Central Florida Commuter Rail Commission Governing Board

## **MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: Friday, June 25, 2010

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Metroplan Orlando Board Room One Landmark Center 315 East Robinson Street, Suite 355 Orlando, Florida 32801

- Call to Order Chairman Dyer
  - a. Vice Chairman Crotty said that Mayor Dyer would be calling in to attend the meeting, as he could not attend in person. Vice Chairman Crotty called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Confirmation of Quorum
  - a. Vice Chairman Crotty confirmed that a quorum was present. Members in attendance were:
    - 1) Vice Chairman Richard Crotty
    - 2) Secretary Carlton Henley
    - 3) Commissioner Brandon Arrington
    - 4) Commissioner Frank Bruno
    - 5) Chairman Buddy Dyer attended the meeting via teleconference
- Chairman's Report Chairman Dyer
  - a. Chairman Dyer apologized for not attending in person and explained that he was at the Florida Bar convention, where the Orlando City Attorney was sworn in as the 62<sup>nd</sup> President of the Florida Bar Association.
  - b. Chairman Dyer also said that he recently attended the U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting in Oklahoma City and had the opportunity to participate in a four-city high speed rail study and the economic impact that high speed rail will have on our communities over the next 20 years. The other participating communities were Los Angeles, Chicago, Albany and the city of Orlando. In conjunction with that, Mayor Dyer was asked to give a presentation to the conference on Orlando's rail study – both the development of commuter rail and our success at getting high speed rail. He was able to share the story of how we worked together in partnership and cooperation on both of those projects, and it was extremely well received. Chairman Dyer once again thanked all of the local governments

who participated in this and said it's something that we could not have done had we not done it all together. Chairman Dyer congratulated the Florida Department of Transportation for completing Public Hearings on the Second Supplemental Environmental Assessment. He said that now the Department is waiting for the Surface Transportation Board to provide their decision, which he was quite confident will be a positive decision later this month or early next month.

• Agenda Review – FDOT District 5 Secretary Noranne Downs provided the agenda review.

## ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Adoption of February 26, 2010 meeting minutes Chairman Dyer
  - a. The meeting minutes were unanimously adopted on a motion by Commissioner Henley.
- 2. Ratification of Interlocal Agreement Amendments
  - a. A motion to ratify amendments to the Interlocal Agreements was made by Commissioner Bruno; seconded by Secretary Henley and was unanimously approved.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 1. Project update Ms. Downs/Ms. Olore
  - a. Federal Transit Administration
    - i. Ms. Olore said that the Department did complete the Second Supplemental Environmental Assessment. Public Hearings were held on May 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. The changes for the Second Supplemental Environmental Assessment included changes to Phase II stations at DeLand, Meadow Woods, Osceola Parkway, Kissimmee and Poinciana, as well as Phase I stations for additional parking at Altamonte Springs and Sand Lake Road. The Florida Department of Transportation also had to document a change in vehicle types from Diesel Multiple Units or DMUs to push-pull technology. The comment period has ended, and the Department sent the draft Finding of No Significant Impact to the Federal Transit Administration and is waiting for their concurrence. We also have been putting together the multitude of attachments and information required for a Full Funding Grant Agreement, and look to submit that in the summer time frame, to get ready for construction in early 2011 and operations in 2013.
    - ii. Ms. Olore said that the Department is moving forward with Phase II activities, as well, with a required ridership analysis. The Department also has initiated some survey work, to determine where the right-of-way will be double-tracked, where utilities are within the corridor, and where boundary surveys are for Phase II

stations. Once those long-lead items are finalized, the Department expects to start Preliminary Engineering for Phase II, later in 2011.

