

PENNSYLVANIA STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
SUMMARY MINUTES
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA
DECEMBER 12, 2013

CALL TO ORDER:

Secretary of Transportation Barry Schoch convened a quarterly business meeting of the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission (STC) at 10:15 a.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2013 in conference room 8N1 in the Keystone Building in Harrisburg, PA.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present:

Honorable Barry J. Schoch, P.E., Chairman
Honorable Robert B. Pease, P.E., Secretary
Honorable Frederic M. Wentz, Esq., Vice Chairman
Honorable Edward J. Cernic, Sr.
Honorable Cristina G. Cavalieri via conference call
Honorable Ronald J. Drnevich
Honorable Nicholas A. Micozzie
Honorable George M. Khoury, III, P.E.
Honorable Sharon L. Knoll via conference call
Mr. Eric Nelson, Alternate for Honorable Michael P. McGeehan
Honorable Charles H. Martin
Honorable Frank E. Paczewski
Mr. Josh Myers, Alternate for Honorable John N. Wozniak
Mr. Nate Spade, Alternate for Honorable John C. Rafferty, Jr.

MINUTES:

ON A MOTION by Commissioner Cernic, seconded by Commissioner Cavalieri, and unanimously approved, the minutes of the August 22, 2013, STC quarterly business meeting were accepted as presented.

SECRETARY'S OPENING REMARKS:

Secretary Schoch thanked Commissioner Pease for chairing the STC business meeting on August 22, 2013 in Erie . The secretary also acknowledged the 41 years of service of Cheryl Hicks, legislative aide to Senator Wozniak, who's retiring.

The Secretary noted that a copy of the 2012 Pennsylvania Highway Statistics Booklet was located at the commissioners' seats.

The Secretary gave highlights of the Transportation Funding Bill (Act 89) which passed the Pennsylvania General Assembly and was signed by Governor Tom Corbett on November 25, 2013.

Secretary Schoch described provisions within the legislation that enable PennDOT to combine the non-highway modes such as ports, railways, aviation and transit into a single Multimodal Deputate and the creation of a multimodal fund to finance associated projects. Act 89 now enables multi-year planning for these modes of transportation since there is now a guaranteed revenue source. The discretionary funding streams are designed to be flexible and the Secretary gave the example of investing in the Port of Philadelphia. With the expansion of the Panama Canal, bigger ships will visit the Port, which does not currently have the capacity to unload them. A flexible funding stream will enable the Department to fund a port expansion project in one year and other projects in another.

The Secretary also described the legislation as an outstanding local government bill, stating that it would provide up to an additional \$250 million through the liquid fuels fund by year five.. Up to \$40 million would be available by year five for traffic signal upgrades. The prevailing wage threshold has also been updated, which would aid the budgets of local governments. Bridge bundling is also an aid to local government by standardizing design and construction thereby saving money for the state and local governments.

2014 Quarterly Meeting Potential Dates and Locations

The Secretary stated the dates for the 2014 Quarterly Meetings as follows:

- Thursday, February 13, 2014
- Thursday, May 15, 2014
- Thursday, August 14, 2014
- Thursday, December 11, 2014

The February and December meetings will be held in Harrisburg. The May and August meetings will be held in State College and Gettysburg, respectively.

ON A MOTION by Commissioner Wentz, seconded by Commissioner Pease, and unanimously approved, the 2014 Quarterly Meeting Dates and Locations were accepted as presented.

TWELVE YEAR TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM:

2013 Highway and Bridge Program Adjustments/Major Project Adjustments Presented by Program Center Bureau Director Larry Shifflet.

Mr. Larry Shifflet presented the 2013 Highway and Bridge Program adjustments for consideration. He highlighted that there were 982 program adjustments during the quarterly period. Mr. Shifflet highlighted the Harrisburg MPO in particular, the Rutherford Yard expansion project which had a \$7 million increase on the Major Projects Adjustment Report This is an intermodal project.

ON A MOTION by Commissioner Cernic, seconded by Commissioner Paczewski, and unanimously approved, the 2013 Highway and Bridge TYP Adjustments/Major Project Adjustments were accepted as presented.

Aviation and Rail TAP Projects presented by Sarah Gulick

Ms. Sarah Gulick presented the Aviation and Rail TAP Projects. Handouts were provided at each commissioner's seat. The Rail TAP projects would utilize the remainder of the 2012 Capital Budget funds and would fund 13 projects for a total project cost of \$35.5 million.

The 2013 Aviation Capital Budget would fund 13 aviation projects statewide for a cost of \$10 million. The projects include fueling stations, hangers, and terminal facilities.

ON A MOTION by Commissioner Cavaleri, seconded by Commissioner Pease, and unanimously approved, the Aviation and Rail TAP Projects were accepted as presented.

REPORTS:

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

TAC Chairman Lou Schultz gave updates on two ongoing TAC studies.

The Transportation Funding Report—Reporting Requirements group held a task-force meeting on December 5, 2013. The task force has identified new data elements for the next version of the TPR. The study is expected to conclude in the spring of 2014. It is anticipated that the next version of the TPR will be available in hard copy as well as online. The intent is to allow users to get real-time, detailed information when available, while still providing for the original intent of the TPR..

The Traffic Incident Management—Policy and Legislation Study group held a task force meeting on November 25, 2013. The study will be finalized in January/February 2014. It has identified a number of protocols and actions for implementation, some of which will require legislative approval.

