

PENNSYLVANIA STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  
AUGUST 14, 2014  
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**CALL TO ORDER:**

Secretary of Transportation Barry Schoch convened a quarterly business meeting of the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission (STC) at 10:37 a.m. on Thursday, August 14, 2014 in Gettysburg, PA.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Commissioners Present:**

Honorable Barry J. Schoch, P.E., Chairman,  
Honorable Robert B. Pease, P.E., Secretary  
Honorable Frederic M. Wentz, via conference call  
Honorable Edward J. Cernic, Sr.  
Honorable Ronald J. Drnevich  
Honorable Charles C. Martin, via conference call  
Honorable Nicholas A. Micozzie, alternate present  
Honorable Sharon L. Knoll, via conference call  
Honorable Michael P. McGeehan, alternate present  
Honorable Frank E. Paczewski  
Honorable John Rafferty, alternate present  
Honorable John N. Wozniak

**MINUTES:**

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Drnevich, seconded by Commissioner Pease, and unanimously approved, the minutes of the May 15, 2014, STC quarterly business meeting were accepted as presented.

**SECRETARY'S OPENING REMARKS:**

Secretary Schoch thanked the four chairs of the House and Senate Transportation Committees for their work in obtaining the passage of Act 89, which will increase funding for PennDOT to \$2.4 billion a year when fully implemented. The increased funding means the 2015-2019 STIP will be the most robust in many years. The Secretary also thanked the State Transportation Commission members, citing the modernized outreach effort over the previous three years. He also expressed his gratitude to Rabbittransit for supplying the bus for the morning tour of the Gettysburg Battlefield as well as the PennDOT staff from Central Office and District 8-0 for coordinating the day's events.

The Secretary discussed the \$10.8 billion stopgap highway funding package signed by the President on August 8, 2014. The Bill extends the federal transportation authorization through May 31, 2015 and provides revenue for the Highway Trust Fund for the same amount of time.

Secretary Schoch discussed HB 2244 and SB 1384, the Bridge Bill #13 and Highway Capital Budget respectively. These two bills provide authorization for bridge and highway projects across the Commonwealth. The total for the Bridge Bill is \$6.5 billion and the total for the Highway Bill is \$19.1 billion. This authorization names the projects used for state funding.

The Transportation Performance Report was discussed and the second edition is scheduled to be released in Early 2015. Investment strategies and rate recommendations are the last two items of the STC Action Plan developed in 2012, that need to be addressed.

Lastly, the Modernization of Advisory Committees Initiative continues, with most advisory committees conducting individual workshops to discuss strengths and weaknesses, and the communications and relationships between them. The initiative is anticipated to be finalized with goals and recommendations for an overall structure and operations strategy by mid-September.

The Secretary reminded commission members to periodically visit the STC website for important updates and added information ([www.talkpatransportation.com](http://www.talkpatransportation.com)).

#### **TWELVE YEAR TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM:**

##### **2013 Highway and Bridge Program Adjustments/Major Project Adjustments Presented by Deputy Secretary for Planning James Ritzman**

Deputy Secretary James Ritzman presented the program changes for the 2013 Twelve Year Program, stating that between April 26, 2014 and July 25, 2015 there were 1,065 program adjustments comprised of 273 Project/Phase additions, 693 Project/Phase changes, 31 Project/Phase deletions, and 68 adjustments to funding line items. These adjustments reflect an addition of \$522 million in funds to the 2013 Program which includes \$111 million associated with the interstate program.

Deputy Secretary Ritzman highlighted the interstate program. A resurfacing project on I-83 and a \$28 million preventive maintenance project on I-80 in Clarion County were highlighted as projects that were made possible with additional revenues realized by the passage of.. Mr. Ritzman also explained that a cost increase for a project on I-376 at the Fort Pitt tunnel benefited from Act 89 as well. Consequently, a decrease in funds to an I-95 project in Philadelphia was due to project complexity.

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Paczewski, seconded by Commissioner Pease, and unanimously approved, the 2013 Highway and Bridge TYP Adjustments/Major Project Adjustments were accepted as presented.

## **2015 Twelve Year Transportation Plan Development Presented by District Executives, PennDOT Deputy Secretaries**

Secretary Schoch opened up the discussion of the 2015 Twelve Year Program development by stating it was successful due to the impact of Act 89 and also because the State Transportation Commission was willing to try a new approach to public involvement and outreach.

Deputy Secretary Ritzman gave an overview of the 2015-2026 Twelve Year Program development process, noting that the first four years of the TYP makes up the statewide transportation improvement program (STIP) and noting the impact Act 89 will have on the overall program. The 2015 Twelve Year Program is an investment plan of \$63.2 billion, a significant increase from the 2013 TYP's \$41.6 billion investment plan.

