

**MINUTES
MID-BAY BRIDGE AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017**

**NICEVILLE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
208 NORTH PARTIN DRIVE
NICEVILLE, FLORIDA**

I. OPENING

Mr. Neilson opened the regular meeting of the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority at approximately 9:00 a.m. with the Invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present were: James D. Neilson, Jr.
 Gordon E. Fornell
 Parker Destin
 Robert Griggs
 Bryant Paulk FDOT Ex officio, non-voting

Also present: Van Fuller Executive Director
 Dawn Stuntz Legal Counsel
 Cathy Demoreski Administrative Assistant

II. INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Mr. Neilson welcomed all visitors and members of the press. In attendance was Mike Griffith, The Bay Beacon.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting – October 19, 2017

A motion to approve the October 19, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Mr. Destin with a second by Mr. Fornell and a 4-0 vote was taken for approval.

IV. TREASURER’S REPORT

Mr. Destin presented the Treasurer’s Report for October 2017. Account balances were:

FNBT.com	\$ 175,870.00
Regions	\$37,845,374.24

Mr. Destin made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for October 2017 with a second by Mr. Fornell and a 4-0 vote was taken for approval.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority, Mr. Fuller offered congratulations to Mr. Fornell on his grandson’s recent graduation from Officer Training School and commissioning into the United States Air Force.

Mr. Fuller explained that the October 2017 Treasures Report reflects the semi-annual debt service payments which account for the large expense being reported.

- A. Traffic Operations.** Mr. Fuller reported the 53% and 28% variance in revenue for the month of September 2017 versus 2016 on the Bridge and Parkway, respectively, was due to the 16 day state-wide toll suspension as a result of Hurricane Irma from September 5 through September 21, 2017. The Authority's contribution to the evacuation and relocation of South Florida residents totaled \$1.2M (\$920K on the Bridge and \$265K on the Parkway). The Authority will still meet its bond coverage requirement despite the suspension. There is no existing avenue for reimbursement since lost revenue due to toll suspension is not reimbursable by FEMA. Inquiring Bondholders have been assured that all Indenture requirements for FY2017 will be met.
- B. 2018 Southern Strategy Group Retainer Agreement.** Mr. Fuller presented the Retainer Agreement with Southern Strategy Group for 2018 and recommended approval at a rate of \$2,500.00 per month for 12 months in order to monitor transportation legislative issues throughout the year. Discussion included the benefit of having lobbyist representation in Tallahassee year-round in order to be aware and informed regarding issues related to transportation that may affect the Authority while representing the interests of the Authority and the motoring public of Okaloosa County. The lobbyist keeps the Authority informed of transportation related activities being considered by both the Florida Senate and House as they relate to the work of the Authority. Mr. Dudley is available anytime to attend a meeting and provide an update.

A motion was made by Mr. Destin to approve the 2018 Retainer Agreement with Southern Strategy Group with a second by Mr. Fornell and a 3-1 vote was taken for approval.

- C. Memberships Review/Approval (TEAMFL, EDC, NVCC, DCC, CBA).** Mr. Fuller requested Board approval for the continuation of membership in the Transportation Expressway Authority Membership of Florida (TEAMFL), Okaloosa County Economic Development Council (EDC), Niceville Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce (NVCC) and its Military Affairs Committee (MAC), Destin Chamber of Commerce (DCC), and the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance (CBA) for a total of approximately \$5,000/year. Discussion included the importance of the continued funding of organizations on both sides of the Bay.

A motion was made by Mr. Destin with a second by Mr. Fornell to approve continuation of current memberships for FY2018 and a 4-0 was vote taken for approval.

Mr. Fuller further explained that an informational document will be drafted for membership of the Audit Committee which will include the Authority's Accountant, Executive Director and Secretary-Treasurer.

VI. LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

- A. Annual Policy Review/Ratification.** Ms. Stuntz reported that she has review the existing and current policies and procedures of the Authority. There were no statutory or required changes to the current policies and therefore recommended ratification.

A motion was made by Mr. Destin with a second by Mr. Fornell to ratify the Authority's Capitalization, Code of Ethics, Procurement, Public Participation and Revenue Recognitions Policies for FY2018 and a 4-0 vote was taken for approval.

B. Annual Ethics Training. Ms. Stuntz reminded the Board that she e-mailed the link for the annual ethics training requirement for FY2017 which must be completed by December 31, 2017. The Authority will reimburse its members for the fee upon receipt of the paid invoice and Certification of Completion Form which Ms. Stuntz also provided in the e-mail.

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Destin explained that although he doesn't like spending the Authority's money on a lobbyist he understands it is a necessary expense. He requested that Mr. Fuller and Mr. Dudley coordinate a game plan to address any future executive orders from Governor's office regarding weather related toll suspensions that do not directly affect the Northwest Florida toll facilities.

Mr. Fornell reported that nine proposals were approved by the County for submission to Triumph Gulf Coast BP Funds. He hopes the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority stays involved in the submission process for possible funding of a second span and tasked Mr. Fuller to attend future meetings so we don't miss our opportunity to be active participants in the process. Ms. Stuntz will check on the meeting schedule and advise.

Mr. Griggs wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

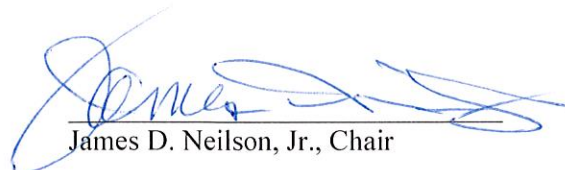
VIII. GENERAL DISCUSSION

The next regular meeting of the Authority will held a week earlier than normal due to the Christmas Holiday on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Destin City Hall Board Room, Destin, Florida

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:18 a.m.

Approved this 14th day of December 2017


James D. Neilson, Jr., Chair