The Traffic Incident Management Study will be available for STC approval at the February 14, 2014 STC meeting and the Transportation Funding Report Study will be available for approval at the May 15, 2014 STC meeting.

TAC Chairman Schultz also announced that Gannett Fleming, Inc. is the selected candidate for the next TAC Five Year Consultant Contract.

Administrative/Budget

Executive Deputy Secretary Brad Mallory presented the report for Administration and Budget. Secretary Mallory gave updates on facilities construction, disadvantaged business partnerships,

and the implementation of mobile apps for productivity. Mobile apps are utilized to process non-CDL drivers' exams, conduct transit audits, and conduct posted/bonded road surveys. A CDL drivers' exam mobile app and a construction inspection mobile app are in development.

Human Resources has been successful in seeing management pay increases for half of the managers in the Department. Alternative Work Schedules have been approved through the end of 2013.

Secretary Schoch commented on management salaries and alternative work schedules, stating that these were important for retaining workforce talent and remaining a competitive employer. The Secretary also stated that the mobile app for posted and bonded road surveys has resulted in lower bills for the companies operating in the Marcellus Shale region, which allows the Department to be a better business partner.

Commissioner Drnevich asked if resources are made available for Department employees to work from home. Secretary Mallory stated that only in extreme circumstances are employees able to work from home. He added, the Department is looking into giving employees the option to work from home, however, this requires approvals from a number of other agencies, such as Office of Administration.

Driver and Vehicle Services

Deputy Secretary Kurt Myers stated that Act 89 changed the name of the Safety Administration deputate to Driver and Vehicle Services.

Secretary Myers stated that the Veterans' Trust Fund has been successful and passed the \$100,000 mark, only five weeks in, around December 12 or 13, 2013. Most of the fund has been generated through PennDOT's website and it is expected to grow as PennDOT mails its renewals for driver's licenses to Pennsylvania's citizens. The fund will be used to support Pennsylvania veterans and their families, as well as to assist in the operation, maintenance, and repair of monuments in Pennsylvania honoring Pennsylvania service members and veterans.

Secretary Myers also highlighted the mobile Driver's License exam application, which will enable examiners to give more tests and save customers approximately 20 minutes when they visit a PennDOT Driver's License center.

Commissioner Drnevich asked if the Veterans' Trust Fund was protected from being used for General Fund purposes. Mr. Myers stated that the Fund is dedicated to Veterans' and cannot be used for other purposes.

Highway and Bridge Program

Deputy Secretary Scott Christie was not in attendance. Secretary Schoch gave his report and highlighted the Bridge Bundling Pilot and the P3 Rapid Bridge Replacement Projects. The P3 Rapid Bridge Replacement projects allow for greater private sector participation in the delivery and financing of bridges, and the Secretary stated that once an entity has been selected to begin

work, the Commonwealth should see the number of structurally deficient bridges sharply decrease.

Commissioner Drnevich asked if local bridges are included on the Department's list of structurally deficient bridges. The Secretary stated they were on a separate list and that local governments would have the choice of joining the P3 program or the local bridge bundling pilot program. Commissioner Khoury asked if the objective of the P3 project is primarily to drive down the number of structurally deficient bridges or complete the bridges at a cost-savings for the Department's normal replacement schedule. Secretary Schoch said that the objective was to drive down the number of structurally deficient bridges and to do so at a faster time frame and at a reduction of cost due to the large scale nature of the P3 bridge bundling proposal. The Secretary said if the program is successful, it could be continued. Mr. Khoury asked if the P3 Bridges were successful could the concept be transferred to pavement rehabilitation. The Secretary stated this was a possibility but there were other circumstances to consider with pavement rehabilitation projects

Mr. Drnevich stated that the maintenance for the P3 Bridges would be the responsibility of the construction firms that rebuilt the bridges.

The Secretary discussed continued Next Generation innovation and improvement efforts within PennDOT.

Mr. Eric Nelson asked about the total amount of bids for 2013. Mr. Shifflet stated that for calendar year 2013 the bidding amount would be \$1.6 billion. Secretary Schoch said that for calendar year 2012 there were \$1.8 billion in bids, stating that there had been a steady decline and had Act 89 not passed, the decline would have continued.

Mr. Khoury asked about a listing of posted and closed bridges. The Secretary stated a list would be provided. He elaborated on PennDOT's process for removing posted bridges from the list, which, at the earliest, is two years from the date of posting.

Local and Area Transportation/Aviation and Rail Freight

Deputy Secretary Toby Fauver was not in attendance and his report stands as written. Act 89 changed the deputate's name to Multimodal Transportation.

Planning

Mr. Larry Shifflet stated that the Planning report stands as written. He noted that Pennsylvania is able to spend its federal transportation dollars and was able to benefit from the federal government's August redistribution. He also stated that Act 89 officially designated the Bureau of Municipal Services as part of the Office of Planning.

Public-Private Transportation Partnership (P3) Board

Bryan Kendro was not in attendance and his report stands as written.

Open Public Comment

The Open Public Comment is a new item for the STC Quarterly Meeting. There were no public comments offered during the Open Public Comment period.

NEXT MEETING:

The next STC quarterly business meeting is scheduled on Thursday, February 13, 2014, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

ADJOURNMENT:

ON A MOTION by Commissioner Cavalieri and seconded by Commissioner Pease the STC quarterly business meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.