- b. Procurement Activities
  - i. Mr. Hammerle said that the Department has been very active with procurements in order to get SunRail operational by 2013.
  - ii. Design Build Maintenance Construction contract: The Department hopes to finish up some contract change negotiations with Archer Western in early July and execute that contract and start the design phase, pending approval of the Second Supplemental Environmental Assessment by the Federal Transit Administration.
  - iii. Locomotives, coaches and cab cars are in final negotiation, also pending approval by the Federal Transit Administration.
  - iv. The Public Involvement/Marketing contract should be advertised later this summer, to bring the winning bidder on board during the transition and construction period.
  - v. Ticket vending machines should be advertised hopefully next month.
  - vi. The Design Bid Build contract for station finishes should be advertised later this year.
- c. Updated Schedule
  - i. Mr. Hammerle said that the Department is looking for a green light on the Finding of No Significant Impact for the Second Supplemental Environmental Assessment to move forward with the schedule and procurements.
- d. CSX Transportation
  - i. Mr. Hammerle said the Department continues to coordinate with CSXT. The Department is completing documents on the contract of sale to close in escrow, which should occur most likely in August. The Department is reviewing about 1,000 to 1,300 exhibits associated with the sale, including existing lease agreements, utility agreements and so forth. The Department also has applied to the Surface Transportation Board for approval to purchase the corridor.
- e. Amtrak
  - i. Mr. Hammerle said that the Department is continuing to work with Amtrak to try and get an agreement to move forward with operations in the corridor. Those discussions are being held with our Tallahassee office.
- f. Federal Railroad Administration
  - i. Mr. Hammerle introduced Joe Antonucci, who was appointed the new SunRail Chief Operating Office. Mr. Hammerle said that former COO Pete Turrell is still working with the project, but is moving toward retirement. Therefore, Mr. Antonucci will be transitioning into his new role as COO. Mr. Antonucci brings to the project a wealth of experience, most recently with Cal Trans and the Long Island Railroad. He has been working closely with

Mr. Turrell on various documents, including the Collision Hazard Analysis on station designs. Mr. Antonucci is also coordinating with First Responders (fire, police, etc.) up and down the corridor and recently convened an introductory meeting to give folks a briefing about the project. Mr. Antonucci will also conduct followup meetings with First Responders with regard to safety and security specifics.

- g. Right-of-way acquisition
  - i. Ms. Olore said the Department has acquired all property needed for the DeBary, Lake Mary and Altamonte Springs station. The Department is close to finishing up right-of-way acquisition in Sanford. All of the right-of-way required for Phase I operations is expected to be complete in November.
  - ii. Commissioner Henley asked how many parcels were missing in Longwood. Ms. Olore said that orders of taking have been scheduled for two parcels later this summer in Longwood; and that negotiations are still underway with property owned by the City of Longwood. Those are the three parcels yet to be finalized. In Sanford, just one parcel is left and documentation is being finalized. Only one parcel is left to acquire for Sand Lake Road, so the Department is getting close to finalizing right-of-way for Phase I stations. The Department also is finalizing the purchase of a CSXT-owned parcel at the Kissimmee station so that LYNX can build a super stop station on the site.
- h. Station design and location activities
  - i. For the Phase I station drawings, the Department is reviewing the 100 percent plans for construction. For Phase II stations, the Department is picking up those activities with boundary surveys, and working with Tupperware on the Osceola Parkway station site plans. The Department has moved significantly forward with Phase II, and you'll continue to see more progress on that.
- i. Coordination with Votran and LYNX
  - i. Ms. Olore said that the Department continues to meet with LYNX and Votran every other month. The Department met yesterday to talk about the super stop station in Kissimmee. During the Technical Advisory Committee meeting, members asked for a briefing on bus connectivity, which the Department and its consultants provided. The Department continues to work closely with LYNX and Votran.
  - Ms. Olore said that the Florida Department of Transportation District 5 is also working on submitting grant applications for two Alternatives Analyses – one for the Orlando International Airport Connector from the Convention Center, to the airport to Medical City; and the Orange Blossom Express, which goes into Lake County on the Florida Central line. A scope of work has been prepared for both, and preparation for submitting grant

applications to the federal government is underway. Both projects would have a direct connection to SunRail.

- 2. Technical Advisory Committee TAC Chairman Roger Neiswender
  - a. Mr. Neiswender said that minutes of Technical Advisory Committee meetings were included on board packets for March, April, and May. The June minutes have not yet been approved. Obviously most of our activity is working through the details of many of the things that Ms. Olore reported on. Our main effort was to assist on the restart of technical activities, following legislative approval of the project in December. So we brought the various members and their jurisdictions up to speed with those activities.
  - b. Mr. Neiswender said that TAC members did raise questions about bus connectivity to the stations, as it is critical to the ultimate success of SunRail operations. John Mason was brought in as a consultant by the Department, and he was very helpful and very thorough in explaining to all members the bus connectivity options. Subsequent meetings were held for jurisdictions that requested one-on-one meetings, as well. We feel confident we made a good link there and will follow up, as we continue to view that as a critical item.
  - c. The TAC also will be reviewing updated costs for operations and maintenance as they are developed, and the updated ridership model. We need to be sure of those details. The TAC also continues to track high speed rail, as we think that's a great opportunity to enhance both systems, so that connectivity is foremost on the agenda. And finally, we have Phase II going north to DeLand, south through Orange County and all of Osceola County. So we are committed to move seamlessly and quickly. As soon as we pass through the technical details here, we will continue to work with the technical studies necessary to move those to conclusion.

