

Tuscaloosa County Road Improvement Commission (TCRIC)
Meeting Minutes --- July 29, 2019
Northport City Hall

Commission Member Attendees: Mayor Walt Maddox-Chair; Mayor Donna Aaron; Jim Page; Judge Rob Robertson; Rep. Chris England; Rep. Rich Wingo; James Brown

Other Attendees: Alyce Spruell, Nicole Hampton, Wallace McAdory, John McWilliams, Alicia Rudolph, April Hoffman, Glenda Webb, Ron Davis, Kim Palm, Brad Darden, Chris Grace, David Kemp, Mark Nelson, Eddie Pugh, Lee Garrison, Senator Gerald Allen, Rep. Bill Poole, Scott Anders, Clay Randolph, Tracy Criss, Bruce Higginbotham, Chris Johnson, Keith Andrews, Brad Matthews

Mayor Maddox called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Meeting minutes from the May meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Rep. Wingo, seconded by Judge Robertson.

The July deposit from May 2019 sales tax collected was \$725,600, with a current bank balance of \$9,704,087. Kim Palm provided a further accounting report, notifying the Commission that quarterly financial statements would be finalized after next month (June collections). Palm stated she had met with Dan Johnson to begin audit preparations for this fiscal year.

TCRIC Counsel Alyce Spruell provided a compliance update. She provided the Commission with a draft annual report, to be considered by vote at the August meeting. She and Mayor Aaron also updated the Commission on contracts committee decisions. The committee recommended the approval of payment of the Fitts Agency insurance renewal. After a motion by Rep. Wingo, seconded by Judge Robertson, the renewal was approved. The committee also presented the Commission with a draft job description for an administrator position and requested its approval. The Commission discussed how to advertise the announcement, the need for a salary range, and the need to identify the position as part-time or full-time. Rep. England suggested that it seemed that it could be a part-time position that has potential to grow into a full-time position later. Judge Robertson agreed that part-time seemed most prudent. Discussion was had about the availability of someone with a PE certification that would also want part-time work. After a motion by Rep. England, seconded by Jim Page, the Commission approved the description for a part-time position but requested the committee develop a salary range to be added to the description and brought back to the Commission before posting. The motion carried unanimously.

Project updates were provided as follows:

SR-69 at Union Chapel Road was re-bid and the apparent low bidder was GFC out of Duncanville at \$1.43M. This was less than the low bid in March. The gas line relocation for the project is complete, and the relocation of the water/sewer lines is in process to be complete before construction begins.

SR-69 South turn lanes has had preliminary engineering authorized. Survey on drainage structure must be completed before plans are complete. The project will be let this fall. Commission members inquired about where the surveys were needed and who was completing them. ALDOT

stated that they were needed at several of the various intersections in the project and were being completed in-house. David Kemp stated he expected a short contract.

-US-82 at University Blvd: The INFRA grant was announced as awarded for the project in the amount of \$6.8M. The total estimate for the \$11M project includes the bridge, which was not in the original plan. The award includes the bridge, including accelerated bridge construction. Mayor Maddox inquired about the \$1M TCRIC has budgeted for the project, and Kemp stated that ALDOT needed additional time to determine what costs may be outside the INFRA and ATRIP funds available. Mayor Maddox thanked ALDOT for the additional match dollars on the project necessary to have received the INFRA grant.

-I 20/59: Although not a TCRIC project, Wallace McAdory provided an update. The project is looking have the first arch set in early September. The lanes shifted last weekend and are expected to stay in this phase for most of football season.

-Lurleen Wallace: Also not a TCRIC project. McAdory stated there was a big shift in lanes over the weekend, and ALDOT hopes to have University and Bryant finished completely before the first major football game. The contractor seems to be moving along the timeline a bit better, and it has been allowed to close more blocks northbound to try to consolidate work on utilities. Mayor Maddox stated that almost \$1M was requested in tax rebates in the first phase of the City relief program. McAdory added that the old trolley tracks have to be removed in the next phase.

SR-69 South status and funding was discussed. The appraisals are under review, and ALDOT hopes to start making right-of-way offers in the next few weeks. Glenda Webb inquired about the City of Tuscaloosa's additional utility right-of-way. ALDOT stated that Randy Milligan had been in touch with the City about those but that they did not anticipate the City being a delay because of the other significant utilities also involved. Rep. Wingo requested a critical path at each meeting for projects to see who is responsible for each piece. HMB out of Kentucky, with an office in Montgomery, is the consulting engineer. Because right-of-way is moving slower than anticipated because of reauthorization of the appraisal contracts, Spruell reported that ALDOT may not request additional right-of-way funds this fiscal year. Mayor Maddox inquired if the finance committee could meet with the financial advisor soon, and Spruell stated the financial advisor would like to do that in August.

The next meetings were announced as August 26 at the Chamber of Commerce and September 30 at Bryant Bank.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Maddox adjourned the meeting.