MINUTES
OF
MEETING OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Central Office Auditorium
1221 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia

October 16, 2008
9:00 AM

The meeting of the Commonwealth Transportation Board was held in the Central Office Auditorium of the Virginia Department of Transportation in Richmond, Virginia on October 16, 2008. The Chairman, Pierce R. Homer, presided and called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

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Present: Messrs. Bowie, Davies, Dickens, Keen, Martin, McCarthy, Sterling, White, Witt, Ms. Carter and Ms. Connally; Vice Chairman Ekern, and Mr. Tucker, ex officio, Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation.

Absent: Messrs. Davis, Koelemay, and Schwartz

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Public Comment Period:

Mr. Jeffrey Southard, Executive Vice President, Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance, addressed the Board regarding the financial situation as presented to the Board during the Workshop. Mr. Southard shared the hardship it would cause many of the business in his organization, as well as his belief that the General Assembly need to take action to provide sustainable funding the transportation or else the program would continue to decrease. Mr. Southard thanked the Commissioner for engaging his organization in discussions on this issue.

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Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting:
Action on Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting September 18, 2008. Copy of approved minutes on file with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Commissioner's Office and posted on the VDOT Internet website: www.virginiadot.org and the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall.

Moved by Mr. Witt, seconded by Mr. White.
Motion carried, minutes approved.

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MAINTENANCE DIVISION:

Agenda Item 1. Action on Abandonments, Discontinuances and Transfers in the Primary and the Secondary System of State Highways specifically:

Primary System of State Highways

Abandonments

Culpeper District

Fluvanna County
Project: 0015-032-V04, C-501, B-601
- Route 15 – Segment B - G 0.48 Mi.

Richmond District

New Kent County
Project: 0033-966-102, C-501, B-602
- Route 33 – Segment C – C1 0.81 Mi.

Fredericksburg District

King William County (Town of West Point)
Project: 0033-966-102, C-501, B-602
- Route 33 – Segment C1 – C2 0.18 Mi.
- Route 33 – Segment H – H2 0.01 Mi.
- Route 33 – Segment J – C1 0.16 Mi.

King & Queen County
Project: 0033-966-103, C-502, B-601
- Route 33 – Segment C1B – C2 0.58 Mi.
- Route 33 – Segment C2 – C3 0.09 Mi.
- Route 33 – Segment C4 – H 0.30 Mi.

Total Mileage Abandoned from the Primary System: 2.61 Mi.

Discontinuances

Northern Virginia District

Fairfax County
Project: R000-029-F49, C-506
- Route 123 – From Rte. 641 to 0.34 Mi. North East 0.34 Mi.

Fredericksburg District

King William County (Town of West Point)
Project: 0033-966-102, C-501, B-602
- Route 33 – Segment C2 – C3 0.08 Mi.

Total Mileage Discontinued from the Primary System: 0.42 Mi.

Inter-System Transfers - Primary System to the secondary system of state highways,

Fredericksburg District

King William County
Project: 0033-966-102, C-501, B602

- Route 33 – Segment C3 – G3 (Renumbered as Route T-1207) 0.08 Mi.
- Route 33 – Segment G3 – H5 (Renumbered as Route T-1207) 0.06 Mi.
- Route 33 – Segment H5 – H2 (Renumbered as Route T-1207) 0.03 Mi.

King & Queen County
Project: 0033-966-103, C-502, B601

- Route 33 – Segment C1 – C1A (Renumbered as Route 1130) 0.02 Mi.
- Route 33 – Segment C1A – C1B (Renumbered as Route 1130) 0.05 Mi.

Total Mileage Transferred to the secondary system of state highways: 0.24 Mi.

Secondary System of State Highways

Discontinuances

Culpeper District

Fauquier County
Project: Route 607 Discontinuance

- Route 607 – Segment B – C 0.22 Mi.
- Route 607 – Segment C – D 0.27 Mi.
- Route 641 – Segment C – E 0.50 Mi.

Culpeper District Continued

Orange County
Project: 0033-068-101- C-501

- Route 607 – Section 2 0.03 Mi.

Orange County
Project: 0633-068-174- C-502

- Route 633 – Section 1 and 2 0.17 Mi.

Northern Virginia District

Fairfax County
Project: R000-029-f49, C-506

- Route 6542 – From 0.08 Mi. South of Rte. 6543 to 0.04 Mi. South 0.04 Mi.
- Route 620 – From 0.08 Mi. East of Rte. 3570 to 0.69 Mi. East 0.69 Mi.
- Route 641 – From New Cul-de-sac Rte 641 to 0.05 Mi. North East 0.05 Mi.

- Route 6505 – From Realigned Rte. 123 to 0.12 Mi. East 0.12 Mi.
- Route 610 – From Rte 123 to 0.04 South West 0.04 Mi.

Lynchburg District

Campbell County
Project: 0609-015-273, C-501, B-644, B-646

- Route 609 – Section 1 0.09 Mi.
- Route 659 – Section 13 0.05 Mi.

Campbell County
Project: 0646-015-154, C-502

- Route 658 – Section 3 0.02 Mi.

Total Mileage Discontinued from the Secondary System: 2.29 Mi.

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Bowie.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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LOCAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION:

Agenda Item 2. Action on FY 2009 Revenue Sharing Program.