# **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

- 3. Board member comments
  - a. Commissioner Bruno asked about the Votran and LYNX Express Bus Route 200. He said that the Volusia County Council did approve putting money into that route to continue operations. He said it was necessary to continue operating the express bus service until Commuter Rail operations begin in 2013.
  - b. Commissioner Bruno also thanked everyone for working so hard to move SunRail forward. He said he is appreciative that DeLand is considered a part of Phase II, which was reiterated several times during the meeting. He said he was happy that local governments recently voted to support changes to the Interlocal Agreements.
  - c. Commissioner Bruno asked Jim Cameron, director of government relations at the Daytona Beach Chamber of Commerce, to stand and be recognized for helping him in Volusia County navigate the process. He

said the agreements were approved by a 4-3 votes, and he was happy he didn't have to leave Central Florida or Volusia County.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

- 1. Public comments
  - a. Joanne Counellis of Lake Mary said that Central Florida needed bus service, including holiday and weekends, in addition to SunRail service, so that her feet don't have to hurt from walking so much. Additionally, she requested bus service from Longwood to Lake Mary so that she could go to school. She reiterated her request for 24-hour bus service on holidays and weekends, and said that Link 45 should be the first priority along with Link 103.
  - b. Tom Shutts, 2010 Brandywine Drive, Winter Park, said he had five questions. He said he understood that Colorado Railcar, which manufactured DMUs, went out of business but that their assets were purchased by another rail company in Ohio. Did the Department look at the reconstituted Colorado Railcar company, or was it disregarded?
  - c. Vice Chairman Crotty asked Ms. Olore to respond. Ms. Olore said that when Colorado Railcar went out of business, the company's assets had not been purchased by the Ohio company at that time. There was a lag. So at that time, the Department had to make a decision to move forward with the project, so a second procurement was advertised for push-pull technology (the only technology available at the time) due to time constraints. She said that push-pull technology was a proven technology, and the Department had to make a decision to move forward. She said the Ohio company, while they have purchased the assets of Colorado Railcar, have not yet set up a manufacturing facility, so for Phase I of the project, the timing was off and the Department could not make it work.
  - d. Mr. Shutts asked about the status of the agreement between the Department and CSXT. Mr. Hammerle said that status is similar to what he mentioned earlier in the meeting. The Department is finalizing details of the closing exhibits for the Contract of Sale; the contract of sale has been completed, the transition agreement and the operating and management agreements are in place. It's just the exhibits with the contract of sale that is still being finalized for the sale for the corridor to be placed in escrow while awaiting the Surface Transportation Board ruling and the Full Funding Grant Agreement.
  - e. Mr. Shutts asked whether there was an end date in mind? Mr. Hammerle said that he hoped the agreements will be completed by the end of the year.
  - f. Mr. Shutts asked whether there was any hold-up that the Legislature in Tallahassee needs to do to finalize this agreement? Mr. Hammerle said that the Legislature was not required to finalize the CSX agreement.
  - g. Mr. Shutts asked whether all the federal funding was in place, as he was vitally concerned about Winter Park? Ms. Olore said that the federal

funding for construction of the Winter Park station was in place. The Full Funding Grant Agreement is what the Department is currently working toward. The project is now into Final Design, which is the next to last step for getting a Full Funding Grant Agreement.

h. Mr. Shutts said that with all the money being spent on this entire project, is there not any voter approvals that are required for any phase or any part of the project? Vice Chairman Crotty said not to his knowledge. Ms. Olore said that two voter referendums were held in Winter Park for a station in Winter Park and where the station would be. Mr. Shutts said that Winter Park voters didn't approve spending all this money for operations and maintenance but did approve funding for the stations.

### NEXT MEETING

- 1. Review of meeting dates, times and location
  - a. The next meeting date will be scheduled by Chairman Dyer's office.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chairman Crotty adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.