

NORTH CAROLINA TURNPIKE AUTHORITY MINUTES
NOVEMBER 9, 2004 MEETING
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

Chairman Tippet called the meeting to order at 1:37pm in the Board Room of the Transportation Building. He welcomed all to the November North Carolina Turnpike Authority Meeting. All NCTA members were present. Chairman Tippet read the Governor's ethics statement.

Chairman Tippet called on Secretary–Treasurer Perry Safran to present the October minutes for approval. The October minutes were approved as presented.

Program Development Branch Manager Calvin Leggett gave a presentation on the Department of Transportation (DOT) funding and TIP Development process.

Chairman Tippet provided the Board Members a copy of a letter to him from Senator Fern Shubert, also signed by Rep. Curtis Blackwood and Rep. Bobby Harold Barbee. The letter was concerning the public meeting for the Monroe Connector as a possible toll facility and other transportation issues in Union County. Chairman Tippet allowed the Board members to read the letter and asked Calvin Leggett to be prepared to respond to the issues raised in Senator Shubert's letter.

Chairman Tippet said that he was told that the NCTA website did not clearly notify the public of the meeting today. Mike Stanley responded that to his knowledge, the correct date and time were indicated on the website, but that he would check to verify.

Chairman Tippet thanked Mr. Leggett for the presentation and added that some issues were raised concerning funding per county, which he did not address. He commented that the information provided was by division and asked if information was available for per capita per county, to which Mr. Leggett responded that there was. Chairman Tippet said that he would like to be provided that information at some point.

Mr. Leggett stated that depending upon the timeframe chosen to look at, one can get very different answers, and added that those who may have an interest to make a point can slice the statistics accordingly.

Chairman Tippet announced that the next NCTA meeting would be held December 9 at 1:30 p.m. in Raleigh, unless notified very soon by the committees that additional time is needed, in which case, the meeting could begin at 2:30. The committee chairs indicated that a 1:30 p.m. start time would allow sufficient time for the committees to meet.

The Board members were provided a proposed schedule for the 2005 Turnpike meetings, which would be the third Wednesday of each month. The 2005 meeting schedule was approved as presented.

Chairman Tippet announced the Public/Private Partnership Workshop to be held in December and hosted by DOT. The Board members were provided an announcement of the workshop and Chairman Tippet said that Jeff Roerden would provide additional information to them at a later time concerning registration.

Chairman Tippet called for committee reports.

Board member Bob Spencer stated that the Finance Committee met and had a conference call with Steve Hogan, Executive Director of the Northwest Parkway in Colorado to obtain his perspective on what should be the focus area of the Finance Committee for a start up toll authority. Mr. Hogan offered some views and suggestions, and stated that the first commitment should be to pick the team early, even before the projects have been selected, which will save much time because of the expertise the consultant would offer. Mr. Hogan added that the

consultants are used to working without funding until the project is funded, and they will be able to guide the NCTA as to which team members to seek first. Normally, the first team member would be a financial advisor, then general counsel and then a public relations person. Mr. Hogan added that two very important items were financial feasibility and support from a public sector leader. Mr. Spencer said that those were Mr. Hogan's primary comments during the conference call.

Mr. Spencer also stated that the committee is working on putting the Request for Quotes (RFQ's) together so that process would be complete once they are ready to choose a general engineering consultant (GEC).

Allan Dameron provided an update on the Personnel Committee. He stated that interviews for an Executive Director would be conducted November 15 and invited and all the NCTA members to attend and take an active role in the interview process. Mr. Dameron added that the interview process would not be an open meeting to the public as allowed by law due to the nature of the meeting. He stated that Mr. Safran is working on a set of 23 questions to ask the applicants during the interview, and added that each member may choose four or five questions of their own to ask. Mr. Dameron said to contact Human Resources Director Herb Henderson if interested in attending and an interview package would be sent to them to review prior to the interviews. He added that the interviews would be held at Board Member Robb Teer's office for the convenience of the applicants since it is close to the airport.

John Culbertson gave an update on the Plans and Programs Committee. He stated that Mr. Leggett provided the committee with a very good presentation along with a handout. Mr. Culbertson stated that Mike Stanley, with the help of other staff members, created a list of projects either currently in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), that would meet minimum Legislative or on metropolitan long-range transportation plans, requirements. They are also looking at other projects that may fit into that list. Mr. Culbertson encouraged all committee members to get their information to Mr. Leggett concerning the GEC's so that a decision can be made possibly next month.

Chairman Tippet announced the public comment section of the meeting. No one addressed the Board with comments.

Chairman Tippet asked John Sullivan with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to address the Board to offer thoughts from the federal side. Mr. Sullivan stated that FHWA put a notice out in the Federal Register for a special experimental project, which asked for 15 people to help expedite delivery of projects. He said that he plans to meet with Chairman Tippet and his staff to highlight some of the protocols developed as a result of this process.

Chairman Tippet asked again if anyone would like to address the Board, and received no response.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jane Strickland.