

**Seminole County Expressway Authority Meeting
Seminole County Services Building
Room 1028, 1101 East First Street
Sanford, Florida
November 18, 2003
4:00 P.M.
Minutes**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Randall C. Morris, Presiding
Commissioner Gary L. Brender, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Daryl McLain
Commissioner Carlton Henley
Commissioner Grant Maloy
Commissioner Dick Van Der Weide
Commissioner Art Woodruff

STAFF PRESENT:

Gary Johnson, Executive Director
Kevin Grace, County Manager
Rob Frank, Deputy County Manager
Steve Lee, SCEA Counsel
Jerry McCollum, County Engineer
Pam Hastings, Administrative Manager
Amanda Mays, Budget Manager
Sheralyn Brinson, Recording Secretary
Linda Newman, Principal Analyst

OTHERS PRESENT:

Steve Pustelnyk, Transportation Planning Liaison
Orlando Orange County Expressway Authority

ITEM #1: CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Morris called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. He noted for the record that this is the regular meeting of the Seminole County Expressway Authority. He noted that Commissioner McLain would not be present but that all other members were present.

ITEM #2: INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Henley gave the invocation and Commissioner Maloy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 18, 2003 Meeting (Enclosure)

Motion by Commissioner Van Der Weide to approve the Minutes of the November 18, 2003, SCEA Meeting; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brender; no discussion; motion approved unanimously.

ITEM #4: INFORMATIONAL BRIEFINGS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a) GreeneWay-Related Signage/Directions – Verbal Report from November 4, 2003, Review.

The Chairman noted that this report was requested by the Board and has now been followed up on and will be reported today by Gary Johnson, Executive Director.

Gary Johnson stated: As requested we did follow up with the Secretary of the Turnpike Enterprise on this issue and had the opportunity to do a site visit with his newly-appointed Deputy Director of Operations. We reviewed the need for signage identifying Heathrow in the Rinehart Road Exit areas, as well as the need to update the signage for Ronald Reagan Boulevard now that it is complete. He had a number of alternatives that he thought would work for that and is going to get back to us. It looks like we should be able to accomplish all of those objectives in one form or another; we don't have the specific proposal yet but we will continue to monitor that with him and expect those things to be done.

Chairman Morris stated: The confusion there Commissioners if you will recall was the 427 Exit is also the Lake Mary Boulevard Exit. It's a double exit and is very confusing and the titling was incorrect. It has been re-signed in all the jurisdictions to Ronald Reagan Boulevard except on the Expressway. I had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Ely who is favorably disposed and took action on this very quickly. We had received a letter earlier in the year which basically said, "thanks but no thanks" from their earlier review; but now I understand there is new personnel involved and the matter should be resolved. We thank the Turnpike Authority for their cooperation and look forward to a prompt solution.

Gary stated that staff would report back on this and hopefully we'll see the signs up before our next meeting.

ITEM #5: REORGANIZATION OF THE AUTHORITY FOR 2003-2004/ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- a) Gavel Passed to Executive Director
- b) Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman
- c) Gavel Passed to Elected Chair
- d) Election of Secretary/Treasurer (Amanda Mays, Seminole County Budget Manager, is the current incumbent and has indicated her willingness to continue serving in this office.)

Chairman Morris opened the floor for the annual reorganization/election of officers for the Authority. He passed the gavel to the Executive Director.

Gary Johnson opened the floor for nominations for the office of Chairman of the Authority.

Commissioner Henley nominated Commissioner McLain for Chairman.

Commissioner Van der Weide stated: We don't need a second but I'll second that.

Chairman Morris stated: I might mention that the one issue on this is that the Authority's Chairman is also an appointee to the Wekiva Task Force. Commissioner McLain, as Chairman of the County Commission, is already the one appointment we have; the Chairman McLain is on the Task Force as BCC Chairman and he was re-elected today as BCC Chairman so he would continue to serve on the Wekiva Task Force which is dealing with the beltway issue. I'm the other appointee to the Wekiva Task Force because the Chairman of this Authority is on the Task Force.

Commissioner Henley stated: I'll withdraw my nomination and let you continue on that Committee.

Chairman Morris asked if there are any restrictions on this Board as to who can serve as Chairman? Mr. Johnson said there are none that he is aware of.

Commissioner Henley stated: Since both of you are there, that's an important committee; you've been there, so I think it would be well to let both of you continue.

Chairman Morris stated: What we could do if you would like I could continue to serve until the Task Force finishes its duties and then in May we could put in a new Chairman.

