

PENNSYLVANIA STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY MINUTES  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  
FEBRUARY 25, 2014

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Secretary of Transportation Barry Schoch convened a quarterly business meeting conference call of the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission (STC) at 10:05 a.m. on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 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, via conference call  
Honorable Edward J. Cernic, Sr. via conference call  
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  
Honorable Michael P. McGeehan, alternate present via conference call  
Honorable Charles H. Martin via conference call  
Honorable Frank E. Paczewski via conference call

**Public Present:**

Mr. Eric Ross

**MINUTES:**

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Drnevich, seconded by Commissioner Cavalieri, and unanimously approved, the minutes of the December 12, 2013, STC quarterly business meeting were accepted as presented.

**SECRETARY'S OPENING REMARKS:**

Secretary Schoch passed along the sad news that former STC Executive Secretary Anita Everhard passed away on February 8, 2014. Secretary Schoch indicated that a bereavement card was sent to Anita's family on behalf of the Commission.

The Secretary gave a report on the funding increase. He estimated that the letting schedule for 2014 would be approximately \$2.1 billion. Much of the 2014 activity will focus on resurfacing and bridge improvements as well as developing programs such as those for traffic signals and bridge-bundling that will help us and our local government partners alike, not to mention improve mobility. The new Multimodal Fund is allowing us to dedicate funding to non-highway

modes in ways we could not before, and nearly 50 transit projects' design or construction will begin this year.

Secretary Schoch anticipates sharing details of the 2014 project list associated with Act 89 in the March/April timeframe.

### **TWELVE YEAR TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM:**

#### **2013 Highway and Bridge Program Adjustments/Major Project Adjustments Presented by Deputy Secretary for Planning James Ritzman**

Mr. James Ritzman presented the 2013 Highway and Bridge Program adjustments for consideration. Using the one-line listing report, he highlighted the I-95 Turnpike interchange project with an increase of \$155 million, and another related project with a decrease of the same amount. Mr. Ritzman noted that this was an extraction of a project from a larger project and effectively was a net-zero change.

Other projects highlighted were an I-83 advanced project in Dauphin County for \$5.5 million, and an advanced project in Juniata County on US 22 for \$16 million.

Deputy Secretary Ritzman reviewed the above projects in more detail using the more detailed major project changes report. The Major Changes report details the Twelve Year Program periods in which money is allocated.

Commissioner Micozzie asked why projects would not be shown in the report. Mr. Ritzman replied that the report at the time did not currently include the new funding within it.

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

#### **RTAP and RFAP Projects presented by Sarah Gulick**

Ms. Sarah Gulick presented the 2013 Rail TAP and Rail FAP projects.

The 2013 RTAP program recommended 15 projects for funding and would utilize \$27 million. The projects, once they are completed, will remove 138,000 trucks from the roadways annually.

The 2014 RFAP program recommended 14 projects and would utilize \$5.8 million in funding. These projects would remove 63,000 trucks from the highway system annually. Four RFAP applicants will be able to use Marcellus Shale Impact funds at a cost of \$4.3 million and would remove 18,000 trucks from the roadways annually from the Marcellus Shale region of the Commonwealth.

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Cavalieri, seconded by Commissioner Pease, and unanimously approved, the RTAP and RFAP Projects were accepted as presented.

## **2014 Aviation 4 Year Plan presented by Edie Letherby**

Ms. Edie Letherby presented the 2014 Aviation 4-year Plan, highlighting 221 proposed aviation projects across the Commonwealth. She noted three projects with significant cost increases: two projects at New Garden Flying Field and Bradford County Airport.

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Cernic and seconded by Commissioner Micozzie, and unanimously approved, the Aviation 4-Year Plan was accepted as presented.

## **TAC Traffic Incident Management Final Report presented by Eric Rensel**

TAC Chairman Lou Shultz introduced the TAC Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Final Report.

Mr. Eric Rensel of Gannett Fleming, Inc. presented the TIM study for final consideration by the STC. The presentation covered current practices, best practices, and an action plan.

TIM is the term used by agencies, entities, and organizations involved in preparedness, response, and recovery from incidents and events that affect traffic capacity and/or operations.

The TIM action plan recommends protective Hold Harmless legislation for first responders and Title 35 amendments to define TIM roles and responsibilities. The action plan further advocates for an executive statewide incident management panel, a joint operational policy, and a program called the Pennsylvania Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (PennTIME). Local Emergency Preparedness Committees (LEPC), enhanced training opportunities and improved driver education and outreach are also recommended by the TIM report.

