

Effingham County Transportation Advisory Board

601 North Laurel Street

• Springfield, GA 31329

• (912) 754-2111

• Transportation@EffinghamCounty.org

Committee Members

F. Lamar Allen
Chairman

Brett Bennett
Vice-Chairman

Tommy Blewett, P.E.
Secretary

Dr. Franklin Goldwire
City of Guyton

Barton Alderman
City of Springfield

Ken Lee
City of Rincon

Phil Kieffer
Effingham County

Alan Zipperer

Supporting Staff
Morgan Chamberlain
Transportation Engineer

Brett Bennett
Springfield City
Manager

Toss Allen, P.E.
County Administrator

John A. Henry
Effingham County IDA

Wesley Corbitt
Rincon City Manager

Randy Shearouse
Superintendent, BOE

This board is supported by the staff of the Effingham County Board of Commissioners and the cities of Guyton, Rincon, and Springfield, IDA, and BOE.



July 21, 2015

Transportation Advisory Meeting

Present: Mr. Lamar Allen, Mr. Tommy Blewett, Mr. John Henry, Mr. Wesley Corbitt, Mr. Chap Bennett, Mr. Melvin Johnson, Mr. Ron Nelson, Mr. Ken Lee, Mr. Phil Kieffer, Mr. Alan Zipperer, Ms. Morgan Chamberlain, and Mr. Toss Allen.

Meeting Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:32 a.m. by Mr. Lamar Allen.

Approval of Agenda: Mr. Toss Allen requested that an item be added under new business to discuss the appointment of committee members to the CORE MPO's advisory committees. A motion was made by Mr. Zipperer and seconded by Mr. Blewett to approve the amended agenda. The motion was carried by all.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes were corrected to read May 21 instead of March 17. A motion was made by Mr. Blewett to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2015 meeting and seconded by Mr. Henry. The motion was carried by all.

Old Business:

Item 1: Discussion of On-Going Transportation Projects

GDOT Projects

Mr. Nelson discussed the status of on-going transportation projects. The bridges on US 80 over the Ogeechee River are reported as 61 percent complete with an anticipated completion date of Spring 2016. The Guyton interchange, PI 0009870, is proceeding with an anticipated let date of May 2016. The I-16 @ CR 310/Old River Rd. Interchange project is progressing; preliminary plans are complete with an anticipated let date of July 2016. The concept report for the SR 275 @ CR 307/Rincon-Stillwell Road roundabout has been approved. A public information open house is scheduled for the fall, with an anticipated let date of November 2017. The resurfacing of SR 21 to Jack's Branch is proceeding. The signal crossing upgrade at Hwy 119 and Marion Avenue will be completed within the next month; only striping and signage remains to be done.

County Projects

Mr. Toss Allen discussed the current county projects. Work on the 2015 roadway resurfacing began Monday, July 20th with Jabez Jones Road. Roadway restriping on approximately 26 miles of county road is also proceeding.

Item 2: Off-System Safety Program

Mr. Toss Allen noted that the County's request for 11 miles of restriping and signage via the State's Off-System Striping program was approved, and the state has requested an additional 20 miles of roads, which the County will submit this week.

Effingham County Transportation Advisory Board

601 North Laurel Street • Springfield, GA 31329 • (912) 754-2111 • Transportation@EffinghamCounty.org

New Business:

Item 1: CORE MPO

Mr. Toss Allen reported that the governor signed the reapportionment for the CORE MPO and the first meeting with the new members will be in August. Tom Thomson has requested members for the MPO's advisory committees. Mr. Allen discussed the various committees and the designees expected to participate, and noted the need to appoint a local citizen to the Citizen's Advisory Committee. The Board of Commissioners is expected to discuss committee membership appointments at the July 21st commissioners' meeting.

Other New Business

Mr. Corbitt aired concerns about the quality of private roads being accepted by the cities and county from existing subdivisions. The Advisory Board then discussed strategies to ensure that private roads are built to county and city standards in the future to prevent the inheritance of expensive repair problems, such as the procedure of only accepting roads when the plat is recorded and no unresolved problems exist, rather than accepting a bond. Mr. Allen noted that the problems primarily arose from enforcement lapses and coordination challenges rather than poor standards, but that both inspection procedures and development standards need to be updated for clarity. The development manual is currently under review. Requirements may be adapted based on traffic and use rather than a one-size-fits-all standard.

From that subject, a discussion arose regarding the evaluation of roads for resurfacing projects. GDOT has discussed software for pavement evaluation in previous years, with a pilot study performed, but Mr. Allen noted that he does not know where the program currently stands. The system formalizes the process for road quality evaluation. It was noted that concrete numbers make it easier for both the public and board members to visualize priorities. The TAB expressed a hope to have someone come in at a future meeting to discuss the road evaluation process. Mr. Nelson noted that he will ask the state maintenance engineer about the aforementioned computer program.

There was a discussion about TSPLOST funding and an intention to pursue the funding independently as a county rather than operating with other counties.

Mr. Bennet inquired about the state of the Effingham Parkway Project. Mr. Allen stated that the environmental documents and preliminary engineering are underway and the design is being adapted as discoveries are made. The let date is estimated in late 2017/2018, with more public meetings expected once preliminary engineering is complete. The agreement between the County and the Georgia Department of Transportation was explained; the County is responsible for preliminary engineer, right of way acquisition, and utility relocation, while the Department of Transportation is responsible for construction.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 9:17 A.M.