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## STB fills top positions for next fiscal year

The State Transportation Board (STB) held elections for fiscal year 2012, which begins July 1st, during their monthly board meeting. Board members voted on the pivotal positions of chairman and vice chairman.

Rudy Bowen opened the floor for nominations to the vice chairman position. A motion was made for Johnny Floyd, the current vice chairman, to remain in his role for a second term. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Board.

Shortly after accepting his post, Floyd took recommendations for the chairman position. The suggestion was made to allow Rudy Bowen to continue carrying out his existing responsibilities. The STB members were in agreement to have Bowen preside over the Board in the coming fiscal year.

Bowen, who has been with the Board since 2007, has served the residents of Gwinnett county as a member of the Lake Lanier Recreational Authority, Gwinnett Airport Authority and the Gwinnett County Board of Appeals. He is now optimistic that he and his colleagues will be able to make a difference at the state level.

“I think we’ve made real progress on transportation in Georgia in the past year, and I look forward to even more accomplishments



Chairman Rudy Bowen



Vice Chairman Johnny Floyd

in the coming year and beyond,” said Bowen, who will be serving in his second term as Board chairman. “This is a very good Board doing very important work for the people of this state.”

Floyd’s nearly 20 years of service in the Georgia House of Representatives has proven to be an invaluable asset to the Transportation Board. The first-term Board member has provided his wealth of knowledge and experience by also serving on the Legislative Committee, Equal Access Committee and chairing the Administrative Committee, which oversees the Department of Transportation’s policy, ethics and legal matters.

The 13 member Board has selected its leadership and is ready to confront the transportation challenges that come with living in the sixth fastest-growing state in the nation.

## *GDOT receives national recognition*

Georgia Department of Transportation received three national awards recently. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued two awards; the other given by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

The FHWA has a biennial awards program that recognizes organizations for excellence in utility relocation and accommodation. The Office of Utilities received the Program Leadership award for developing a utility

coordination program. The Innovation Award was presented to both the Office of Utilities and the Office of Information Technology for designing a web-based system that reduces the time and cost associated with permitting facilities on public right-of-way.

Ben Buchan, Director of Engineering, won the Region II AASHTO Subcommittee on Design Award. He has progressed national transportation initiatives, policies and guidelines by serving on several committees.

**Several Board committees met in advance of the full Board Meeting. Meeting highlights are below:**

**Public Private Partnerships (P3):** Status updates on the North by Northwest, Multi Modal Passenger Terminal (MMPT), Rest Areas/ Welcome Centers projects were given. The project list for 2011 will be submitted to the Board next month.

**Administrative:** Purposed major and minor changes to the oversize/overweight permitting Board rules were shared. A request for approval to return property back to Jekyll Island Authority was made and later approved by the Board.

**Program Delivery:** A period of instruction was given on the Plan Development Process introduction and overview.

### Did You Know?

#### STATE FUND COLLECTIONS

The estimated motor fuel collection, fiscal year to date, is \$831,843,815.87 and is 0.03 percent over budget. This represents an increase of 8.76% over last year’s collections of \$764,818,216.98 for the same time frame.

#### TOTAL GDOT EMPLOYMENT FIGURE

The total employment figure for the month ending May 31st is 4,643. The report shows we hired nine (9) permanent employees and promoted twenty-five (25) employees; thirty-three (33) employees have separated their employment with the Department.

*Next Board Meeting: Macon, Georgia – July 21st*