The next steps for TIM outlined in the study would be to conduct a vision-setting session and refine the model local-to-statewide TIM communication and coordination structure.

Mr. Eric Bugaile asked if the Department was looking for legislation out of TIM. Secretary Schoch stated that he felt the liability issues need to be addressed with the four transportation chairs.

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Cavalieri and seconded by Commissioner Miccozze, and unanimously approved, the TAC TIM Final Report was accepted as presented.

## **Public Input Pilot Update presented by Leanne Doran**

Leanne Doran of McCormick Taylor presented an update to the findings of the Public Input Pilot. There were two action items involved with the presentation.

The STC website was featured, including an interactive web map viewer that displays the data received during the STC Public Comment period on a map of the Commonwealth.

The Secretary stated that the data will be shared with the MPOs and RPOs to aid in their TIP development process and offered this as an action item for the STC.

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Cernic, seconded by Commissioner Drnevich, and unanimously approved, incorporating the STC Public Comment Data with TYP/TIP updates scheduled for adoption at the August STC Meeting was accepted as presented.

Ms. Doran then discussed the lessons learned during the process, which include a recommendation to shift the comment period and webcast to the spring instead of late summer and including STC members and PennDOT executive staff in the webcast. Furthermore, the telephone hotline was not as effective as hoped.

Commissioner Drnevich asked if the comment period would be open year round. The Secretary and Ms. Doran stated that a paper survey is available on the website.

Commissioner Khoury asked if the other members received an open welcome while attending MPO and RPO meetings. Other commissioners stated that they had.

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Cernic, seconded by Commissioner Drnevich, and unanimously approved the Lessons Learned were accepted as presented.

#### **REPORTS:**

Secretary Schoch accepted the printed reports as written and asked for brief highlights from the executive staff in attendance.

#### **Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

TAC Chairman Lou Schulz stated that a new contract with Gannett Fleming was in place and would handle TAC studies over the next five years.

#### **Administrative/Budget**

The Administrative/Budget report stood as written.

#### **Driver and Vehicle Services**

The Driver and Vehicle Services Report stood as written.

#### **Highway and Bridge Program**

Deputy Secretary Scott Christie reported that the maintenance schedule would be heavy in 2014 because of the many freeze-thaw cycles experienced during the winter. The Department exceeded its winter budget due to the extreme weather. Mr. Christie gave a brief report on posted and bonded bridges.

Commissioner Drnevich asked if the Department would sell some salt to local and regional governments as supplies were strained across the Commonwealth due to the extreme winter of 2013-2014. Mr. Christie stated that the Turnpike and the Department both were selling it, however the supply was not uniform across the state and local municipalities in areas where salt supplies were low were unwilling to travel to areas where salt supplies are plentiful.

### **Multimodal Transportation**

Deputy Secretary Toby Fauver was not in attendance and his report stood as written.

### **Planning**

Deputy Secretary Jim Ritzman indicated the Transportation Alternatives Program has an open application period until April 4, 2014. There is \$41 million available for projects statewide. The Department and other agencies will allocate \$25 million and \$16 million is directly available to the larger MPOs.

Mr. Ritzman also briefly highlighted the new SharePoint website used internally within the Deputate and stated he would like to give a presentation on SharePoint at a future meeting.

### **Public-Private Transportation Partnership (P3) Board**

The Public Private Transportation Partnership (P3) Board report stood as written. Secretary Schoch indicated that the next P3 Board meeting would be on February 28, 2014.

### **PennDOT Reorganization Update**

Secretary Schoch indicated that the Act 89 legislation reorganized the following areas of PennDOT:

- The “Safety Administration” Deputate has been renamed “Driver and Vehicle Services”
- The “Local and Area Transportation” Deputate is now the “Multimodal” Deputate
- The Multimodal Deputate also now includes the following:
  - Bureau of Aviation
  - Bureau of Public Transportation
  - Bureau of Rail, Freight, Ports, Waterways

### **Open Public Comment**

There were no public comments offered during the Open Public Comment period.

### **Commissioner Comment Period**

The Commissioner Comment Period is a new item of the STC Quarterly Meeting. Commissioner Drnevich stated that the planning partner meetings he attended were productive and that the PennDOT central office representatives and District staffs were vital participants in the process.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next STC quarterly business meeting is scheduled on Thursday, May 15, 2014, in State College, Pennsylvania.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Cernic and seconded by Commissioner Drnevich, the STC quarterly business meeting conference call was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.