

September 19, 2019  
Infrastructure Surtax  
Advisory Committee  
Meeting

The regular meeting of the Okaloosa County Infrastructure Surtax Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:00 A.M. in the Okaloosa County Administration Building, 1st Floor Training Room. Members present were Ms. Kathleen Sharon, District 3 member (Chairman); Mr. Jim Foreman, District 5 member (Vice Chairman); Mr. Henry Berry, District 1 member; Brig. Gen. (Ret) Robert Buhrow, District 2 member; and Mr. Matthew Turpin, District 4 member. Also present were Hon. Graham Fountain, District 1 County Commissioner; Hon. J.D. Peacock, Clerk of Court & Comptroller; Mr. John Hofstad, County Administrator; Mr. Steve Schmidt, Surtax Project Manager; Ms. Faye Douglas, Office of Management & Budget Director; and Mr. Gary Stanford, Director of Treasury & Board Services.

Opening Remarks and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The meeting was opened by Ms. Sharon. Mr. Hofstad stated that the meeting had been properly noticed in accordance with section 286.011, Florida Statutes.

Mr. Turpin made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes, with a second by Mr. Foreman. The minutes were approved, 5-0.

Public Comments

None.

Presentations

None.

Projects List Update/Funding Discussion

Mr. Hofstad opened by announcing that they have received the term sheet from Triumph, which will be brought before the Board of County Commissioners on October 1, 2019 for approval. From there, it will go to the Triumph Board on October 5, 2019, hopefully for final approval. He then went on to discuss the job status as outlined in the Triumph terms and the key component was to move military resources along Hwy 85. The County will get a 1 for 1 credit for every job added to Eglin AFB and 7 SFG. 1,500 jobs have to be created within the next 10 years to prevent any claw back. If there is a national economic crisis, the County will not be held to these numbers. Discussion ensued about potential growth at Eglin AFB and other military bases within the County.

Mr. Schmidt went over the project list update. PJ Adams Phases I-III starting soon. Utilities will be moved first before construction begins. A gopher tortoise was relocated out of the Phase IV area. The Sheriff's Training Center is going out for bid and the permit application is going through the process. The Santa Rosa Blvd. crosswalk project is going out for bid. The Commons Drive signal project is going out for bid and the 6<sup>th</sup> street and Standish Court projects are near completion. Mr. Schmidt went on to explain that the report has been updated to include administrative costs. Some projects you will see surtax as a negative number because the project is being funded by grants or other revenue sources to which administrative costs cannot be allocated, and surtax dollars have not been applied yet.

The annualized funding projection has not really changed since the last meeting. Mr. Schmidt said he was going to get with Mr. Autrey and Mr. Bitterman to rank priorities and work on allocating monies freed up by the bond issuance. Discussion ensued over bond rates and strategy.

The SW Crestview Bypass funding summary has no significant change in the near future. The imminent domain issues for Phase I-III have nearly been settled and now starting to look at right-of-way acquisitions for Phase V and the East-West Connector.

Office of Management & Budget

The County's final budget hearing was held on Tuesday. Projects have the necessary funds available.

Clerk of Circuit Court & Comptroller

The Groundbreaking ceremony was yesterday. Thank you's all around. Projects are on track.

Public Comments

None.

Schedule Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 10:00 A.M., location TBD.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:33 A.M.

(These minutes were transcribed by Grant Dugre)