

Minutes of Meeting

Recorded by: Allen Pope
Meeting date: February 20, 2023, at 3 pm
Meeting location: McKimmon Center, NCSU, Raleigh, NC
Subject/project name: ACEC/NC Transportation Committee Meeting

- 1) Welcome and Opening Remarks, Greg Purvis
 - a) Thanked RK&K & KCA for sponsoring this meeting.
- 2) Guest Speaker – 3 Co-Chairs of the Appropriations on Department of Transportation
 - a) Senator Vickie Sawyer (Iredell & Mecklenburg Counties)
Looking forward to your questions
 - b) Senator Tom McInnis (Moore & Cumberland Counties)
Need to look at NCDOT's Transportation Funding Modernization, Constant flow of projects, and NC's future growth (+2 million).
 - c) Senator Michael Lazzara (Onslow County)
Continue looking for efficiencies in operations, making progress on the deficient bridges, looking for more projects, along with other transportation challenges.
 - d) Questions
 - i) State Budget Surplus
 - (1) Sawyer – for Transportation, equity for money & vacancy rates at NCDOT.
 - (2) Lazzara – save taxes, continue looking for ways to increase efficiencies, & look at the vacancy rate of positions.
 - (3) McInnis – wanting all taxes taken related to vehicles to go to transportation (swag is approximately 6% of all taxes collected).
 - ii) Funding DOT, Taxes Revenue collected to fund Electric vehicles
 - (1) Sawyer – look at the recommendations of the 10 Commission, sales tax revenue
 - (2) Lazzara – Look at the registration and other fees associated with electric vehicles
 - (3) McInnis – Gas tax will be here for at least another 10 years to get us to a new normal
 - (4) Lazzara – this state needs additional revenue (new revenue)
 - (5) Sawyer – good stewardship with money NCDOT already has
 - (a) Ferry system – it currently cost about \$50 to \$80/vehicle
 - (b) Movement of utility as one design & movement
 - iii) Where do you see placement of Transportation dollars in the future?
 - (1) Lazzara – Not wanting to reduce maintenance funding, balance funds, efficiencies, & new revenue

- (2) Sawyer – looking for efficiencies and new revenue
- (3) McInnis – need to grasp the new technology & modernize current technology
- iv) Legislature – Infrastructure
 - (1) Sawyer – what can we get passed now?
 - (2) Lazzara – being equitable & look at electric trucks (which weigh more than gas powered)
 - (3) McInnis – new electric trucks and cars also have more torque
 - (4) Lazzara – increase production of electric vehicles by the big 3
- v) Low hanging fruit
 - (1) Sawyer – NC 10 Commission, service fees for uber/lift, & registration fees for EVs
 - (2) McInnis – Trash picked (110M pounds @ ~\$1/LB) up by NCDOT (& Cost), litter law revamped, & working with DAs to convict
 - (3) Lazzara – here for you
- 3) Legislative Update / NCDOT Update Jim Smith
 - i) Fed Update
 - (1) IIJA still being implemented
 - (2) Non-compete clauses rule changes to be implemented
 - (a) 13 states band non-compete
 - (3) R&D amortization
 - (a) Ask for it to be repealed
 - (4) USDOT accounting software DELFY
 - (a) There is a \$35M discrepancy
 - (b) Programs will be slowed till it works out a solution
 - ii) State Update
 - (1) April 18th Legislative Day
- 4) Subcommittee Reports
 - a) Design/Build – Steven Roberts (2/7/23 meeting)
 - i) Teresa Bruton retirement/no replacement known
 - ii) Utility Relocations, particularly on property lines
 - iii) Fuel Usage & Steel price adjustment will be used going forward
 - iv) Liquidated Damages rates, 2023 update to start in April letting
 - v) I-26 DB, outreach for DBE
 - vi) Roadside, Erosion Control Specifications
 - vii) DB Guidelines progressing, no timeline
 - viii) Progressive DB guidelines, need legislation
 - ix) DB list, NCDOT/NCTA, look for new projects
 - b) Project Delivery – Paul Garrett, PE (2/3/23 meeting)
 - i) Personal moves @ NCDOT
 - ii) OpenX tearing committee, transition to ORD & bi-weekly committee meetings
 - iii) CADD coordinator committee
 - iv) Work Force Development

- v) Conference
 - (1) 3/29-30/23 McKimmon Center
 - (2) 3/16-17/23 McKimmon Center
 - vi) PM training coming
 - vii) Central PM&U LSC coming
 - viii) Roadway Design Manual & Updates
 - ix) Professional Services, notes to keep CRS updated every 28 days
 - x) Western On-Call LSC, extended 1 year
 - xi) Project Wise has gone down
 - xii) Paul Garrett's 3-year term is ending/need new chairman
 - xiii) Scope Generator
 - xiv) Next meeting 5/4/23
- c) Construction & Materials – Christine Goins (1/25/23 meeting)
- i) Training is updated (adequate amounts of openings)
 - ii) Proposal requirements being met, PSMU minimal requirements, Selection Committee to determine if proposal is valid
 - iii) Workload projections (Annual & Regionalized)
 - iv) Truck Reimbursement, Bi-Annual, asked for an off-schedule evaluation
 - v) CCU asked for firm contacts
 - vi) New Tech reevaluations with new contracts for non-promotion positions
 - vii) On-Call LSC, remain authority capacity
 - viii) RE Training, still on-going
 - ix) Next meeting 4/19/23 with NCDOT
- d) Structures – Nicole Brown (11 & 2/23 meetings)
- i) August 2022, Steel Girder
 - ii) October 2022, Steel Forum (looking for future topics)
 - iii) 3/1/23, NCDOT Standards & Multi Rotation Bearings
 - iv) PEF, 45 programs at PMU
 - (1) New prescreen 70+ projects
 - (2) Started 2024 starts
 - (3) \$150M (\$100m on system & \$50M off system)
 - (4) Structural Deficiencies
 - (a) Secondary Roads, less structure deficiencies, improvements
 - (b) Primary/Interstate, gained structure deficiencies
 - (5) Structural LSC July let
 - (6) Link Slab Core Replacement, next May
- e) The Joint Conference – Greg Purvis
 - i) ACEC/NCDOT Joint Conference November 16th & 17th, 2023
- f) Young ACEC Board – Jay Watson
 - i) Junior Board PAC meeting, Olde Mecklenburg Brewery

ii) Raleigh Social, 5/24/23

5) Open Discussion (Greg Purvis)

- a) Jim Smith, NCDOT meeting on Work Force Development.
 - i) It is not recruitment and retention. It is to get more bodies into the pipeline.
 - ii) We are going to work with the NCDOT.
 - iii) Updates to come.
- b) Jim Smith, SPSF legislation & Office of Civil Rights (MBE & DBE goal utilization)
 - i) Could be coming. Just not that many firms to meet that legislation. Trying to keep future discussion in the reasonable range.
- c) Greg Purvis asked if the Hotel Reimbursement Legislation would be coming back up this session. Jim Smith noted that it is possible. He would investigate it.

6) **Next Meeting: May 15, 2023, McKimmon Center & Teams option**

Future Meetings: **NC Rural Center** in person and virtual component, 3-5 pm

August 21, 2023

November 13, 2023

February 19, 2024

May 20, 2024