

Tuscaloosa County Road Improvement Commission, Inc.
Meeting Minutes - - - January 29, 2024
Tuscaloosa County Annex Auditorium

Commission Member Attendees:

Judge Robertson (TCRIC Chair)	Rep. Chris England
Mayor Walt Maddox (TCRIC Vice Chair)	Mr. Justice Smyth
Ms. Glenda Webb	Mr. Kyle South
Rep. Bill Lamb	Mr. Wallace McAdory (ex officio)

Other Attendees: Kelly Johns, Kim Palm, Marland Hayes, Tom Bobitt, Joe Eatmon, Mayor John Hinton, Edward Henderson, Alex Hainen, Jerry Humber, Mark McKinley, Brad Newman, John Ball, Kathryn Anderson, Clay Randolph, Scott Anders, Randy Skagen, Richard Rush, Josh Norris, David Howell, Lauren Benson, Tera Tubb, John McWilliams, Zane David, Gregg Bissot, Ron Davis, Carly Standridge, Adriana Dunn, Lyndi Blackburn, Chris Crawford, Mark McAdams, Becky Scheeff.

Meeting Called to Order

Judge Rob Robertson called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Judge Rob Robertson presented the minutes from the November 30, 2023 TCRIC meeting.

Vote: Minutes of the November 30, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Mayor Walt Maddox seconded by Mr. Kyle South.

Summary of Bills

Kelly Johns, TCRIC Administrator, presented a summary of bills for the Commission's consideration.

Vote: A motion to pay bills, as presented, was made by Mr. Justice Smyth, seconded by Rep. Bill Lamb, and approved unanimously.

Financial Report

Kim Palm (Carver Dewitt & Palm) presented the accounting report. The ledger balance as of January 24, 2024 was \$22,013,641.23. The interest earned in November 2023 and December 2023 was \$60,273.06 and \$63,240.84, respectively. The December 2023 deposit (October 2023 sales tax collected) was \$1,015,000 (1.50% increase over the prior year). The January 2024 deposit (November 2023 sales tax collected) was \$1,010,000 (1.51% increase over the prior year). The actual and projected accrual basis revenues for Fiscal Year 2023 to date are \$2,025,000 and \$2,044,000, respectively.

Project expenditures to date (for Fiscal Year 2023) total \$2,383,703 Operating expenses to date totals \$56,863.

Presentation of Fiscal Year 2023 Audit

Mr. Jerry Humber and Mr. John Ball, representatives from Jameson Money & Farmer, the Commission's auditor, presented the fiscal year 2023 audit. The FY 2023 audit will be reviewed by TCRIC members further, and considered for approval at the February 2024 Full Commission meeting.

Legal Updates

SR-69 South Intersection Project: Mr. Marland Hayes (TCRIC general counsel) provided a brief update of the SR-69 South Intersection Improvement project cost estimate and timeline. The estimate has increased to approximately \$122M. ALDOT will share additional information with TCRIC members, but as the information is of a confidential nature, Mr. Hayes suggested that the Commission enter executive session to discuss. This was done as the last item of the meeting.

Mr. Hayes stated: “I have reviewed the information that ALDOT prepared and the legal contract between ALDOT and the Commission requiring the Commission to hold certain disclosures by ALDOT to the Commission in confidence. In my legal opinion, an executive session is necessary and proper (a) for discussion with legal counsel, (b) to protect confidential information, and (c) to discuss matters of commerce. It would have a detrimental effect upon the competitive position of ALDOT and, due to its cost-sharing obligation, the Commission if the discussion on this matter is conducted outside of executive session. So, it is appropriate for the ALDOT disclosures to be made and discussed in executive session under subsections (3) and/or (7) of Section 7(a) of the Alabama Open Meetings Act.”

Vote: Ms. Glenda Webb made a motion to enter into executive session, as the last business item of the meeting, to discuss matters of commerce or trade and to receive and discuss confidential disclosures from ALDOT regarding the SR-69 South Intersection project. The motion was seconded by Mayor Walt Maddox, and approved unanimously.

Martin Luther King/Jack Warner Parkway: Mr. Marland Hayes also reported that he and Ms. Kelly Johns met with City of Tuscaloosa staff in December 2023 to discuss the needed funding agreement revisions. A resolution regarding the updated agreement will be presented for the Commission’s consideration at the February 2024 meeting.

Project Updates: City of Tuscaloosa (COT)

Michael Gardiner (COT City Engineer) provided the City of Tuscaloosa project updates.

- McWright’s Ferry Road Extension: Construction is ongoing.
- Martin Luther King/Jack Warner Parkway:
 - Phase 2: Construction is ongoing and near completion; Weather permitting, the contractor will perform milling and install final wearing surface and striping soon.
 - Phase 3: COT resubmitted 100% plans to CPKC (formerly KCS), September 22, 2023. Comments have been received from CPKC; Thompson submitted revised plans in December 2023. The City is anticipating a response from the railroad at the end of January 2024.

Project Updates: Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT)

Adriana Dunn (ALDOT West Central Region Pre-Construction Engineer) and Wallace McAdory (ALDOT West Central Region Engineer) provided ALDOT project updates.

- SR-69 South Intersection Improvements project: Utility relocation by Alabama Power is now complete. The City of Tuscaloosa is on schedule to complete their relocations by July 2024. Letting has been moved to March 2024.
- US-82 at Hwy 43: Following the public involvement meeting, additional survey was ordered; that survey is now complete. A public involvement meeting is being scheduled, likely in March 2024.
- US-82, SR-69 to Rice Mine Rd: Construction is ongoing and approximately 73% complete.

Public Comment

Judge Robertson opened the meeting for public comment. No comments were received.

Upcoming Scheduled TCRIC Meeting

The next TCRIC meeting will be February 26, 2024 at 7:30 AM, at Northport City Hall.

TCRIC entered executive session.

A motion was made by Mr. Kyle South to exit executive session and adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Glenda Webb and approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM.