# Louisiana Transportation Authority

Meeting
Louisiana State Capitol
House Committee Room 1
Baton Rouge, LA
Thursday, December 21, 2012

#### **MINUTES**

# I CALL TO ORDER

Senator Robert Adley

## II ROLL CALL

## **Board Members Present:**

Rep. Karen St. Germain Secretary Sherri LeBas Ray Stockstill Senator John Alario Rep. James Morris Paul Sawyer

#### **Board Members Absent:**

Jackie Adcock

We have a quorum.

# III READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF July 18, 2012

Senator Alario moved to adopt the minutes without objection and accepted.

#### IV OLD BUSINESS

Senator Adley: We now have a presentation by the Department of Transportation regarding the LA 1 Toll Road. Please take a seat and identify yourself and we turn it over to you.

Michael Bridges: Undersecretary for the Department of Transportation and I am here to go over the latest status of the LA 1 Toll Road. I have with me Mr. Rhett Desselle, Assistant Secretary for Operations, and we are both going to present this presentation to you today.

Senator Adley: Before you begin your power point, we need to take care one other piece of business. I am told before we reach any approvals or decisions that we are going to make today that we are going to need a Secretary/Treasurer

elected. I appreciate that the Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development is now willing to serve as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Louisiana Transportation Authority. Representative Morris has moved that she be elected and the new Secretary/Treasurer of this Authority. Is there any objection to this? Hearing none, that motion carries and we now have a new Secretary/Treasurer. With that, you can now proceed.

Michael Bridges: We will now go over the LA 1 Project which will include some project photos, financial background. We are going to talk about the electronic toll collection system. I will review the toll consultant report of 2012 update and then our recommendations after that.

## SEE HANDOUT: LA 1 TOLL ROAD STATUS REPORT

Senator Adley: Any questions of the committee? If I summarized what you have presented to us, the 108% increase would be required to sustain payment of the bond. Unless, you can do some refinancing at the lower rates that we have and by doing that then the increase that we will be seeing in the tolls would be the 20% that is currently required and we would not be increasing it the 100-108%. Is that in a nutshell what I have heard here?

Michael Bridges: Yes sir, that is correct.

Senator Adley: From us then there was some language in here about seeking extra funds through the legislative process. It appears to me that if this committee agrees with you that you will need some motion or resolution from us that we agree to what you are proposing to do and I assume that some resolution that you need to go seek these funds through the legislative process. Would you agree with that?

Michael Bridges: Yes sir.

## V NEW BUSINESS

Senator Adley: Anything else from the committee? With that I would ask that a member of the committee would move approval of the increase to the 20% and we will get that motion out of the way and then a resolution that you can have in hand so you can come to the legislature for the additional funds. Representative St. Germain moved for approval for the increase up to the 20%. Is there any objection to that motion? Hearing none that motion is adopted. Now Representative St. Germain would move that a recommendation that you also go to the legislature seeking extra additional funding through the legislative process. Is there any objection to the adoption of that motion? Hearing none that motion is adopted. Is there anything else you need from us?

Michael Bridges: Those motions that were just adopted were contained in the resolution.

Senator Adley: Let's adopt this resolution and give you double coverage! Michael Bridges: The only other thing was that DOTD can communicate with the public about the built in increase that's going to happen on January 1<sup>st</sup> and we have already started that.

Senator Adley: Representative St. Germain will move for adoption of this resolution that is in our packet. Is there any objections to the adoption of that motion? Hearing none, that motion is adopted.

# VI OTHER BUSINESS

Senator Adley: Any other business?

# VII PUBLIC COMMENTS

Senator Adley: Any public comments?

## VIII ADJOURNED at 10:40 a.m.

Senator Adley: This meeting stands adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri LeBas

Secretary-Treasurer