

PENNSYLVANIA STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  
FEBRUARY 25, 2016  
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**CALL TO ORDER:**

Vice Chairman Bob Pease convened a quarterly business meeting of the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission (STC) at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 25, 2016 in Harrisburg, PA.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Commissioners Present:**

Honorable Leslie S. Richards, Chairwoman, via conference call  
Honorable Robert B. Pease, P.E., Vice Chairman  
Honorable Frederic M. Wentz, Secretary, via conference call  
Honorable Edward J. Cernic, Sr.  
Honorable Ronald J. Drnevich  
Honorable William F. Keller, alternate present  
Honorable James D. Kingsborough  
Honorable George M. Khoury  
Honorable Sharon L. Knoll, via conference call  
Honorable Charles H. Martin, via conference call  
Honorable Frank E. Paczewski, via conference call  
Honorable John C. Rafferty, alternate present  
Honorable John Taylor, alternate present  
Honorable John N. Wozniak, alternate present

**MINUTES:**

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Cernic seconded by Representative Keller, and unanimously approved, the minutes of the December 19, 2015, STC quarterly business meeting were accepted as presented.

**SECRETARY'S REMARKS:**

Vice Chairman Bob Pease gave brief opening remarks. Mr. Pease informed the STC about the passing of former STC Commissioner Robert Daday and held a moment of silence.

Secretary Leslie Richards provided remarks via conference call. She stated that the current challenge regarding transportation funding could be attributed to the increasing portion of the Motor License Fund being used to help fund the Pennsylvania State Police. Secretary Richards stated that she and Col. Blocker from the State Police both testified before the legislature and both were committed to finding a solution that is fair to all. Graphs and charts depicting the shortfall will be sent to STC members following the meeting.

Commissioner Drnevich asked if the legislature understood the complexity of providing a solution versus a quick fix. Secretary Richards stated that she has been working with the legislature to calm the perception that the Wolf Administration was taking money away from transportation projects. There are currently \$6 billion in unfunded projects.

**TWELVE YEAR TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM:**

**2015 Highway and Bridge Program Adjustments/Major Project Adjustments**

Deputy Secretary Jim Ritzman presented the 2015 Highway and Bridge Program adjustments, stating that between November 21, 2015 and January 29, 2016 there were 476 program adjustments:

- 102 Project/Phase Additions
- 291 Project/Phase Changes
- 40 Project/Phase Deletions
- 43 Adjustments to Funding Line Items

Mr. Ritzman highlighted a \$37 million change in the SEDA-COG region. The change was for the Central Susquehanna Valley Thruway (CSV T) North Section on US 15 in Union County. “Old” Federal money from Appalachian Development Highway System Funds became available from savings on another project and were applied to the CSV T.

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Cernic, seconded by Eric Bugaile and unanimously approved, the 2015 Highway and Bridge TYP Adjustments/Major Project Adjustments were accepted as presented.

**WORKING SESSION**

**2017 Twelve Year Program Update**

Ms. Leanne Doran and Ms. Jessica Clark delivered a report on the results of the Public Outreach meetings.

Ms. Jessica Clark summarized the meetings she attended via conference call, as the budget impasse caused a travel ban and some commissioners could not attend all of the Public Outreach meetings scheduled for the fall of 2015. Commissioners who were able to attend the MPO/RPO Public Outreach meetings also reported their findings and results.

**2017 TYP Outlook**

Ms. Jennifer Horn presented the 2017 TYP Outlook. This included the next steps in the schedule of developing the 2017 TYP. A Planning Partner focus group is in the process of being created to help evaluate the public outreach tools such as the online survey, online public meeting and Commissioner/Planning Partner meetings.

The 2017 Twelve Year Program Report document will feature project pictures from a photo contest submitted amongst Planning Partners and PennDOT Districts. STC Commissioners will vote to select the cover photo at the May 12, 2016 STC Quarterly Business meeting.

## **REPORTS:**

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

TAC Chairman Lou Schultz gave a brief update on the TAC's recent activities, highlighting the Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation Study.

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation study the full TAC at its April 7, 2016 meeting.

The full report will be in three parts: a background and approach section, the recommended PennDOT policy, and implementation considerations.

