



GREEN RIVER AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

November 25, 2020

M-I-N-U-T-E-S

The Green River Area Development District (GRADD) Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) met on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held via Zoom, teleconference. A quorum was present with the following members in attendance:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Henry, Webster County Judge/Executive
Al Mattingly, Jr., Daviess County Judge/Executive
Curtis Dame, McLean County Judge/Executive
Tom Watson, Mayor, City of Owensboro (Rep. by Kevin Collignon)
Steve Austin, Mayor, City of Henderson (Rep. by Doug Boom)
Brian Howard, Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission (OMPC)
Deneatra Henderson, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), District Office 2
Mike Baker, Hancock County Industrial Foundation
Charlotte Whittaker, Senior Representative
Missy Vanderpool, Executive Director of Henderson Economic Development
Donnie Mayton
Brian Wright, Owensboro Riverport

MEMBERS ABSENT

Brad Schneider, Henderson County Judge/Executive
Adam O’Nan, Union County Judge/Executive
Johnny “Chic” Roberts, Hancock County Judge/Executive
David Johnston, Ohio County Judge/Executive
Joanne Kendall, Minority Representative
Candace Brake, Greater Owensboro Chamber
Rob Barnett, Owensboro-Daviess County Regional Airport
Captain Brenton Ford, Kentucky State Police (KSP) – Post 16
Jimmy VanCleve, Area 3 Training Center
Mark Calitri, Owensboro-Daviess County Convention Center & Visitor’s Bureau

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Dan Lanham, Audubon Area Community Services/Green River Intra-County Transit System (AACS/GRITS)

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Jacob Huber

Larry K

Nick Hall, KYTC District Office 2

Keirsten Jaggers

Doug Taylor, regional transportation field representative

Joanna Shake, GRADD

Blake Edge, GRADD

Gina Boaz, GRADD

Skyler Stewart, GRADD

Luke Hill, GRADD

Therese Payne, GRADD

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Steve Henry called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

Chairman Henry offered the minutes of the July 29, 2020 meeting of the GRADD Regional Transportation Committee for approval.

A motion was made by Donnie Mayton and seconded by Doug Boom to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2020, GRADD RTC meeting. A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

III. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Rural Consultation Survey due by December 30th**

Chairman Henry introduced Luke Hill and turned the meeting over to him to discuss the Rural Consultation Survey, which was originally due at the end of November. Mr. Hill stated the deadline now has been extended to the end of December. Last year, 40% of the surveys were returned, but hopes are that more will be returned this year. If members would like a hard copy, Mr. Hill stated he would be glad to accommodate them.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **GRADD Personnel update – New Transportation Planner**

Chairman Henry turned the meeting over to Joanna Shake who introduced Luke Hill as the new GRADD Transportation Planner. He has been with GRADD for three months now. He comes to GRADD from INDOT with experience with GIS and has taken the place of

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Gina Boaz, who has moved on to a position in economic development at GRADD. Mr. Hill added that he is a graduate of Ball State with degrees in meteorology and geography. He stated he was glad to be at GRADD.

B. SHIFT Update/Change in Schedule

Luke Hill shared the change in the SHIFT schedule. He shared the main change was in CHAF's dates, which are now open until March 12, 2021 and the projects sponsored closes on May 14, 2021. He will send out the schedule via email. Mr. Hill also plans to meet with every local official to update databases and will be scheduling those meetings in December and January, even if they must be via Zoom.

C. Committee Membership

Chairman Henry turned to Doug Boom who spoke on behalf of Judge O'Nan for the nominating committee. Mr. Boom recommended the committee stay the same as last year.

A motion was made by Doug Boom and seconded by Charlotte Whittaker to accept the recommendation.
A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

D. 2021 Regional Transportation Nominating Committee and Election of Officers

Doug Boom recommended the nominating committee remain the same as last year. He also shared the committee recommended the following nominations remain the same as last year for officers: Judge Steve Henry, Chairman; Brian Howard, Vice-Chair; and Donnie Mayton, Secretary.

A motion was made by Doug Boom and seconded by Donnie Mayton to accept the recommendations. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

V. UPDATES

A. Highway District Office Update

Deneatra Henderson shared business is still moving, despite lag in lettings due to the pandemic. Resurfacing is finally taking place with a June 30th completion date.

KY130 HSIP in Union County finally seeing that in the December letting. Typical, nothing major in repair, just safety measures and resurfacing.

Donnie Mayton asked if there were any plans to repair the damaged Greenbelt. Kevin Collignon shared that the state had installed those, so he would look into it.

B. Dealing with COVID and Snow Removal from the District Office

Deneatra Henderson shared how snow removal may look different this year due to COVID-19. If an employee tests positive for COVID, the facility must close for 48 hours and

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will be out of commission during that time. A significant amount of time has been put into planning due to this issue because in the past, trucks would be loaded before the storm in preparation. Due to COVID and its unpredictability, that preparation can not be done. Neighboring counties may be called on to mobilize trucks for assistance. She has been authorized by the state to help counties on a case by case basis. Officials are encouraged to reach out to Ms. Henderson if they need assistance so Frankfort can be made aware. She expressed the importance of county superintendents to be prepared. She also asked for patience for the road crews. Priority routes will be cleaned. Interstates and parkways will remain open. They will not be cleaning C routes after dark as chemicals do not work once the sun goes down. She concluded by sharing there are 338 employees in the district, but they are currently running 30 short. 247 of those 338 are maintenance and support crews, working on the job. The rest are teleworking in the “war room” and will continue to work through the winter. Chairman Henry thanked Ms. Henderson for the district’s work and offered to help in any way he could.

C. Other Updates

Doug Taylor complemented Deneatra for all her work and asked for patience as well. He shared the state recently award several backlogged discretionary requests. He reminded members they must have an agreement with the state before work can start. Some requests were older and may have already been funded by other means. He cannot guarantee those funds will be refunded but contact him for more information.

Mr. Taylor suggested requests for resurfacing wait until the spring.

Mr. Taylor cautioned the committee about HB826 KLC currently going through the House. It addresses transportation needs, but be aware of the distribution of transportation dollars. He encouraged members to study the bill to ensure that distribution can be made in a fair and equitable manner. Chairman Henry followed by stating the General Assembly is in a short session, so they will be working rather fast. He encouraged members to be mindful because there has been a reduction in road aid to our area in the past.

He concluded by welcoming Luke Hill.

VI. OTHER ITEMS

A. Public Comments

None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2021. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

A motion was made by Donnie Mayton and was seconded.
A vote was taken and the motion carried.

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Judge Steve Henry, Chairman

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