



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
TURNPIKE AUTHORITY

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

1578 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, N.C. 27699-1578

DAVID W. JOYNER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 17, 2007
Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, Charlotte, NC

Members Present: Lyndo Tippet, Chairman
Lanny Wilson, Vice-Chairman
John Culbertson
Anthony Fox
Perry Safran (via teleconference)
Bob Spencer
Robb Teer

Also attending: David Joyner, Executive Director

Members Absent: Sang Hamilton, Sr.

Chairman Tippet called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm in the Action Center of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce and read the Governor's ethics statement. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of Allan Dameron.

Chairman Tippet called on Secretary-Treasurer Perry Safran via teleconference to present the December 2006 minutes. The minutes were approved as presented.

Secretary Tippet opened the Public Input Section.

Elyse Hillegass, President/CEO of the Gaston Chamber of Commerce, expressed the importance of the proposed Garden Parkway Project. She discussed the traffic congestion on I-85 and on US 74 and the rapid economic growth and development in Gaston County. Ms. Hillegass expressed her concern of the possibility of a transportation crisis in the future and the importance of finishing the Gaston East-West Connector, not just for Gaston County, but for the entire Charlotte region. Ms. Hillegass concluded her presentation by inviting the NCTA to Gaston County for a future Board meeting.

Jerry Campbell, Regional Representative for the Real Estate and Building Industry (REBIC), opened his remarks by describing his position, his background and his involvement with city and county managers, mayors and councils, city planning staff and county commissioners in the development of land use activities and proposals. He discussed his involvement in the development of the Gaston County 2012 Plan and the

goals they hope to reach. Mr. Campbell discussed the importance of the Gaston East-West Connector in achieving these goals.

Secretary Tippett concluded the Public Input Session.

Secretary Tippett introduced Mr. Steve DeWitt, Chief Engineer, who delivered a presentation on the overview and the history of the Monroe Connector / Bypass. He discussed the environmental process of the project including schedule, costs, financing, the NEPA process, and future decision making. He explained the 6002 process and its importance. Mr. DeWitt stressed the significance of the communities' help and involvement. John Culbertson expressed his concerns with the upcoming environmental process challenges on this project.

Mr. DeWitt called on Grady Rankin, Chief Financial Officer, to present a project update of the Gaston East-West Connector. Mr. Rankin discussed possible location scenarios, costs, financing and scheduling.

Secretary Tippett introduced Bob Morgan, CEO/President of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce. He welcomed the Board to Charlotte and discussed his history with the NCTA. Mr. Morgan stated the importance of the Turnpike Authority in the Charlotte region and his willingness to be involved and stay involved. He expressed his frustration with several Charlotte projects and their need to be funded and completed and the positive impact that the NCTA can have on those projects.

Secretary Tippett introduced Pat Mumford, Charlotte City Council member, and Jim Humphreys with Charlotte DOT. They gave a presentation on the Charlotte Region Transportation Issues. Some of the topics discussed were Charlotte's population growth, its vital impact to North Carolina's economy, specific transportation needs and problems, and roadway funding needs. Mr. Humphrey complimented David Joyner on his work ethic and his efforts to keep Charlotte involved.

Mr. Bob Spencer presented a motion that the Gaston East-West Connector now be called the Gaston Garden Parkway. John Culbertson seconded. Motion was approved by the Board.

Mr. John Culbertson stated that the name "Monroe Bypass" also may need to be changed and that the public should have input on a new name. Secretary Tippett agreed to research the issue.

Executive Committee: Chairman Tippett reported that the committee did not have any action items.

Operations and Personnel Committee: Committee did not meet.

Finance Committee: Bob Spencer stated that the Finance Committee met and had two action items to present to the Board for approval. The first motion was to approve the Annual Plan of Work as presented. Anthony Fox seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Bob Spencer made the following motion: *“The Finance Committee recommends that the NCTA Board approve the supplemental contract for Akin Gump Strauss Hauer and Feld, LLP, subject to approval by the Attorney General’s office.”* Anthony Fox seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Plans and Programs Committee: John Culbertson reported that the committee met but did not have any action items.

Executive Director Report: David Joyner discussed some of the points made by Pat Mumford, Jim Humphreys, and Bob Morgan and thanked them for their comments, involvement and hospitality. He thanked everyone present at the Board meeting and stated how critical the Charlotte region is to the NCTA. Mr. Joyner discussed the fact that the NCTA is a business, and construction of toll projects must be financially feasible. Mr. Joyner noted that 2007 is going to be a challenging and eventful year for the NCTA.

The next Board Meeting will be February 21, 2007 at the NCTA office in Raleigh, NC.

Secretary Tippettt thanked everyone in attendance for their comments and support.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:09 pm.

Minutes prepared by: Julie Ryan