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mr. Bowie, seconded by Mr. Sterling.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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Agenda Item 3. Action on Recreational Access Program specifically:

A. Pulaski County
New River Trail State Park-Allisonia Recreation Area
Project No.: 0832-077-714, N501

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Bowie.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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B. City of Poquoson
South Lawson Park
Project No.: 9999-147-124, N501

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mr. Witt, seconded by Mr. Keen.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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Agenda Item 4. Action on the Transfer of Transportation Enhancement Funds from the City of Martinsville to Henry County.

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Bowie.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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RIGHT OF WAY DIVISION:

Agenda Item 5. Action on Land and/or Easement Conveyances specifically:

A. Halifax County
Route 614, old Route 614
Project Nos.: 0614-041-154, M-502
1341-26-27

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mrs. Carter.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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B. Caroline County
Route 609, Route 668 and old Route 668
Project Nos.: 1316-10-11
0609-016-188, C-502

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mrs. Carter, seconded by Mr. Davies.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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Agenda Item 6. Action on Limited Access Control Change and Land Conveyance specifically:

Hanover County
Interstate 95 and Route 656 Interchange
Project Nos.: 0095-042-F10, RW-201
0095-042-101-G1

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Bowie.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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PROGRAMMING DIVISION:

Agenda Item 7. Action on FY09-14 Six-Year Improvement Program Transfers September 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008.

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mr. Davies, seconded by Mrs. Connally.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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DEPARTMENT OF RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

Agenda Item 8. Action on Transit Special Allocation Regarding New Freedom and Senior Transportation.

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mrs. Connally, seconded by Mr. Bowie.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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Agenda Item 9. Action on Transit Sustainability and Investment Policy.

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mrs. Carter.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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POLICY DIVISION:

Agenda Item 10. Action on Model Public Participation Guidelines for Agency Regulations.

Referenced by attachment of resolution and decision brief.
Moved by Mr. Keen, seconded by Mr. White.
Motion carried, resolution approved

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SCHEDULING & CONTRACT DIVISION:

Agenda Item 11. Action on Bids Received specifically;

Page 1 of the attached report, recommending award of order number B34.
Moved by Mr. Bowie, seconded by Mr. Keen.
Motion carried, bid awarded.

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Page 2 of the attached report, recommending award of order number B11.
Moved by Mr. Keen, seconded by Mr. Bowie.
Motion carried, bid awarded.

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Page 2 of the attached report, recommending award of order number B14.
Moved by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Bowie.
Motion carried, bid awarded.

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Page 3 of the attached report, recommending award of order number B18
Moved by Mrs. Carter, seconded by Mr. Sterling.
Motion carried, bid awarded.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Dickens asked with the budget constraints were there some things that we would like to have as opposed to things that we want to have, i.e., guardrails and improving guardrails, are those things that money can be diverted into lane miles or things that are more needed.

Secretary Homer responded that one of the consequenses of injecting federal dollars into the systems is that they are accompanied by federal mandates so the scope and upgrading of guardrail, the limits of the project, all of those things are dictated by federal requirements this is true not only for highway but for transit and to some degree rail projects. One of the most important things we want to do is not let that program (rail) become federalized because of what you are saying.

Commissioner Ekern indicated VDOT opened a dialogue with FHWA regarding the "have to haves" versus what we would 'like to have"; not the "nice to have". Mr. Fonseco, our FHWA Division Administrator, has been very open, we will reach an accommodation as we federalize overlays there will be a conscious decision regarding which if any safety features should be upgraded while the work is being done. It will take a couple of months to filter this into the projects but the development staff will be proposing the "have to haves" on projects as we do this kind of work.

Mr. Dickens requested that during the November presentations on the New Six Year Plan a priority go to congestion mitigation as much as possible as the plan is put together. Building new lane miles is great, but congestion mitigation in my opinion is much more important with the revenue that we have and there is an outline, see page twelve of the budget, of allocations of the different line items. We are going to be charging money out of construction into maintenance I would assume, this will probably impact a lot of other pieces I would like to see a five year trend on that page (twelve) that shows the line items.

Mr. Dickens spoke regarding the closure of Jordan Bridge in Hampton Roads and Gilmerton Bridge being replaced. The Gilmerton Bridge was funded and a shortfall existed by 20 million, the district suggested that money be removed from an earmarked project towards Gilmerton Bridge. Several members of a congressional delegation were in the room when the suggestion was made and were not pleased. Their concern was it would make it much more difficult to obtain monies if VDOT moved funds to another project. I understand we have a priority in getting bridges built but I did want to get some feed back.

The Secretary indicated he did not think it appropriate for District staff to make recommendations regarding which projects to be cut that is the job of the Board. When they see the program in November/December that project may not be there, it is a moot discussion. I would say to all of you, assuming there is a level of certainty and predictability about what projects are funded today or not will only get you in trouble.

Chairman Homer further indicated that we work very carefully with our delegation to suggest which project are appropriate for earmarks and which are not. To the degree that designated funds are available it needs to be for projects that can actually happen. We find this issue with local governments, regional entities, congressional delegations and also private partners. We long ago abandoned that effort of putting money into projects that cannot realistically be built.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:11 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 20, 2008, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the VDOT Central Auditorium in Richmond, Virginia, 1221 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA

Approved:

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Chairman

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Secretary

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