

February 20, 2020  
Infrastructure Surtax  
Advisory Committee  
Meeting

The regular meeting of the Okaloosa County Infrastructure Surtax Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:07 A.M. in the Okaloosa County Administration Building, 2nd Floor Property Appraiser's Training Room. Members present were Ms. Kathleen Sharon, District 3 member (Chairman); Mr. Matthew Turpin, District 4 member (Vice Chairman); Mr. Henry Berry, District 1 member; Brig. Gen. (Ret) Robert Buhrow, District 2 member; and Mr. Jim Foreman, District 5 member. Also present were Hon. Nathan Boyles, District 3 Commissioner; Mr. John Hofstad, County Administrator; Ms. Kay Godwin, Deputy County Administrator; Mr. Craig Coffey, Deputy County Administrator; Mr. Jason Autrey, Public Works Director; Mr. Patrick Maddox, Public Safety Director; Ms. Faye Douglas, Office of Management & Budget Director; Mr. Jeffrey Hyde, Purchasing Manager; Mr. Steve Schmidt, Surtax Project Manager; and Mr. Jordan Steffens, Finance Director, Clerk of Court.

Opening Remarks and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

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

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Mr. Buhrow made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes as written. It was seconded by Mr. Turpin. Approved 5-0.

Public Comments

Mr. Dave Skarzynski had several issues to be presented to the committee:

1. The Sheriff's firing range project; \$53,786.55 should at least be mentioned to the ISAC as an over-run to the lead trap system.
2. Initially, 3 positions were proposed to handle the workload associated with the surtax. The project manager position was approved and the other 2 positions have yet to be approved to help the project manager.
3. During town hall meetings and other community events, accountability to the citizens was stressed. To me, this accountability are reports reflecting the financial status as well as what funds are being spent on, Because of this I will continue to request that both the financial and reconciliation reports be completed and provide to the public via the website.

Staff discussed Mr. Skarzynski's questions and agreed there were additional expenditures for the lead trap systems. The reconciliation reports will be

posted monthly as requested and the additional 2 positions have not been approved, but will be looked at during the upcoming budget process. Mr. Hofstad explained that they didn't want to unduly burden the fund in the beginning with all 3 positions. Ms. Sharon stated she would fully support an extra staff position.

### Presentations

**Fifty in Five** - Commissioner Boyles went through his slide presentation and gave a brief history of the roadways in the North end of the County. Some of the main issues were stormwater, 8 graders dropping to 7 and no dedicated dirt crews. Some of the past efforts included the cold mix program in the late 1990's and Commissioner Boyles explained why the program eventually failed. Chip seal is another alternative and a recent example is Rattlesnake Bluff Road. Chip seal is about as thick as a double stuffed Oreo cookie. Commissioner Boyles proposed using various methods and paving 50 miles of North County dirt roads in 5 years using \$2M for 5 years for a total of \$10M. He stated this project would be secondary to other projects that may take priority and could be reduced or terminated if needed based upon revenue collections. Discussion ensued. Questions were raised about stormwater and how the roads would be stabilized by plantings in ditches, etc. Discussion about maintenance and potentially using 2 applications of chip seal, and how the priorities would be set. Commissioner Boyles stated they would use the road matrix developed by Public works and use an analytical approach. Mr. Buhrow had a concern with the potential of not being able to get all the projects completed and running out of revenue. Discussion about roll-back and constituents not cooperating with road maintenance. Discussion concerning reserve amounts and future projections. Mr. Turpin asked if these projects were "shovel" ready. Discussion ensued about the process to get the projects accomplished. The projects would be contracted out through the RFP process. Mr. Turpin made a motion to approve, based upon annual surplus revenue, to allocate \$2,000,000/year for dirt road paving with an annual review. The motion was seconded by Mr. Berry. Approved 5-0.

**Commons Drive Presentation** - Mr. Schmidt showed several slides showing areas along Commons Drive in Destin that citizens are using dirt paths along the roadway. Mr. Autrey gave background information as to why the sidewalks are needed and the issues. This will come out of the Commons Drive improvement funds that were already planned. Mr. Foreman made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Turpin. Ms. Sharon asked why this project was being escalated on the list. Mr. Autrey replied that this was a quick win to improve pedestrian safety. Discussion ensued about putting up surtax project signs at project sites and the PJ Adams sound barrier. The vote was conducted and the motion was approved 5-0.

### Projects List Update/Funding Discussion

A. Mr. Schmidt briefed the committee on the project list and updates.

Discussion ensued about administrative costs and how they are captured.

B. Mr. Schmidt discussed the annualized funding projection.

C. Mr. Schmidt explained that the SW Crestview Bypass Funding Summary is current through 2.14.2020. Mr. Autrey proposed that a full update on the project will be given at the next meeting.

D. Mr. Schmidt discussed the NW Crestview Bypass PD&E funding. Requesting \$300,000 for the PD&E study. Motion to approve by Mr. Turpin. Second by Mr. Buhrow. Approved 5-0.

E. Mr. Schmidt discussed the need for additional funds for the Carmel/Beal intersection improvements. The full background is in the agenda packet. Discussion ensued. Mr. Buhrow made the motion to recommend approval of the identification of an additional \$183,594 in future grant match funding and request for current additional funding in the amount of \$15,000. Seconded by Mr. Berry. Approved 5-0.

Office of Management & Budget

Ms. Douglas stated that the surtax receipts are more than what was expected and that the Triumph grant is moving quickly.

Clerk of Circuit Court & Comptroller

Mr. Steffens went over the Summary Financial Report. He stated that \$340,000 in revenue was received more than what was projected. Yearly projection is \$16.84M. A \$470,000 interest payment is coming due April 1<sup>st</sup> to the debt services fund.

Public Comments

None

Schedule Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2020, 10:00 am, location TBD.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:52 A.M.

(These minutes were transcribed by Grant Dugre)