



Polk Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Board

**Draft MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, October 8 , 2015**

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

Voting Members Present:

Commissioner Jack Myers
Commissioner Pat Huff
Mayor Eugene Fultz
Commissioner Don Selvage, *Vice Chairman*
Commissioner Phillip Walker (late)
Mayor Nat Birdsong
Commissioner John Hall
Commissioner George Lindsey, *Chairman*
Commissioner Ed Smith
Commissioner Melony Bell
Commissioner Todd Dantzler

East County Block Voting Members:

Mayor Joe LaCascia

South County Block Voting Members:

None

East County Block Alternate Members:

Mayor Charles Lake

South County Block Alternate Members:

None

Advisory Members Present:

Laura Lockwood
Tom Deardorff
Randy Mink

Others Present:

Jean Reed
Lori Carlton
Robin Stublen
Nicole Mills
David Turley
Jennifer Stults
Luiz Diaz
Christopher Hatton
William Roll
David Vind
Maureen Decker
Tom Deardorff (twice?)
Cherie Simmons

Representing:

City of Auburndale
City of Bartow
City of Lake Wales
City of Lakeland
City of Lakeland
City of Winter Haven
Polk County BoCC
Polk County BoCC
Polk County BoCC
Polk County BoCC
Polk County BoCC

Representing:

City of Polk City

Representing:

Representing:

City of Lake Alfred

Representing:

Representing:

FDOT, District One
Polk County TPO
TPO Legal Advisor

Representing:

C4PP & HOA's
Florida Department of Transportation
Florida Department of Transportation
Florida Department of Transportation
Florida Department of Transportation
Florida Department of Transportation
HNTB
Kimley-Horn and Associates
Kimley-Horn and Associates
Lake Ashton
Pennoni/Envisors
Polk County TPO
Polk County TPO

Ronnie Blackshear
Ryan Kordek
Xiomara Meeks
Diane Slaybaugh
Tricia Pichette
Renay Willis
Felecia Panell
Jeff Trim

Polk County TPO
Polk County TPO
Polk County TPO
Polk County TPO
Polk County TPO
Rep. John Wood's Office
Sam Schwartz Engineering
Sam Schwartz Engineering

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman George Lindsey called the TPO Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3. CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Cherie Simmons, TPO Office Manager confirmed a quorum with 11 voting members and 1 alternate in attendance. There was no representation for the South County Block and Mayor Joe LaCascia represented the East County Block.

4. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. AGENDA REVIEW

Tom Deardorff, TPO Executive Director briefly reviewed the agenda. There were no changes to the Consent Agenda

6. CONSENT AGENDA

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

7. OTHER ACTION ITEMS

A. Endorse the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Florida's Turnpike Enterprise FY 2016/17 – 2020/21 Draft Tentative Work Program

Laura Lockwood, FDOT staff briefly reviewed the work program. This item is being brought to the board two months early because the legislature is convening two months early this year. FDOT is conducting a new E-Public Hearing. It will be open for public comment from October 12th thru the 16th. Comments can be submitted via the website. FDOT staff will be available at various library locations throughout the county to meet with citizens. Ms. Lockwood introduced FDOT staff to the board and showed a short video about the Work Program.

Tom Deardorff, TPO staff briefly reviewed the Work Program highlights handout. The Technical Advisory Committee and TPO staff recommends approval. There were two comments from the TAC included in their recommendation. Mr. Deardorff read the comments to the board. There was a brief discussion on the status of the Peace River Bridge in Ft. Meade.

Motion: Commissioner Don Selvage motioned to approve the Work Programs as presented. Commissioner Melony Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried without dissent.

8. PRESENTATIONS

A. Status Report on Central Polk Parkway

Tom Deardorff, TPO staff presented an update on the status of the Central Polk Parkway as a toll project and a project that can compete for Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) funds. Secretary Hathaway will present an update on this project at the December TPO Board meeting. A brief discussion followed the presentation.

B. “I-4 Beyond the Ultimate” Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) Reevaluation Study

Nicole Mills, FDOT gave a brief introduction to the project. This project is a partnership between FDOT District One and District Five. District Five is managing the project, and District One is providing some of the funding.

Luis Diaz, HNTB gave a presentation on the study. The project is 76 miles long and runs from US 27 in Polk County to I-95 in Volusia County. The PD&E Reevaluation will address express lanes, access modification, environmental issues, engineering, public involvement and right-of-way evaluation. The project consists of five segments. Proposed typical section was reviewed along with an overview of express lanes. Express lanes are an innovative solution to manage traffic congestion and provide choices for travelers. US27 and the US27 – Posner intersections were reviewed. A brief discussion followed presentation.

C. Fort Fraser Trail Extension

Ryan Kordek, TPO staff gave a brief introduction to the study. This part of the trail will consist of crossing the Polk Parkway and connecting to the Lakeland Trail System. Mr. Kordek introduced FDOT Project Manager David Turley.

Mr. Turley discussed the project segments. The project runs from CR540 to Combee Road. The estimated cost of segment 1 is \$1,080,960 and segment 2 is \$3,836,960. The Study timeline is from May 2015 to May 2016. There will be a public information workshop on October 23, 2015 from 5 -7 pm at Polk State College’s Lakeland Campus.

9. AGENCY REPORTS

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

No Report

Polk Transit

Rodney Wetzel, Citrus Connection updated the board on the consolidation and interlocal agreement between Polk County and Lakeland Area mass Transit District.

10. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

None

11. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None

13. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Respectfully transcribed by Cherie Simmons, TPO Office Manager

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.