOT staff and the Administrative Committee, seconded by Emory McClinton and unanimously approved.\*

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

**Approved:**

  
Bill Kuhlke, Chairman

**Respectfully submitted:**

  
Elizabeth Osmon, Board Secretary

**\*Denotes documentation in file.**