Commissioner Van Der Weide reiterated that the officers are elected for a year.

Gary Johnson asked if there were other nominations; there were none.

Commissioner Vanderweide moved to close the nominations; seconded by Commissioner Henley; the Motion carried unanimously.

The gavel was passed to Chairman-elect Morris who opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairman, to serve the full year.

Commissioner Van Der Weide nominated Commissioner Maloy.

Chairman Morris stated: Hearing no other nominations, Commissioner Maloy is Vice Chairman by acclamation.

Chairman Morris noted that, technically he took that slightly out of order because the Chairman was in place.

Chairman Morris: We will now have election of Secretary Treasurer; Amanda Mays, Seminole County Budget Manager, is the incumbent and has indicated her willingness to continue to serve.

Commissioner Van Der Weide nominated Amanda Mays for Secretary Treasurer.

Chairman Morris stated: Hearing no other nominations, by acclamation, Amanda will continue in the role of Secretary Treasurer. Congratulations in that role. We thank you for keeping our books and records in order.

ITEM #6: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a) Update on Western Beltway – Verbal Report by Executive Director on the Wekiva River Basin Coordinating Committee

Chairman Morris stated that the update on the Western Beltway, which deals with the Wekiva River Basin Coordinating Committee would be given by Gary Johnson.

Gary Johnson stated: The Committee has met 3 or 4 times. The primary focus of their discussion to date has been on land use and water supply issues in the Lake County area. One of their first critical decisions was establishing a boundary for their study area because there was a specific deadline within the Executive Order which compelled them to do so, which was done at their first meeting. Most recently they have come to agreement on some recommendations to the St. Johns River Water Management District regarding application of stormwater regulations within that study area, which would be more stringent or more like the current regulations in the Wekiva River Protection Area,

and would expand that area slightly from what it is currently. They also are looking at the issue of land acquisition in that study area and which of the State agencies would be most appropriate to proceed as the lead agency on those land acquisitions -- primarily conservation types of acquisitions. Two significant dates in the coming year: the DOT will be reporting back to the Committee in January on that land acquisition question based on their discussions with the other departments; and we should have a better sense by the first part of the year as to which of the State agencies will take the lead in the land acquisition process. The more significant activity during 2004 as it relates to this Authority is the report required of DOT by November of 2004 which requires DOT to convene the expressway authorities in Seminole and Orange County, along with DOT, and take a look at questions like who would operate and maintain a western beltway or a Wekiva Parkway, and also look at funding. The question of funding did come up in these meetings. No one has a real substantive answer to that question as of yet; that will take some time and work with the DOT. We plan, on behalf of Seminole County and this Authority, to be working with the DOT and the OOCEA during the next year in compiling that report. We'll have an update for you on that in May. Our next meeting is coming up in December. We will have at that meeting some reports back from DCA and DOT with some recommendations as to the land use and water supply regulations. There will also be a presentation at that meeting by the impacted land owners and their representatives, primarily the Lake County folks that would be most impacted by these regulations and the beltway/parkway coming through that area.

Chairman Morris stated: I might also add that the presentations of all the various jurisdictions affected in Lake, Orange and Seminole Counties, with the exception of Sanford and Lake Mary, all made presentations to the Board and by far the most restrictive St. Johns Water Management practices are under Seminole County; and in terms of overlay protections by law and the basin of major road corridors, we are the only one that has protection. So it's kind of interesting. It was eye opening to Lake County and a number of other representatives. No one is proposing that they have to live under what we have to live under. As you know, we have been kind of the "whipping boys" in Seminole County, Sanford and Lake Mary, for the development patterns we've had in the Wekiva area. Lake County asked to extend the study area to incorporate all of the County of Seminole because of the drawdown of water. We explained to them that their water usage rate I believe is 2 times higher per citizen than ours. The facts of this story are amazing at how favorable they are for the good practices that jurisdictions affected have been doing in Seminole County.

I think they tuned out a little bit when they had to hear it but it definitely stopped the chatter about Seminole County's urban density areas and Heathrow and Lake Mary and what's going on near the Sanford Mall; I think we are no longer the target.

What is going to come out of this will be additional SJRWMD regulations and potentially some instructions to DOT and potentially another round of legislation. As you recall, last year legislation proposed by Senator Constantine did not succeed; this time it looks like something will be more amenable with the full backing of DCA. DCA is a major partner in this drive to set up some regulations. Hopefully there will be consensus.

