



**NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION (NEFRTC)
MEETING SUMMARY**

Wednesday, August 23, 2017 - 1:30 PM
NFTPO Board Room
980 North Jefferson Street
Jacksonville FL 32209

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Doug Conkey, Clay County, **Chairman**
Commissioner James Bennett, Baker County, **Vice Chairman**
Commissioner Lindsey Brock, Duval County, **Secretary**
Commissioner Bill Bishop, Duval County
Commissioner Ennis Davis, Duval County
Commissioner Jimmy Johns, St. Johns County
Jim Knight, FDOT, Board Advisor

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioner Chip Laibl, Putnam County, **Treasurer**
Commissioner Danny Leeper, Nassau County
Commissioner Sam Newby, Duval County

OTHERS PRESENT:

Alan Mosley, RTC
Geanelly Reveron, JTA
Stephanie Zarkis, City of Jacksonville
Liz Peak, Ride Solution
Fred Jones, Michael Baker International
Phong Nguyen, St. Johns County
Rob Palmer, RS&H
Stephen Tocknell, Tocknell Planning Services
Brian Teeple, NEFRC
Cheryl Freeman, RS&H

STAFF PRESENT:

Jeff Sheffield, North Florida TPO Staff
Jennifer Lott, North Florida TPO Staff

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Doug Conkey called the meeting to order at 1:42 pm. Introductions were made around the room.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

▶ 3. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 26, 2017 MEETING SUMMARY

Chairman Conkey asked for review and approval of the July meeting's summary.

James Bennett made a motion to approve the July 26, 2017 meeting's summary; seconded by Bill Bishop; motion carried unanimously.

▶ 4. TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JUNE 2017

In the absence of the treasurer, Alan Mosley presented the Treasurer's Report for June.

Bill Bishop made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented; seconded by Ennis Davis; motion carried unanimously.

▶ 5. RTC UPDATE/WORKSHOP

Alan Mosley provided a draft copy of the RMTP presentation that he will give to the seven counties and asked for comments.

- Bill Bishop commented that the presentation needs to be focused on what we are selling, and it needs to be broken down into very simple terms. You are speaking to people who do not understand what the RTC is all about. The RTC is the only organization that has the ability to bring the existing transit operations of the six counties together to work in a cohesive environment. The counties on their own do not have the resources to do it. JTA does not have the political ability to do it because none of the other five counties trust them.

The predominant culture is rural and not urban. At least half of the population in Jacksonville has no interest in transit, and they use it out of necessity or convenience. We don't have enough transit density, as it takes too long to get anywhere. As long as it stays this way, the preferential riders are not going to utilize transit. The RTC has the ability to grow the mindset that transit has value. The RTC has the ability to show everyone that the six counties can cooperate regionally on transit

and be successful. If we can work together, then we can get more value for our money.

- Ennis Davis commented that we need to explain the implementation activities and how they will solve the existing problems that we have.
- James Bennett commented that we need to convince people that the RTC can serve as the unbiased organization that can bring everyone together. The RTCC needs to be explained, as most people don't know what it is. You have to be specific as to what the RTCC and the RTC has successfully done. Show the counties what they are getting for their dollars. Our ongoing efforts are successful in breaking down the barriers and county lines to provide transit. I would have a representative from the county transit organizations to affirm what you are trying to get across.
- Lindsey Brock commented that we should keep it simple in content and language. He offered to sit down and give his thoughts and suggestions to improve the presentation.
- Jim Knight commented that it is going to be difficult to get these counties to work together, as we have no funding or authority over these agencies.
- James Bennett commented that as a Board we have the ability to have a stronger effect on imposing county coordination. In the past, the transit agencies didn't coordinate or work together. Now, you have the RTC saying if you don't play nice we are going to withdraw our funding for transit.
- Bill Bishop commented that every county funds their operation independently. The major step is to hope that the transit agencies work together to get things in place officially. This will give us some leverage to show that we are adding value.
- James Bennett said that it is imperative that each of the six counties see some value for their dollars.
- Alan Mosley responded that at the end of the year we will have some revenue to invest in transit projects.

Lindsey Brock asked to be excused at 2:50 p.m., as he had another meeting to attend.

► 6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- County Assessments – Each county has acknowledged receipt of the assessment, and we are in their budgets.

- Resolutions – Baker County is approved, Clay County is working to get this on the agenda, Nassau County is working on getting this on the agenda, Putnam County is working on getting this on the agenda, St. Johns County has this item on the agenda for September 5, and Duval County goes before the TEU on September 5. I plan on meeting separately with each council member. Bill Bishop offered to go to the meetings with Mr. Mosley.

Jimmy Johns suggested that before the presentation is given to St. Johns County that you try to meet with each council member separately. If you could send any of this information ahead of time, it would be beneficial.

- 2018 Legislative Session – Mr. Mosley informed the group that he has been working with Senator Gibson in preparation for the upcoming legislative session. Senator Gibson feels that the Florida Transportation Commission should be the only group we need to go before.
- Brian Teeple clarified that the Northeast Florida 10.0 is a partnership between the Northeast Florida Regional Council, JAX USA, and Career Source of Northeast Florida.
- Phong Nguyen commented that it needs to be emphasized that the Northeast Florida Regional Transportation Commission is the only agency that has the ability to coordinate other systems. We need to identify what resources we are going to use to make that happen.
- Chairman Conkey asked that Mr. Mosley send an informational email to the group informing us of what exactly needs to be done in terms of the upcoming legislative process.

►7. **NEW BUSINESS**

Alan Mosley informed the group that they would like to apply for an APTA grant in the amount of \$10,000 to partner with regional chambers of commerce and businesses to help educate the media, public officials and members of the public on the need for increased support of regional transit services and infrastructure in Northeast Florida.

James Bennett made a motion to approve staff to file for the APTA Grant in the amount of \$10,000; seconded by Jimmy Johns; motion carried unanimously.

►7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None at this time.

▶ 8. **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Doug Conkey, Chairman

Lindsey Brock, Secretary