

Tuscaloosa County Road Improvement Commission (TCRIC)
Meeting Minutes - - - July 26, 2021
Northport City Hall

Commission Member Attendees: Judge Rob Robertson – Chairman; Mayor Walt Maddox – Vice Chairman; Mayor Bobby Herndon; Rep. Rich Wingo; Rep. Chris England; Jim Page

Other Attendees:

Alyce Spruell; Kelly Johns; Dennis Stripling; Kim Palm; Zane Davis; Wendy Shelby; Wallace McAdory; John McWilliams; Glenda Webb; Tera Tubbs; Scott Holmes; Jarrod Milligan; Edward Henderson; Ethan Hand; Scott Anders; Craig Williams; Tom Bobitt; Brad Matthews; Bill Page; David Howell; Ron Bolton; Kathryn Anderson; Zach Wolfe; Randy Skagen; Mike Wright; David Kemp; Bill Lamb; Reginald Murray; Russell Ware; Sen. Gerald Allen

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

Judge Robertson presented the minutes of the June 28, 2021 TCRIC meeting.

Vote: Minutes of the June 28, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Mayor Herndon, seconded by Mr. Page.

Summary of Bills

A summary of bills was presented for the Commission’s consideration.

Vote: A motion to pay bills as presented was made by Mayor Herndon, seconded by Rep. Wingo and approved unanimously.

Financial Report

Kim Palm presented the accounting report. The ledger balance as of July 19, 2021 was \$15,653,221.96. The interest earned in June was \$361.95 and the fiscal-year-to-date interest earned is \$2,798.78. The July 2021 deposit (from May 2021 sales tax collected) was \$848,500, representing a 18.08% increase from July 2020. The projected and actual accrual basis revenues for Fiscal Year 2021 to date are \$6,349,882 and \$6,603,400, respectively. Expenditures to date (for Fiscal Year 2021) is \$459,505.

Vote: A motion to approve the finance report, as presented, was made by Mayor Maddox seconded by Rep. England, and approved unanimously.

Legal update

Alyce Spruell gave an update regarding TCRIC’s insurance policy. During the June 2021 TCRIC meeting, TCRIC members expressed interest to look into RFP for insurance. Spruell has reached out to Fitts to see if there is interest in participating in a future RFP. Spruell also reported that in her investigation into entities similar to TCRIC, there has been 10-20% increases in premiums over the last year, due to COVID-19 and cyber hacking claims. Spruell will continue her research and plans to give an additional update at the August TCRIC meeting. Spruell also confirmed that the Chubb insurance policy approved by TCRIC last month is now in place for the next year.

Mayor Maddox made a motion that the Commission convene an executive session at the time designated by the Chair for the purpose of discussing matters and information that will have a detrimental impact upon the City’s competitive position in negotiations involving matters of

trade or commerce if disclosed outside an executive session, and which may also impact the City's agreements with the Commission now or in the future.

Vote: Mayor Herndon seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates

Tera Tubbs gave updates on City of Northport projects.

- SR-69N - Union Chapel Road: Tubbs reports that the final closing-out documents will be completed in the next few weeks.
- SR-69N – Charlie Shirley Road: Northport will be meeting with ALDOT soon; an agreement between TCRIC, Northport and/or ALDOT is needed. David Kemp (ALDOT) reported that based on the current plans, the project would take 6-8 months, and 69N (at Charlie Shirley Rd) would be shut down for a short period. The project is needed due to poor site distance to the north.

Brad Matthews gave updates on City of Tuscaloosa projects.

- Martin Luther King/Jack Warner Parkway:
Phase I: The project has had delays due to excessive rain this summer. After this weekend, with an event at the amphitheater, the contractor will work for the next 3 weeks in front of amphitheater (earthwork, UT and drainage).
Phase II: The City is waiting on KCS to respond with comments to 90% design.
- McWright's Ferry Road Extension: ROW offers have been made, and some agreements are in place. ROW costs are higher than expected originally, due to the current real estate market. Only a few of the ROW acquisitions are total parcel purchases. Construction is scheduled to begin in winter 2022, with project completion in 2025.

David Kemp (ALDOT) provided ALDOT project updates.

- US-82 (SR-69 to Rice Mine Road): The project will be let this coming Friday, July 30, 2021, with an expected average bid of \$30 Million. The project includes adding lanes and access management (changes to median cross overs). There are 6 known companies looking at the bid package, with some of those being subcontractors. With respect to Utility Work: The contract will be structured so that a contractor can work and not be hindered by UT work. The roadway construction will first begin in the median area, and then traffic will be moved to the inside lane, while the contractor works on the outside. ALDOT expects US-82 to have 2 lanes of traffic open, in both directions, at all times. There was discussion about drainage/stormwater control.
- US-82/US-43 Intersection: The survey is near completion.
- US-82/SR-69: ALDOT recently updated the selected consultant's allocation, and the RFC has been submitted internally.
- US-82 – University Blvd: ALDOT continues to coordinate with UA on architectural aspects of project. The scope of work includes extending the exit ramps, to increase capacity. Additionally, ALDOT is coordinating with DCH regarding DCH plans to replace/redesign their parking deck. The entrance into DCH off US-82, just south of University Blvd will be removed and replaced with an entrance with a roundabout to the south.
- McFarland Blvd/I-20 (not a TCRIC project): The traffic signals and lighting under the interstate bridge are in place. ALDOT expects the intersection to be shut down for installation of the Single Point Urban Intersection (SPUI) on August 6, 2021, weather permitting.

Public Comment

Judge Robertson opened the meeting for public comment.

- Sen. Gerald Allen recently met with the University of Alabama regarding flooding on Bryant drive and near the Law School. UA is reviewing and applying for a grant, and Sen. Allen asked for letters of support from members of TCRIC.

Next Meeting

A previously scheduled Finance Committee meeting is being rescheduled for a time yet to be determined, in August. The next full Commission meeting will be August 30, 2021 at 7:30, at Tuscaloosa City Hall. The September full Commission meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday, September 30, 2021, at the County Annex Auditorium.

Chairman Judge Robertson reported that there would be no additional business after the executive session concludes. The meeting took a recess, and then reconvened in executive session.

The Commission left executive session, and the meeting adjourned.