Chairman Schultz also gave a brief report on six potential study topics. These topics are:

1. The 2017 Pennsylvania Transportation Performance Report
  2. The Effect on Pennsylvania Transportation as a result of the Expansion of the Port of Philadelphia due to the opening of the "new" Panama Canal
  3. Development of a statewide small local bridge investment plan
  4. Utilities in the State Right of way
  5. How Transportation Planning is stuck in the past
  6. Supporting the Pennsylvania State Police with reliable, sustainable funding
- A seventh topic on Automated Red Light Enforcement Program was introduced as well and it comes with its own dedicated funding. The TAC voted to proceed with the 2017 Pennsylvania Transportation Performance Report.

Representative Keller stated that the Panama Canal study should be a priority as the Port of Philadelphia supports 10,000 jobs.

### **Administrative/Budget**

Deputy Secretary Suzanne Itzko gave a brief update on the Administration deputation. She discussed several initiatives within the deputation, including the replacement of county maintenance offices and county transformation innovations. Secretary Itzko stated that the Department averages a 95% filled position rate. In addition, the Department and the Department of General Services (DGS) have agreed to a joint program involving 176 PennDOT owned facilities. This program will give PennDOT direct oversight of its projects and will save the Department between \$1 and \$1.5 million.

### **Driver and Vehicle Services**

Deputy Secretary Kurt Myers delivered a brief report on behalf of the Driver and Vehicle Services deputation. He highlighted the Driver Orientation Screening for Cognitive Impairment (DOSCI). This is a screening tool for law enforcement, developed by the University of San Diego and it enables the enhancement of driver safety through the additional detection of possibly unsafe drivers. In addition, Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) worked with PSP and

other local law enforcement in strengthening the Law Enforcement Recommendation for Medical/Driver Examination reporting form. This form enables law enforcement to collect additional information on a driver who may need further review by DVS staff due to a possible medical condition or conditions.

Mr. Myers also delivered an update on REAL ID, stating Pennsylvania's current extension ends on October 10, 2016, unless the Department of Homeland Security grants an addition extension to Pennsylvania.

### **Highway and Bridge Program**

Deputy Secretary Scott Christie delivered a brief report for the Highway Administration deputate, highlighting the letting program, winter preparedness and project delivery.

Commissioner Kingsbough asked about the cost per linear foot of diamond grinding concrete pavement. Mr. Christie stated he would follow up with him.

### **Multimodal Transportation**

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

Representative Keller requested more information on the Multimodal Transportation Funding program for Ports, as six projects were selected. Rep. Keller would like to know who the grantees are. In addition, he noted an objection to the Southport Maritime operation Request for Proposals in Philadelphia.

### **Planning**

Deputy Secretary Jim Ritzman delivered a brief report for the Office of Planning, highlighting the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), the County Fee for Local Use, the PennDOT open data website, Rapid Bridge Replacement program and the compressed natural gas (CNG) for transit P3 initiative.

The TAP received 128 applications for projects requesting \$80 million. These projects enhance the transportation network through bicycle and pedestrian facilities and promote safety and mobility.

The County Fee for Local Use program collected \$1,014,764 in 2015 for Blair, Cumberland, and Fulton Counties. Allegheny, Bucks, Dauphin, Philadelphia, and Westmoreland Counties will join the program in 2016 and the program is expected to collect \$14 to \$18 million annually. These funds can be used for construction, reconstruction, and maintenance on county roads and bridges.

The PennDOT Open Data website provides access to the Department's GIS data via download and will replace the need for data deliveries to individual requesting agencies.

The Rapid Bridge Replacement P3 completed 46 bridges at the end of 2015, with four still under construction. Plenary Walsh is planning to replace over 220 bridges in calendar year 2016 and the remaining bridges in 2017.

PennDOT issued the CNG for Transit final RFP on December 14, 2015. The P3 Office anticipates announcing the winning development entity in late February or early March of 2016.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Open Public Comment**

No comments were offered during the open public comment period.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next STC quarterly business meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 12 2016, in Bedford, Pennsylvania.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Wentz and seconded by Commissioner Paczewski, the STC quarterly business meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.