

**MINUTES
MID-BAY BRIDGE AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2020**

**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 (arrived after Approval of Minutes)
 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 were Nathan Boyles, Okaloosa County Commissioner Liaison and Mike Griffith, The Bay Beacon. Mr. Fornell offered Mr. Boyles the opportunity to comment which he declined indicating that he was happy to be here.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting – December 12, 2019

A motion to approve the December 12, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes, was made by Mr. Neilson with a second by Mr. Maney and a 4-0 vote was taken for approval.

IV. TREASURER’S REPORT

Ms. Harker presented the Treasurer’s Report for December 2019 account balances were:

FNBT	\$ 114,511.97
Regions	\$43,590,724.06

Ms. Harker made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for December 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, as can be seen on the Treasurers Report, the balance in the Revenue Fund is high because the 50% fiscal year-end distribution to the Authority’s General Fund, as allowed by the bond indenture, will not be made until the end of the first quarter. This is to ensure that there will be enough revenue during the low traffic season to cover the April 1 debt service payment.

Additionally, Mr. Fuller reported that he recently made a presentation to the Destin Forward Leadership class at the Destin Water Users Plant and Judge Maney was in attendance. He noted that there were more media and public affairs participants than hospitality representatives this year. It was a good session at which a few rumors were quelled regarding the Authority's debt. Mr. Maney reported that it was an excellent briefing with many questions being answered and important information shared and hopefully passed on to the community.

Finally, Mr. Fuller explained that he recently attended the annual Florida Transportation Commission (FTC) meeting in Tallahassee. The FTC is tasked with oversight of operations and performance measures of all transportation Authority's in the State. Mr. Fuller reported that the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority was the only Authority who met all performance measures. He also reported he had the opportunity to talk with Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Secretary, Kevin Thibault, and Florida Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) Director, Nicola Liquori. The FY2018 FTC report will be posted on the Authority's website as soon as the final document is released.

A. Operations. Mr. Fuller reported that the FTE is back on schedule with providing the data required to complete the Authority's monthly unaudited traffic and revenue reports. For previous year comparison, he noted revenue was down in October 2018 as a result of the extended toll suspension for Hurricane Michael. Weather anomalies like Hurricanes Irma and Michael are not accounted for in the traffic and revenue forecasts. Increased traffic and revenue on the Parkway indicates it continues to provide value to commuters. Mr. Maney inquired as to whether Toll-by-Plate (TBP) collections are up to date to which Mr. Fuller responded yes. He further explained that due to the FTE Centralized Customer Service Support (CCSS) issues it was necessary to make some assumptions during the FY2018 audit regarding TBP revenues. We are currently working the annual financial statements and audit for FY2019 and the data indicates we collected more TBP revenue than estimated in FY2018. This will reflect positively in the FY2019 Financial Statements.

VI. LEGAL COUNSEL

A. Executive Director Authorization for Mid-Bay Bridge Authority Projects. Ms. Anchors recommended the Board consider to continue this authorization, in order to avoid delays awaiting review and approval by the Board or the need for special meetings at short notice, and allow the Executive Director specific authority, within the already approved Budget, to act in order to approve actions to keep the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority projects moving forward. The Sunshine Law requires that the Board members not discuss issues among themselves that could at any time require a vote, so use of e-mail to approve proposed actions is not appropriate. Acknowledging such authority formally would permit the Executive Director the latitude to address matters immediately, although such action would be subject to review and ratification at the next meeting of the Authority. This would allow the projects to advance in a timely manner. Both Mr. Fuller and Ms. Anchors confer regularly about the projects, and this suggestion is made only to continue to meet the objective of the Authority in moving the projects forward.

A motion was made by Mr. Neilson with a second by Mr. Maney to grant the Executive Director, within the approved Budget and in consult with Legal Counsel, the authority to take specific actions prior to the next duly Noticed meeting to move the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority projects forward during 2020, in lieu of a Special Meeting while continuing to keep the members informed appropriately, as may be necessary in order to advance the forward progress of the projects. A 5-0 vote was taken for approval.

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Maney mentioned that as a non-voting member of the Okaloosa-Walton Transportation Planning Organization (OWTPO), Commissioner Nathan Boyles approved his attendance at the state Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) training in central Florida in March 2020. He hopes to learn more about transportation planning, funding, and processes in an effort to help the Authority going forward. Mr. Paulk reported that the Okaloosa-Walton Highway 98 Project is on schedule, thanks in large part to the good weather we have been experiencing this year and is expected to be completed on-time and under budget. The Okaloosa County portion is scheduled for completion in early Summer 2021. Mr. Fornell reported that Eglin Air Force Base and Okaloosa County are working on a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for a Project Development and Environmental (PD&E) Study to evaluate traffic and transportation related issues involved in moving the location of the Eglin AFB West Gate. He explained that this is a major development to support growth potential.

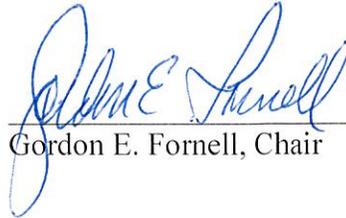
VIII. GENERAL DISCUSSION

The next regular meeting of the Authority will be held on **Thursday, February 20, 2020** at 9:00 a.m. in the Destin City Board Room, Destin, Florida.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:17 a.m.

Approved this 20th day of February 2020.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gordon E. Fornell", is written over a horizontal line.

Gordon E. Fornell, Chair