



Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Board

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 9, 2017

Neil Combee Administration Building, Commission
Boardroom 330 West Church Street
Bartow, FL 33830

Voting Members Present:

Commissioner Jack Myers
Mayor Howard Wiggs
Commissioner Roy Tyler
Commissioner Bill Read
Commissioner Don Selvage, *Chairman*
Commissioner Jim Malless
Commissioner Phillip Walker
Commissioner Nat Birdsong, *Vice Chairman*
Mayor Eugene Fultz
Commissioner John Hall
Commissioner Bill Braswell
Commissioner Todd Dantzler
Commissioner George Lindsey

Representing:

City of Auburndale
City of Lakeland-Left at 10:30AM
City of Haines City
City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Winter Haven
City of Lake Wales
Polk County BoCC
Polk County BoCC
Polk County BoCC – Left at 9:40AM
Polk County BoCC

East County Block Voting Members:

Mayor Charles Lake

South County Block Voting Members:

Commissioner Barbara Manley

East County Block Alternate Members:

Commissioner Willie Quarles

South County Block Alternate Members:

Commissioner Collins Smith

Advisory Members Present:

Secretary L.K. Nandam

Tom Deardorff

Randy Mink

Others Present:

Lori Carlton

Millie Brown

Debra Chesna

William Roll

Robin Stubbles

Jan Parham

Annette Crews

Representing:

City of Lake Alfred

Representing:

City of Fort Meade

Representing:

Town of Dundee

Representing:

Town of Dundee

Representing:

FDOT, District One

Polk County TPO

TPO Legal Advisor

Representing:

Florida Department of Transportation

Florida Department of Transportation

Florida Department of Transportation

Kimley-Horn & associates

FDOT Consultant

LAMTD

Polk TPO

Ronnie Blackshear	Polk TPO
Curtis Knowles	Polk TPO
Ryan Kordek	Polk TPO
Xiomara Meeks	Polk TPO
Diane Slaybaugh	Polk TPO
Gloria Rake	Polk TPO

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Don Selvage called the TPO Board meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Selvage had no announcements.

3. CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Diane Slaybaugh, Polk TPO staff, confirmed a quorum. Mayor Charles Lake, City of Lake Alfred, represented the East County Block and Commissioner Barbara Manley, City of Fort Meade, represented the South County Block.

4. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Selvage opened the floor for public comment. Seeing none, the floor was closed.

5. AGENDA REVIEW

Tom Deardorff, TPO Executive Director, stated that there was a fairly light agenda after the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman and Board appointments. Guest speakers would be Ray Chiaramonte, Executive Director of TBARTA and Harry Barley, Executive Director of Metroplan Orlando. Ray and Harry will give an insight on their Region's top transportation challenges. Under communications and reports, Ryan Kordek will share information in regards to the FDOT response to TPO's review of the draft five year work program.

6. APPROVE MINUTES

Motion: Commissioner Phillip Walker motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mayor Eugene Fultz seconded the motion. Motion carried without dissent.

7. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Randy Mink, Assistant County Attorney, explained the election of officers. Chairman Selvage advised that the Chairman and Vice Chairman are eligible for another term. Commissioner Lindsey nominated Chairman Selvage and Vice-Chair Commissioner Nat Birdsong to retain their respective seats for another term.

Motion: Commissioner George Lindsey, seconded by Commissioner Walker. Unanimous vote approved.

8. BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Ronnie Blackshear, TPO staff, gave a review of each Board and a description of each position available. Mr. Blackshear also provided a list of the current officers in each position on all of the boards.

MPO Advisory Council (MPOAC): Primary is Commissioner Birdsong, First Alt. Commissioner Jim Malless, and Second Alt. Mayor Lake. Motioned by Mayor Fultz, seconded by Commissioner Walker. Unanimous vote approved.

Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB): Commissioner Selvage asked Mayor Lake if he would like to continue and he expressed yes, but stated that Commissioner Hunnicutt expressed interest in the position but is not in attendance. Motion was made to keep Mayor Lake as Chairperson by Commissioner Jack Myers, seconded by Commissioner Birdsong. Unanimous vote approved.

West Central Florida Chairs Coordinating Committee (WCFCCC): Current appointments are Chairperson Commissioner Selvage, Vice Chair is Commissioner Birdsong and Alt is Commissioner Hunnicutt. Motioned by Commissioner Walker seconded by Commissioner Lindsey. Unanimous vote approved.

Ridge Scenic Highway Corridor Management Entity (RSH): Mayor Fultz expressed that he would like to remain. Motion was made to keep Mayor Fultz by Commissioner Braswell, seconded by Commissioner Jim Malless. Unanimous vote approved.

