

MINUTES
OF
MEETING OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Central Office Auditorium
1221 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia

February 21, 2002
10:00 a.m.

The monthly meeting of the Commonwealth Transportation Board was held in the Central Auditorium of the Department of Transportation in Richmond, Virginia on February 21, 2002. The Chairman, Whittington W. Clement, presided.

* * *

Present: Messrs. Bevon, Byrd, Folkes, Garcia, Grubb, Humphreys, Klinge, Kornblau, Martin, Mitchel, Myers, Pethel, Walker, White, and Ms. Lionberger and Ms. Welsh.

* * *

Agenda Item 1: Public Comment: There was none.

* * *

Agenda Item 2: Action on approval of Minutes of Meeting of January 17, 2002.

Moved by Mr. Mitchel, seconded by Ms. Welsh. Motion carried.

* * *

SECONDARY ROAD DIVISION:

Agenda Item 3: Action (by single motion) on Additions and Abandonments of Roads in the Secondary System, January 2002. Referenced by attachment of Report.

Moved by Mr. Grubb, seconded by Mr. Folkes. Motion carried.

* * *

Agenda Item 4: Action (by single motion) on Industrial Access Projects, specifically (A) Louisa County – Wal-Mart Stores East, Inc., and (B) Halifax County – Riverstone Technology and Business Center. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions, fact sheets and maps.

(A-B) Moved by Mr. Grubb, seconded by Mr. White. Motion carried.

* * *

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIVISION:

Agenda Item 5: Action on Consultant Agreement, specifically a statewide, limited services contract to provide traffic engineering design, study and analysis – for a two-year term on an as needed basis – URS Corporation. Referenced by attachment of Resolution and fact sheet.

Following a discussion regarding the cost effectiveness of outsourcing versus providing services in-house a Motion was made by Mr. Grubb; seconded by Mr. White. Motion carried.

* * *

Agenda Item 6: Action on Access Highways Designations pursuant to the 1982 Surface Transportation Assistance Act, in order to accommodate large truck travel, specifically portions of Route 60 – Town of Amherst, Amherst and Nelson Counties; Route 657- Nelson County; Route 846 – Amherst County; and Route 622 – Amherst County. Referenced by attachment of Resolution, fact sheet and map.

Moved by Ms. Welsh, seconded by Mr. Grubb. Motion carried.

* * *

RIGHT OF WAY AND UTILITIES DIVISION:

Agenda Item 7: Action (by single motion) on Conveyances, specifically (A) Route 95 – Fairfax County, (B) Route 211 – Rappahannock County, (C) Route 262 – Augusta County, and (D) Route 615 – Montgomery County. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions.

(A-D) Moved by Mr. Kornblau, seconded by Mr. White. Motion carried.

* * *

CONSTRUCTION DIVISION:

Prior to the presentation of the agenda action item, Mr. C. Frank Gee, Acting Chief Engineer presented an overview on the consultant agreement/contractual process and the status of current obligations to assure that there are resources to meet the obligations. Following a brief discussion, he stated that a monthly overview would be presented to the board members at each workshop. Referenced by attachment of correspondence of February 12, and February 14, 2002 to construction industry representatives, with supplemental documentation regarding VDOT Strategies for Budget Shortfall.

Agenda Item 8: Action on Bids for Interstate, Primary, Secondary, Urban and Miscellaneous Projects Received December 9, 1998; November 27, 2000; October 26, November 20, 27, December 18, 2001; January 29, 31, 2002 for award and authorized execution of contracts by the Interim Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner for Project Management or Acting Chief Engineer, and for deferral, rejection, rescindment and authorized readvertisement, as indicated. Referenced by attachment of Bid Results Report.

Moved by Mr. Humphreys, seconded by Mr. Myers. Motion carried.

* * *

LOCATION & DESIGN DIVISION:

Agenda Item 9: Action (by single motion) on Design Projects, specifically (A) Route 604 (Herring Creek Road) – King William County and (B) Route 3 (Plank Road) – Spotsylvania County. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions, fact sheets and maps.

(A and B) Moved by Mr. Kornblau, seconded by Ms. Welsh. Motion carried.

* * *

Agenda Item 10: Action (by separate motions) on Location and Design Projects, specifically (A) Route 895 (Airport Connector Road) – Henrico County; (B) Route 640 (Gambrill Road at Hooes Road) – Fairfax County; (C) Interstate 81 –Rockbridge County; (D) Route 29 (Main Street/Business) – Town of Hurt and County of Pittsylvania; (E) Route 40 (Waverly Bypass) – Town of Waverly and County of Sussex; and (F) Routes 91 and 745 – Washington County. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions, fact sheets and maps.

Prior to the motion to approve action agenda item 10(A), a brief overview of the project was presented and a discussion ensued regarding funding issues.

- (A) Moved by Mr. Folkes, seconded by Mr. Garcia. Motion carried. Mr. Kornblau recused himself, as a member of the board of the Pocahontas Parkway Association.
- (B-F) Moved by Mr. Grubb, seconded by Mr. Humphreys. Motion carried.

* * *

DEPARTMENT OF RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

Agenda Item 11: Action on a Rail Industrial Access Project, specifically amending the CTB resolution of November 15, 2001 to include the City of Petersburg as a Rail Industrial Access Program grantee with previously approved grantee, PREUSSAG International Steel Corporation (a/k/a Infra-Metals, Inc.) establishing joint ownership and construction responsibilities. Referenced by attachment of Resolution, locality resolution, fact sheet and map.

Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Kornblau. Motion carried.

* * *

OTHER BUSINESS:

Deputy Secretary of Transportation Pierce R. Homer and Assistant Commissioner for Administration Constance S. Sorrell briefed the board members on Major Legislation Tracked by VDOT during the 2002 General Assembly Session. Referenced by attachment of the report.

CTB member Mr. White referenced an e-mail from Interim Commissioner Pethtel regarding an update on the Six Year Plan Projects. Interim Commissioner Pethtel responded that pre-allocation hearings would be conducted during the first two weeks of April, a preliminary plan would be presented to the board in May and the final would be presented for approval in June.

CTB member Mr. Byrd distributed a list requesting certain CTB and Finance Committee Reports be prepared on a monthly basis by staff for distribution to all board members. Referenced by attachment of the request.

A general discussion ensued regarding the structure and terminology of the 6 year plan (feasibility and construction or development and construction); how the projects will be selected and the need for the CTB members to be involved in the process; concerns over speculative press reports and General Assembly criticism regarding VDOT leadership; the CTB's role as a policy board with fiduciary responsibilities to the public; cash flow issues; the state budgetary crisis and the impact on VDOT; VDOT's requests to the General Assembly for financing and budget flexibility. General consensus that VDOT leadership should be allowed to proceed, with the caveat that the CTB are a experienced resource which should be utilized; that in-depth project discussions relating to the final 6 year plan disposition should be curtailed and no further reports issued to the press as all is merely speculative until the General Assembly has an approved budget and has adjourned.

Following the discussion a motion was made by Mr. Myers and seconded by Mr. Byrd: The Revised/restructured six year plan should be handled in the normal cycle (the spring allocation process) and that this be the only plan and process to be considered, with 2 parts (feasibility and construction) and developed with input from all parties. The motion was approved.

ADJOURNMENT: The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:12 p.m.

* * *

The next workshop will be held on Wednesday, March 20, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. and the next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 21, 2002 at 10:00 a.m., both in Richmond, Virginia.

Approved:

Chairman

Attested:

Secretary