

Tuscaloosa County Road Improvement Commission (TCRIC)
Meeting Minutes—June 30, 2016, 7:30 A.M.
Tuscaloosa Chamber of Commerce office

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

Commission Member Attendees: Judge Hardy McCollum, Chair; Mayor Walt Maddox; Mayor Bobby Herndon; Jim Page; Senator Gerald Allen; Dara Longgear; James Brown

Other Attendees: Alyce Spruell, Nicole Hampton, Robert Spence, Ron Davis, David Kemp, Nick Crane, John Powell Webb, Eddie Pugh

Meeting minutes from June 10 meeting were approved unanimously after a motion by Gerald Allen seconded by Walt Maddox.

REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS—ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING SERVICES

Alyce Spruell, legal counsel for the Commission, presented the proposals received for both accounting and auditing services, which were disseminated via email yesterday. An interest email for receiving the RFPs was initially sent, which generated a list of 10 accounting firms and 5 auditing firms. Of those, 3 submitted auditing proposals (JamisonMoneyFarmer, Carr Riggs & Ingram, and Harbin & Stough) and 4 submitted accounting proposals (JMF, Harbin & Stough, T.E. Lott, and Yeager & Christian).

Spruell noted that the same group should not be chosen for both auditing and accounting, and that all potential conflicts revealed by the RFPs are not of concern.

A motion was made by Mayor Maddox to award the accounting bid to Harbin & Stough and the auditing bid to JamisonMoneyFarmer. Mayor Herndon seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Spruell was authorized to invite the two to the next meeting and begin their engagement letters.

Spruell noted that she has been in discussions with the special tax board regarding how money will flow and that she hopes to have a report in July about exactly how that will work and what the tax board's estimates of amounts for initial flow will be.

ALDOT AGREEMENT

The Commission members reviewed the final, signed version of the ALDOT agreement. Spruell thanked the legislative delegation and ALDOT for their assistance in getting the agreement signed.

Spruell noted that the agreement had been vetted through the entity lawyers. The State's obligation is larger because of an additional project included to complete work on Hwy 43/Lurleen Wallace. Because that project is not a TCRIC priority, it is not being funded by TCRIC. The Agreement also obligates the State to 100% overruns on that project. Kemp stated that it obligates ALDOT for its own internal purposes.

The Agreement goes on to identify two projects as especially close to ready-Bear Creek intersection and the University Blvd. interchange. As soon as ALDOT funds are available, those can begin.

Spruell and Brown discussed that a new spreadsheet from ALDOT will be provided to Commission members in the next week that is organized by potential let date. Spruell discussed that the next steps will be finalized the Mitt Lary reimbursement amount so that the other agreements can start to be sured up based on the amount of money that will be available in the next three years. Spruell will bring Commission a memo on options to repay Northport, noting that the options are also built in to the Project Nascar funding options proposed by Mayor Maddox.

Discussion occurred about how to publicize the agreement. The Commission agreed to task Amy at the Chamber and Diedre at COT with branding so that construction signs could be considered as public relations option to show the public that things are ALDOT/TCRIC projects. Consensus seemed to be that the same could be done at Mitt Lary even though it's a reimbursement mechanism.

Spruell further advised that a website policy would need to be put in place so that the Commission members could be gatekeeping the website's content.

The Commission tentatively set its next meeting for July 22 at 7:30 a.m.

Judge McCollum adjourned the meeting at 8:30 a.m.