2,238 people from the general public completed surveys, a vast increase from the 2013 TYP Public Involvement process, and 100 people attended the public webcast. Over 7,000 transportation needs were identified statewide, including 1,100 safety-related concerns 2,693 congestion and roadway needs, and 543 bridge issues.

The 2015 TYP has increased investment levels based on customer priorities such as safety improvements, mobility and congestion, and bridge preservation and upgrades. New innovation tools such as TIP Visualization and MPMS-IQ allow customers to find projects programmed on the Twelve Year Program.

Deputy Secretary Scott Christie delivered the Highway and Bridge highlights of the program. Act 89 has enabled the Department to deliver more of its program. Through July of 2014, projects totaling \$1.796 billion were let. Increased investment in safety will enable the Department to continue its improvement in reducing fatalities, and increased investment in bridge preservation and reconstruction will lower the number of state owned structurally deficient bridges. The goal for calendar year 2014 is the reconstruction of 350 structurally deficient bridges at a cost of \$650 million. In addition, the public-private partnership (P3) Bridge initiative will replace 558 bridges in bundles to maximize savings and efficiency.

Deputy Secretary Christie noted that pavement conditions became worse due to the switch from roadway maintenance to bridge work, however the increased investment has enabled an aggressive pavement reconstruction program.

Steve Panko delivered the Multimodal Transportation highlights on behalf of Deputy Secretary Toby Fauver, highlighting transit, aviation, ports and rail freight and the new multimodal-funding program. Secretary Schoch stated that the Multimodal fund was one of the more significant sections of Act 89, despite the small size of the program.

Deputy Secretary Kurt Myers delivered a brief report on the Fee and Fine collections that will be or have been enacted due to the passage of Act 89.

Executive Deputy Secretary Brad Mallory delivered a brief report on PennDOT's Next Generation Highlights and cost savings throughout the Department.

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Cernic, seconded by Commissioner Paczewski, and unanimously approved, the 2015 Twelve Year Program was accepted as presented.

### **Rail Freight Program**

**Presented by Sarah Gulick, Director, Bureau of Rail Freight, Ports, and Waterways**

Bureau Director Sarah Gulick presented the Rail Freight Program which consists of two components: the Rail Transportation Assistance Program (RTAP) and the Rail Freight Assistance Program (RFAP). The RTAP program consists of thirteen projects for a cost of \$44.8 million. The RFAP program consists of 26 projects for a cost of \$13.8 million.

**ON A MOTION** by Mister Bugaile, seconded by Commissioner Cernic, and unanimously approved, the RFAP Program was accepted as presented.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### **District 8-0 Overview**

District Executive Michael Keiser delivered an overview of District 8, discussing challenges such as improving worker safety, addressing structurally deficient bridges, maintaining the interstates and expressways in the district and utilizing technology to maintain traffic flow, such as ITS and adaptive smart traffic signal systems. The P3 projects, enabled by Act 88 of 2012, will repair and/or rebuild 90 bridges in District 8-0. Act 89's impacts to District 8-0's counties are significant through FFY 2018.

Significant current projects in District 8-0 are:

- Capital Beltway Widening in Dauphin County
- US 30/Centerville Road Interchange Reconstruction in Lancaster County
- Interstate 81 Widening in Cumberland and Dauphin Counties
- I-83 Exit 18 Reconstruction and I-83 Exit 4 Diverging Diamond in York County
- US 15 Improvements in York County
- US 30/ PA 41 Improvements in Lancaster County

Significant upcoming projects are:

- Market Street Bridge rehabilitation in Dauphin County
- Columbia/Wrightsville Bridge rehabilitation in York and Lancaster County
- New I-81 interchange in Franklin County
- US 222 reconstruction from US 30 to PA 772 in Lancaster County
- Diverging Diamond at US 222 and US 322 in Lancaster County
- I-83 Widening access from Exit 24 to Exit 28 in York County

D.E. Keiser also highlighted projects in Adams County, stating that there are nine projects under construction in Adams County, and 24 projects currently designed to bid within the next four years, with an additional twelve projects in design with no bid date scheduled.

## **REPORTS:**

### **Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

TAC Chairman Lou Schultz delivered the TAC report. The Modernization Effort with PennDOT's advisory committees, including TAC, is underway. Highlights from the initiative include improved communication within the committees' structure and with the general public, and an enhanced process to identify and develop study topics.

### **Administrative/Budget**

Executive Deputy Secretary Brad Mallory delivered the Administration and Budget report, highlighting the ongoing replacement of several PennDOT facilities, and noted that the effort to replace facilities is burdened by outdated Commonwealth procurement practices. Pay equity issues with management staff are in the process of being rectified, with some 40% of management receiving pay increases.