There was a huge controversial vote on what would be studied and there was a split vote; this last one was 26-2; people are beginning to get the picture.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a) FY02/03 Annual Audit

Gary Johnson stated: We have completed the Annual Audit and it has cost a little less this year than last year. The cost for this year's audit was about \$5,400. Our total expenditures for FY02/03 were about \$8,000, leaving a balance of about \$49,000 on hand in the BCC budget to support this Authority. If expenditures remain at the current rate, funds should be sufficient to last us at least through 2008.

b) SCEA Web Page – Development Status

Gary Johnson stated: Just an informational item, the Information Technology staff has been working with us to develop a fairly simple web page for this Authority that would contain links for interested parties to get to the Turnpike Enterprise or the other expressway authority, or the DCA to access the Wekiva Coordinating Committee. We have the beginnings of that site. We'll send you copies of those screens; it's under development at no cost to the Authority.

In response to inquiry from Commissioner Van der Weide, Mr. Johnson stated there would be a link from the County's website to the SCEA site.

Chairman Morris asked that staff provide to the Board the Wekiva Study Group web site address, just in case they want to see what's going on there. He stated they had asked the Task Force at one of the meetings to make that available to our Authority; he's not sure what happened to that request.

c) Municipal Representatives' Terms

Pam Hastings stated: As a matter of notification, we will notify the Council of Local Governments (CALNO) prior to the May meeting that Commissioner Brender's term on the Expressway Authority expires at the end of May 2004, and will then be up for renewal. We'll be sending that notice prior to your meeting in May, in order to allow the Council of Local Governments opportunity to solicit input from the municipalities to either reappoint or rename Commissioner Brender as a municipal representative, or to identify an alternative name prior to the term expiration. This is to preserve the municipalities' right to name a representative. I wanted to explain that to the Commission since that timing might represent otherwise a little confusion as far as the correspondence and the meeting date. As a matter of note, Commissioner Brender did share with me a littler earlier this afternoon that his City Commission seat also comes up in the fall of 2004, and at this point in time we are anticipating that he will identify to CALNO that he anticipates running for re-election to that seat.

Chairman Morris noted that Commissioner Woodruff's term runs through 2005? He asked if there were any issues and none were stated.

Chairman Morris asked if representation on the Authority is limited to the cities that the beltway goes through, or does it include all seven cities? Pam Hastings replied, it includes all seven cities.

Commissioner Brender stated: Representation is recommended by CALNO. Generally in the past we have selected Commissioners from cities directly involved or impacted by either construction or planned future construction or expansion of the beltway; thus Commissioner Woodruff and I, or Sanford and Lake Mary, have generally been on the Board for the last three (3) years. Prior to that, Oviedo, Winter Springs, etc., when the Missing Link was being constructed through those areas.

Chairman Morris called for discussion; there was none. Pam Hastings stated that the Authority would be notified in advance of the May meeting.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Morris stated: There is no old business pending before this Board.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Morris stated that there is no new business pending before this Board to his knowledge. He asked if there was anyone in the public wishing to bring any item before the Authority at this time? No one came forward.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

a) SCEA Member Reports

Commissioner Morris stated: The BCC at today's meeting discussed the legislative priorities. Commissioner Brender had forwarded an item to us and has been diligently lobbying for this item, which is the ramp from the current terminus of the beltway and I-4 running into International Parkway at Colonial Properties. We supported that item as a funding priority, of which Commissioner Van Der Weide made a particular point about funding priorities and going for them this year because of the leadership change in the following year; so this would be a good year to really push on that critical issue and bring our business community together on this too.

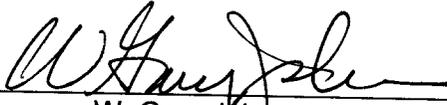
Commissioner Brender stated: There are some fairly sensitive land acquisitions that are being looked at which may impact this particular site so we'll leave it at that for now.

END OF REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

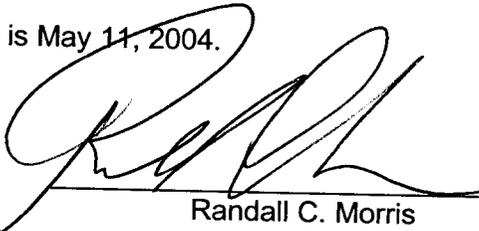
11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business at this time, Chairman Morris adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting date is May 11, 2004.



W. Gary Johnson
Executive Director



Randall C. Morris
Chairman

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