

**MINUTES
MID-BAY BRIDGE AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019**

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

I. OPENING

Members present: Gordon E. Fornell
 James D. Neilson, Jr.
 Victoria S. Harker
 Parker Destin
 T. Patterson Maney
 Bryant Paulk FDOT Ex officio, non-voting

Also present: Van Fuller Executive Director
 Michelle Anchors Legal Counsel
 Cathy Demoreski Administrative Assistant

II. INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting – October 17, 2019

A motion to approve the October 17, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Mr. Neilson with a second by Mr. Destin and a 5-0 vote was taken for approval.

IV. TREASURER’S REPORT

Ms. Harker presented the Treasurer’s Report for October 2019. Account balances were:

FNBT	\$ 100,235.71
Regions	\$41,379,669.81

Ms. Harker made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for October 2019 with a second by Mr. Neilson and a 5-0 vote was taken for approval.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Fuller reminded the Board that in accordance with the Authority's Bond Indenture 1/12th of the funds required for the annual debt service payments, which are made on October 1 and April 1, are transferred by the Trustee monthly to each of the principal and interest accounts. Payments made on October 1 are for both principal and interest and payments made on April 1 are for interest only. Mr. Fuller also pointed out that the accounts held by the Trustee are restricted and can only be used for purposes as allowed in the Indenture. Additionally, as a requirement for tax free municipal bonds, Arbitrage Calculations must be made to ensure that the funds invested are not earning more than the interest of the Bonds. The Authority's accountant, Warren Averett performs this analysis every other year in accordance with general accounting standards.

A. Operations. Mr. Fuller reported that through July 2019, traffic was about as expected considering the closures and repairs in FY2019. Also, as reported last month revenues delayed as a result of the Florida Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) Centralized Customer Support System (CCSS) implementation in June 2018 are beginning to be collected at normal rate. Although revenue is a bit low it remains safely within projections. Mr. Fornell noted that during his frequent use of the System, traffic appears to be back to normal. The accountants have started their work on the annual compilation for FY2019 in advance of the annual audit which is expected to begin in early 2020.

Mr. Fuller explained that since the October 2019 meeting, under the watchful eye of Mr. Frank Caley, the Authority's Trustee with Regions Bank, additional funds in the amount of approximately \$3.5 million from one of the Series 2015 escrow accounts was identified. We were able to work with the trustee, our investment advisor, and our bond council to invest these funds in order to provide additional investment income for the Authority. These escrow accounts were used to defease and pay off all other Bonds held by the Authority prior to its 2015 refinancing. They are locked into US Treasury investments and do not appear on the Authority's books or financial statements.

Mr. Fuller also reported that, under the advice of Counsel and supported by the Board at the May 2019 meeting, the Authority entered a Class Action with State Attorneys General and Citibank, NA and received a portion of that distribution. A check in the amount of \$39,239.28 was received on November 12, 2019 and was sent to the Trustee for deposit into the Authority's Revenue Fund in accordance with the Bond Indenture. Ms. Anchors, the Authority's Legal Counsel pointed out that the cost to the Authority for this return was less than \$1,000 in order to complete the paperwork.

VI. LEGAL COUNSEL

None

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Maney asked if there had been any response from the Okaloosa County Tourist Development Council (TDC) regarding their participation in the Authority's advertising. Mr. Fuller reported that Mr. Ellis Bullock, with EW Bullock, the Authority's Public Relations consultant had reached out and received some positive feedback from a small group of advertisers. Mr. Fuller apologized for not having more information but will follow-up with Mr. Bullock again and report back to the Board. Mr. Neilson inquired as to the status of the Toll Reinstatement legislation to which Mr. Fuller explained the Authority's letter had been sent to the Governor and the issue is expected to be part of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) 2020 legislative package. Mr. Fornell asked Mr. Maney to provide an update from the October 17, 2019 Okaloosa Walton Transportation Planning Organization (OWTPO) held in DeFuniak Springs. Mr. Maney reported that the Chair was friendly, and he was introduced to the FDOT planning cycle for funding projects most of which is planned in Crestview. He explained that transportation is a big network and projects must work their way up. It is an interesting process to be involved and he assured the Board that he would become more active once he understands the process and reinforced the position that the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority should be part of the process. Mr. Paulk, with the FDOT, explained that every ten years, after the census, expansion of the OWTPO is considered and any adjustments made to voting membership. He suggested that would be the best opportunity for the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority to attain voting status. Mr. Neilson passed along his praise for the exceptional job by the FDOT on the Marler Bridge construction project.

On behalf of the Authority Mr. Fornell wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

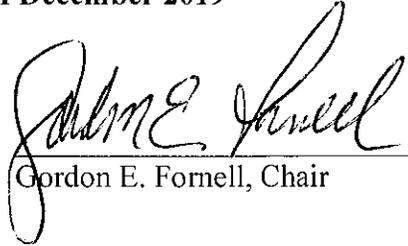
VIII. GENERAL DISCUSSION

The next regular meeting of the Authority will be held on **Thursday, December 12, 2019** at 9:00 a.m. in the Destin City Board Room, Destin, Florida.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:20 a.m.

Approved this 12th day of December 2019



Gordon E. Fornell, Chair