

Tuscaloosa County Road Improvement Commission (TCRIC)  
Meeting Minutes—March 27, 2017  
West Alabama Chamber of Commerce

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

Commission Member Attendees: Judge Hardy McCollum, Chair; Mayor Walt Maddox; Mayor Donna Aaron; Jim Page; Senator Gerald Allen; Representative Chris England; Dara Longgear; James Brown

Other Attendees: Alyce Spruell, Nicole Hampton, John Powell Webb, David Norris, Robert Spence, Mark Nelson, Gene Irvin, Bill Poole, Rich Wingo, Brad Darden, Kristina Franklin, Nick Crane, Eddie Pugh, David Kemp, Harrison Taylor, Tera Tubbs, Glenda Webb

Meeting minutes from the February 24 meeting were approved unanimously after a motion by Gerald Allen seconded by Jim Page.

The Commission reviewed the financial update transmitted by Rick Harbin that indicated last month's payment was the lowest received thus far, which could have been a result of lower January spending or a possible adjustment by the Special Tax Board.

Nick Crane updated the Commission regarding the project design on 69 South. Crane provided an updated itemized list of status updates on the project map. The Commission reviewed a traffic model in 2035 with and without the project at hand. ALDOT hopes the 65% submittal will occur by the end of the week. ALDOT is still awaiting 3 rights of entry, including one parcel where a trust is involved. Crane also reported that issues with the railroad company continue and at some point intervention by the Commission members may be needed. Projected letting for November 2017 has not changed.

The City of Northport submitted a request letter to the Commission to be reimbursed for \$125,000 paid to BKI for design and environmental work related to Union Chapel Road, as well as \$75,000 for the initial right-of-way appraisals and acquisitions. The letter requested an additional payment of \$600,000 in the next 30 to 45 days to proceed with right-of-way acquisition and project letting. Gerald Allen pointed out that this project is part of the enabling legislation for the Commission.

**Vote:** A motion to approve the payments as requested by Northport was made by Walt Maddox and seconded by Gerald Allen. The motion passed unanimously.

TCRIC Counsel Alyce Spruell presented a request to the Commission to distribute PS&E costs to ALDOT for 69 South-Skyland and 82-McFarland projects. The Commission authorized the \$1.5M in funds initially with Resolution 16-011, which stated that ALDOT would front the costs and later request reimbursement. Mayor Maddox noted that the expenditure was not in the working budget, but noted that he anticipated the budget to be adjusted at the next meeting and that monies previously allocated for Hargrove Road in FY 2017 may not be needed during this year any longer. Judge McCollum stated it was important to keep the momentum on these projects going.

**Vote:** A motion to approve the payments was made by Gerald Allen and seconded by Walt Maddox. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission received a copy of the Notice to Proceed on Bear Creek Intersection. ALDOT representatives stated that the pre-construction meeting was set to be held Wednesday. Cornerstone is the contractor and thus far, everyone seems happy with them on other projects. Jim Page stated that the kick-off of this projects seems like a good time to get some signage done to display in the construction space to brand it a Road Commission project. Brad Darden and Jim Page agreed to work on design and content of the road sign. Jim can distribute an example for ideas to begin circulating.

The Martin Road project's wetland issues has been resolved, and right-of-way is now in process.

Spruell referred the Commission to the newly updated grid sheets provided at the meeting for other project update questions.

The next meeting of the Commission is tentatively scheduled for Friday, April 21 at the Courthouse Annex.

Judge McCollum adjourned the meeting at 8:45 a.m.