### **Driver and Vehicle Services**

Deputy Secretary Kurt Myers delivered a brief report from the Driver and Vehicle Services Deputate. A new Driver's License Center in Philadelphia and new technologies to prevent document fraud were among the highlights of the report, along with the Appalachian Trail Special organization plate and the expanded availability of personalized license plates.

### **Highway and Bridge Program**

Deputy Secretary Scott Christie delivered a brief Highway Administration report, stating that the deputate was busily preparing for the winter season.

### **Multimodal Transportation**

Steve Panko delivered a brief report for the Multimodal Transportation deputate on behalf of Deputy Secretary Toby Fauver, discussing the Multimodal Funding program. The discretionary fund for 2014-2015 was \$20 million. There were 179 project applications received during the open request period for a total of \$259.8 million.

An additional \$40 million is available through the Commonwealth Finance Authority and administered through DCED, who received 165 project applications for a total of \$235.9 million. DCED and PennDOT are collaborating to evaluate the technical feasibility of the projects.

## **Planning**

Deputy Secretary James Ritzman delivered the Office of Planning report and discussed the Federal funding legislation. Congress passed an \$11 billion short-term Highway Trust Fund bill, which would fund the Highway Trust fund through May of 2015. The measure also provides for an extension of MAP-21 by reauthorizing the program through the end of May 2015. Federal funding has a \$10 billion to \$15 billion annual deficit, and \$100 billion in additional revenue is required at the Federal level for a six-year surface transportation reauthorization bill.

## **Public-Private Transportation Partnership (P3) Board**

Policy Director Bryan Kendro delivered the Public Private Transportation Partnership Board report for the State Transportation Commission. The wireless telecom partnership RFQ gained seven responses from partners. This list would be evaluated by the P3 Board and a firm would be selected in 2015.

Traveler's Marketing has been selected as the marketing consultant to assist PennDOT and the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission in developing a sponsorship and advertising program that will help generate revenue.

Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) infrastructure for Transit will be bought before the P3 Board at its September 29, 2014 meeting, with an RFQ advertised shortly afterwards.

The Rapid Bridge Replacement RFP has been approved by FHWA. The selected firm will be announced in October of 2014. The project will replace 560 structurally deficient bridges across the Commonwealth as part of one design. Construction will begin in 2015.

## **Commissioner Reports**

No reports were offered during the Commissioner open comment period.

## **Open Public Comment**

No comments were offered during the open public comment period.

## **NEXT MEETING:**

The next STC quarterly business meeting is scheduled on Thursday, December 11, 2014, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Cernic and seconded by Commissioner Pease, the STC quarterly business meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY MINUTES  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2014  
WWW.TALKPATRANSPORTATION.COM

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Secretary of Transportation Barry Schoch convened a conference call of the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission (STC) at 1:04 p.m. on Monday, September 8, 2014 in Harrisburg, PA.

PennDOT Counsel determined there was a violation of the Sunshine Act for the August 14, 2014 STC business meeting. The Corrective Action Plan is to ratify the action in the September 8, 2014 Conference Call, which has been properly noticed, and then to vote on the ratifications.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Commissioners Present:**

Honorable Barry J. Schoch, P.E., Chairman,

**Commissioners Present via conference call:**

Honorable Robert B. Pease, P.E., Secretary  
Honorable Frederic M. Wentz,  
Honorable Edward J. Cernic, Sr.  
Honorable Ronald J. Drnevich  
Honorable Nicholas A. Micozzie, alternate present  
Honorable George M. Khoury, III, P.E.  
Honorable James D. Kingsborough  
Honorable Sharon L. Knoll  
Honorable Michael P. McGeehan, alternate present  
Honorable Frank E. Paczewski  
Honorable John C. Rafferty, alternate present  
Honorable John N. Wozniak

**Corrective Action Plan**

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Paczewski, seconded by Commissioner Cernic and unanimously approved, the Corrective Action Plan was approved.

**2013 Program Changes**

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Paczewski, seconded by Commissioner Cernic, and unanimously approved, the 2013 Major Project Changes were accepted as presented.

**2015 Twelve Year Transportation Plan**

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Wentz, seconded by Commissioner Pease, and unanimously approved, the 2015 Twelve Year Program was accepted as presented.

**RFAP/TAP Program**

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Wentz, seconded by Commissioner Pease, and unanimously approved, the RFAP and TAP Programs were accepted as presented.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next STC quarterly business meeting is scheduled on Thursday, December 11, 2014, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**ON A MOTION** by Commissioner Cernic and seconded by Commissioner Pease, the STC quarterly business meeting was adjourned at 1:09 p.m.