

MINUTES
OF
MEETING OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Central Office Auditorium
1221 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia

March 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 March 21, 2002. The Chairman, Whittington W. Clement, presided.

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Present: Messrs. Bevon, Byrd, Garcia, Grubb, Kornblau, Mitchel, Pethtel, Walker, White, and Ms. Welsh.

Absent: Messrs. Folkes, Klinge, Martin, Myers and Ms. Lionberger. Mr. Humphreys resigned effective 3/18/2002.

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Agenda Item 1: Public Comment: There was none.

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Agenda Item 2: Action on approval of Minutes of Meeting of February 21, 2002.

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

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SECONDARY ROAD DIVISION:

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

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

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Agenda Item 4: Action on Industrial Access Projects, specifically (A) Mecklenburg County – off Route 821 – Trinity Packaging Corporation, and (B) Frederick County – off Route 861 – Stonewall Industrial Park. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions, fact sheets and maps.

- (A) Withdrawn at the request of the County – No Action Taken
- (B) Moved by Mr. Grubb, seconded by Ms. Welsh. Motion Carried.

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RIGHT OF WAY AND UTILITIES DIVISION:

Agenda Item 5: Action (by single motion) on Land Conveyances, specifically (A) Route 123 – Fairfax County, (B) Route 1015 – Fluvanna County, (C) Route 638 – City of Suffolk, (D) Route 676 – Southampton County, (E) Route 58 – Patrick County and (F) Route 660 – Bland County. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions.

(A-F) Moved by Mr. Grubb, seconded by Mr. Kornblau. Motion carried.

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CONSTRUCTION DIVISION:

Agenda Item 6: Action on Bids for Interstate, Primary, Secondary, Urban and Miscellaneous Projects Received August 22; November 27; December 18, 2001; January 29, 30, 31; February 5, 11, 14, 19, 26, 27, 28; March 12, 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.

All pages, all items except Page 19, Item 52: Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Welsh. Motion carried.

Page 19, Item 52: Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Grubb. Motion carried. Mr. Mitchel recused himself, due to a business relationship.

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LOCATION & DESIGN DIVISION:

Agenda Item 7: Action (by separate motions) on Design Projects, specifically (A) Route 608 (Forge Road) – Rockbridge County and (B) Route 622 (Nicks Creek Road) – Smyth County. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions, fact sheets and maps.

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

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ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION:

Agenda Item 8: Action (by single motion) on Virginia Byways Designations, specifically (A) Portions of Route 606 and Route 607 – Spotsylvania and Caroline Counties, (B) Portions of Routes 52, 619, 749, 90, 680, 610, and 121 – Wythe County, (C) Portions of Routes 9 and 671 – Loudoun County, (D) Portions of Route 14 – King & Queen County. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions, fact sheets and maps.

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

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DEPARTMENT OF RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

Agenda Item 9: Action on Virginia/North Carolina Tier I Environmental Impact Study, High Speed Rail Service, recommended preferred corridor alternative – Alternative A-Plus, as set forth in the *Study Area Alternatives Recommendation Report for the South Eastern High Speed Rail (SEHSR) Tier I Draft Environmental Impact Statement*, dated March 5, 2002. Referenced by attachment of Resolution, summary letter fact sheet and Recommendation Report

- Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Byrd. Motion carried.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item 10: Action on Industrial Access Project, specifically City of Danville – Institute for Advanced Learning and Research. Referenced by attachment of Resolution.

- Moved by Mr. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Walker. Motion carried, with Messrs. Byrd and White voting no.

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OTHER BUSINESS:

Committee Reports: there were none.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Fiber Optic Installation - Mr. Mitchell expressed concern that fiber optic installation will affect future roadway expansion and improvements. VDOT is presently absorbing the costs of these utility relocations. He stressed the need to incorporate conduits into the design of roadways to accommodate the fiber optic installations, especially in urban areas. Mr. Byrd concurred and suggested a workshop update on fiber optic installation, regulation and relocation costs to VDOT.

Six Year Plan - Mr. White thanked the Chairman and VDOT senior staff (Messrs. Bailey, Cassada, Rasnick) for the project review meeting with him and Mr. Mitchel. He suggested that the schedule for public hearings and dialogues with county officials be changed to the fall, rather than the current practice of conducting them in the spring. The package of locality requests/interests could then be conveyed to the General Assembly members before and during the Session, which would greatly enhance their support for revenue and understanding of project needs. The change in schedule could anticipate and accommodate the greater interest and involvement of the General Assembly members.

Mr. Pethtel concurred with the concept of altering the public hearing schedule to the fall, with preliminary and final approval of the Plan by the CTB to occur, following the Session, in May and June, respectively.

Ms. Welsh stated that she and District Administrator Morrison routinely host fall luncheons with their respective legislators to review projects prior to the Session and that this has greatly enhanced the working relationships. There was general concurrence with this approach.

Mr. Mitchel requested clarification of the project detail for the current Plan in light of the revised revenue forecast. Mr. Pethtel stated that following the April hearings, staff will meet with each District and respective CTB member to finalize the project list. A preliminary Plan will be presented to the CTB for approval in May, and the final Plan for approval in June.

It was the consensus of the members that the Plan should be referred to as the Six Year Plan, rather than the former Virginia Transportation Development Plan.

CTB Resignation – Ms. Welsh announced that CTB member Benjamin Humphreys had resigned his appointment, effective with his letter to the Governor on March 18, 2002. He has relocated his business and home to the Richmond area and so can no longer represent the Fredericksburg District. On his behalf, she stated that he was most grateful to the board members for their friendship, to the VDOT staff for their support and to the Chairman and Interim Commissioner for their openness. She requested that a resolution of appreciation and certificate be prepared in his honor. The Chairman so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT: The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11: 34 a.m.

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The next workshop will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. and the next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 18, 2002 at 10:00 a.m., both in Richmond, Virginia.

Approved:

Chairman

Attested:

Secretary