Central Florida MPO Alliance (CFMPOA): Voting of the board will be delayed until the next meeting.

9. PRESENTATIONS

A. Top Transportation Challenges of 2017

- a. Ray Chiamonte, Executive Director (ED) of TBARTA, presented a slide show of current and future projects. Mr. Chiamonte has been the ED for 2 years now with TBARTA. TBARTA was created in 2007, adopted their first plan in 2009, which included Citrus to Sarasota Counties. This was to get the Counties working together to become a 7-County Region to work toward the future. Slides listed all board members for TBARTA. Slides also showed percentages on how many people travel out of county to go to work. Airport travel is an important component of the region and a lot of counties are making use of Tampa International Airport (TIA). Mr. Chiamonte gave a list of the Regional Priority Projects that are taking place. He also discussed the District 7 My Commute Program, Carpool, Vanpool, Emergency Ride Home (ERH), and Bike programs. Vanpool is the most popular and Polk has 1 van going daily to Hillsborough County. This eliminates about 7 cars on the roadways daily. The VA Hospital and MacDill AF Base are the prime users of this program. The Vanpool Program has increased from 89 to over 100 vans since 2015. Floor opens to comments.

Commissioner Malless made a comment. Commissioner Selvage then asked questions about the van pool program and high speed rail.

- b. Harry Barley, Executive Director of Metroplan Orlando, presented a slide show. Their MPO represents Orange, Seminole and Osceola counties. He discussed the growing rate in the local counties. Top challenges that are being faced are Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety, Implementing Complete Streets, Completing our Beltway, Future Funding and Polishing the Crystal Ball. Floor opened to questions. Commissioner Malless asked questions about how Orange County has engaged with UBER. Commissioner Walker asked about Sun Rail expanding into Polk County. Commissioner Selvage commented about growth in the Orlando area.

B. Update on Pedestrian Bicycle Safety Team (Tom Deardorff)

Mr. Deardorff gave an update on the Pedestrian Bicycle Safety Team and stated that the Bicycle safety team is off to a good start. He advised everyone to review the 24 page book that staff created.

C. Pledge to Slow Down Campaign (Tom Deardorff)

Mr. Deardorff briefed the Board on the Pledge to Slow Down Campaign and showed the pledge form that was created to be signed. He spoke on the elements of the program and asked that everyone participate by slowing their vehicle down 5 mph when commuting. We are looking to take pledges, celebrity pledges, PGTV Public Service announcements, and promotional material such as yard signs, car fresheners, bumper stickers, little bags etc. The Department would like to see a “Slow Down Week” or “A Day to Slow Down” adopted soon to help with this campaign. Floor opened to questions. Mayor Lake expressed interest in participating in the campaign.

D. Recognize Lori Carlton for Service to the Polk TPO (Tom Deardorff)

Mr. Deardorff recognized Lori Carlton for her service to the Polk TPO. She has been the Liaison for the last 15 years. Ryan Kordek, TPO staff, spoke regarding Lori Carlton and what a great asset she has been for everyone with regards to helping the TPO. Tom presented Lori with a plaque of Wonder Woman which was signed by the TPO Board and staff. She spoke briefly and thanked everyone for being so kind and thankful. Commissioner Selvage made comment.

10. FDOT REPORT

Millie Brown was introduced to the TPO Board by Secretary L.K. Nandam. She is now the new Polk TPO Liaison. Commissioner Selvage turned the meeting over to Ms. Brown for her to give the report. Peace River Trail in Fort Meade was completed in October 2016. Lake Alfred and FDOT are looking to meet and work together on the traffic issues in Lake Alfred. Mayor Lake asked when they will be getting a report back on the meeting with Mr. Kordek about issues. Secretary Nandam answered questions for Mayor Lake. Mr. Deardorff also commented they did not have a complete report to give Mayor Lake yet, but the issue is being addressed and should be completed by the next TPO meeting.

11. Communications and Reports (Ryan Kordek)

A. FDOT response to TPO Draft Work Program Requests

Mr. Kordek discussed a response letter from Secretary Nandam about Combee Road, Scenic Hwy, and the SR555 sidewalk. No news to report about the Bartow Northern Connector Phase II. Floor opened to questions and there were none. Commissioner Selvage commented.

12. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

13. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner Malless commented about the Road Diet Program on South Florida Avenue and that Lakeland's meeting will be held on Feb 23rd at 6 pm at the Polk Museum of Art. Commissioner Selvage commented that he learned today that we have regional opportunities and thanked Mr. Chiaramonte and Mr. Barley for coming to the meeting.

14. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Respectfully transcribed by Annette Crews, Polk TPO Staff

Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, states that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.