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**GREEN RIVER AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

September 20, 2011

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

The Green River Area Development District (GRADD) Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) met on Tuesday, September 20, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the GRADD office in Owensboro, KY. It was determined that a quorum was present with the following persons in attendance:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Al Mattingly, Daviess County Judge/Executive
Jim Townsend, Webster County Judge/Executive
(Rep. by Linda Wilson)
Gary Noffsinger, Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission
(Rep. by Brian Howard)
Ron Payne, Mayor, City of Owensboro
(Rep. by Matt White)
Kevin McClearn, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), District 2
Dan Lanham, Director, Green River Intra-Transit System (GRITS)
(Rep. by Cindy Powers)
Ed Riney, Director, Owensboro Riverport Authority
Captain Bob Shoultz, Kentucky State Police – Post 16
(Rep. by Trooper Corey King)
Melvin Smith, Minority Representative
Donnie Mayton, Biking Greenway
Edna Rice, Citizen Representative
Bob Whitmer, Owensboro-Daviess County Regional Airport
Karen Miller, Owensboro Tourist Commission, Executive Director

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jody Wassmer, Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce, Chairman
Jack McCaslin, Hancock County Judge/Executive
Jody Jenkins, Union County Judge/Executive
Kelly Thurman, McLean County Judge/Executive

Bill Markwell, *Chairman* ■ Jody Jenkins, *Vice Chairman* ■ Bill Parrish, *Secretary* ■ Jack McCaslin, *Treasurer* ■ Jiten Shah, *Executive Director*

SISTER REGION:

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Hugh McCormick, Henderson County Judge/Executive
Steve Austin, Mayor, City of Henderson
David Johnston, Ohio County Judge/Executive
Doug Wells, Community Based Services
Sammy Vinroe, Union County Schools Transportation
Jimmy VanCleve, Area 3 Training Center – Public Safety Agencies

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Nick Hall, KYTC, District 2
Charlie Spalding, KYTC
Jeff Moore, KYTC, District 3
Michael Hughes, Owensboro Transit System (OTS)
Jim Lambert, Daviess County Fiscal Court
David Smith, Daviess County Fiscal Court
Gina Boaz, Regional Transportation Planner, GRADD
Jennifer Wedding, Transportation Planner, GRADD
Paula Snyder, Support Services Technician, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jody Wassmer was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. Vice Chairman Kim Humphrey has taken a different position and will no longer be a committee member. Therefore, Secretary Edna Rice called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and welcomed those present. Ms. Rice turned the meeting over to Gina Boaz.

II. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Gina Boaz asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2011, meeting of the GRADD Regional Transportation Committee.

A motion was made by Ed Riney and seconded by Donnie Mayton to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2011, Regional Transportation Committee meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. OLD BUSINESS

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Owensboro-Daviess County Regional Airport Update

Bob Whitmer presented a PowerPoint presentation of the airport to the committee. Mr. Whitmer gave an update on the progress and new plans for the airport, including renovation on the control tower, the importance of attracting Allegiant Airlines, and the plans for terminal expansion for

staging passengers and baggage. Mr. Whitmer said with the help of Allegiant Airlines, the airport has qualified for an airport rescue and firefighting truck, which was funded 100 percent with federal funds in the amount of \$635,000. Additionally, Allegiant Airlines has made it possible to receive funding for updating security, and the renovation on the terminal apron connector, which was a \$1.3 million project. On behalf of the airport, the Daviess County and Ohio County Fiscal Courts received a \$500,000 grant from the Local Government Economic Development Fund (LGEDF)/Coal Severance, which will aid in the expansion as well. The airport has also secured a loan from Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority (KEDFA) for \$1.5 million to complete the \$2.1 million terminal expansion.

Mr. Whitmer stated the airport will begin non-stop flights to and from Las Vegas October 14, 2011. The flights will be operating on Friday and Monday of every week.

Committee members, as well as the public, may view this presentation on the GRADD website at the following link:

http://www.gradd.com/Transportation_2009/Regional_Trans_Planning/

B. Interstate 69 and Interstate 69 Spur Update

Kevin McClearn provided the committee with a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. McClearn announced that very soon the Western Kentucky Parkway will be able to put I-69 shields up, and sections of Interstate 24 (I-24) near Eddyville will have signs as well. Mr. McClearn said an agreement had been reached between the State of Kentucky and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) that identifies what improvements are necessary to bring the Western Kentucky Parkway, from Madisonville to Eddyville, up to interstate standards. Specifying as well, once the project has been let for construction, the I-69 signs can go up. The KYTC plans to accept bids in October to cover the new signs, upgrade the guardrails and bridge railings, raise some overpasses, and lengthen the exit and entrance ramps to meet interstate standards.

Kevin McClearn reported the I-69/I-66/I-65 spurs and the US 60 connection are still in the strategic planning/study phase. Mr. McClearn said the study began in July with the assessment of existing conditions in the fall of this year. Preliminary recommendations are scheduled for early 2012, public meetings are in early summer 2012, and the final report will be early fall 2012.

C. FY 12 Plan for Committee Activities

Gina Boaz asked the committee to review the plan for committee activities and asked if they had any additions or comments. No discussion followed. In regard to Ed Riney's request at the last meeting, that the Kentucky Transportation Center (KTC) be contacted, Ms. Boaz reported they may be able to speak at the spring meeting. Gina Boaz asked for a motion to approve the FY 12 Plan for Committee Activities.

A motion was made by Ed Riney and seconded by Melvin Smith to approve the FY12 Plan for Committee Activities. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

D. FY 12 Tentative List of Groups to Reach for Public Involvement

Gina Boaz explained to the committee that the FY 12 Tentative List of Groups to Reach for Public Involvement is one of the items that are included in the Annual Work Program. Ms. Boaz asked for additional suggestions. No comments followed.

E. FY 12 Public Involvement Plan List of Resources

Gina Boaz asked the committee to review the handout which includes lists of resources, organizations, business, and festivals with contact names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail. Ms. Boaz stated one of the main objectives of the RTC is to facilitate public involvement. The list is a tool to achieve this.

F. FY 12 Transportation Bylaws Review

Gina Boaz stated she doesn't have any changes to the bylaws to propose for the year. Ms. Boaz asked for a motion to approve the current bylaws.

A motion was made by Melvin Smith and seconded by Ed Riney to approve the FY 12 Transportation Bylaws. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

G. FY 12 Goals and Objectives Update

Gina Boaz stated no changes have been made and there hasn't been any major completion of projects, so they are still on the list. Ms. Boaz asked the committee for comments and questions. No comments followed.

H. Nominating Committee

Gina Boaz reminded the committee a nominating committee is needed for the election of officers at the November meeting. After some discussion, it was determined that Melvin Smith, Ed Riney, and Brian Howard would be the nominating committee for the election of officers.

V. UPDATES

A. Highway District Office Update

Kevin McClearn reported for Daviess County that Southtown Boulevard has been let and is now under construction. Moving of the utilities will be complicated due to some of the sewers in the area being 20 feet deep and the soil has a lot of silt. The US 60 Bypass Extension has let its remaining phase; as a result, the whole project will be under construction soon. The first section from Highway 144 to Hawesway Truck Stop will be completed mid-year 2013. The roundabout on the west side of Owensboro has the design completed, and is in the final stages of buying right-of-ways. The utilities will be brought in as soon as the Southtown Boulevard project is complete. The bridge in downtown Owensboro is still on schedule to be opened October 3. On Highway 54, where the new

Menard's will be built, they are in design to reconfigure two of the ramps and he anticipates the project will be let in one year.

Mr. McClearn reported on Hancock County saying they are still working with a statewide consultant on the widening of the westbound lanes from Hawesville to Lewisport. In regards to Highway 69/US 60 to the bridge in Hawesville, it is still in design. The money is there to complete the project and they should be getting into the right-of-way phase in the spring 2012.

In Ohio County, the US 231 interchange on the Western Kentucky Parkway has been let for construction, and will be completed later this year. The lighting for the interchange should be complete by the spring of 2012. The William H. Natcher and Western Kentucky Parkways interchange has been let and in the spring of 2012, will have the lighting completed.

B. Other Updates

None.

VI. OTHER ITEMS

A. Public Comments

None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Gina Boaz informed the committee the next meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2011, which will be held at GRADD in the boardroom.

There being no further business, Secretary Edna Rice adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

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