

KNIK ARM BRIDGE AND TOLL AUTHORITY

MINUTES #4 - 03

Board of Directors' meeting, December 2th, 2003, Regan Building, Executive Conference Room, Wasilla, AK.

The meeting progressed in accordance with the previously established and published agenda, which is attached and part of these minutes.

The meeting was duly noticed in the "Anchorage Daily News" and "Frontiersman" legal sections as a public meeting both on November 25, 2003.

Numbers in these minutes correspond with the numbers in the agenda.

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 PM by Chairman George Wuerch.

1. Roll Call by Chair George Wuerch

A quorum was established with four voting directors in attendance:
Representative Bill Stoltze, Senator Lyda Green,
Dave Haugen, Darcie Salmon.

Also present: Designee for DOT/PF Mike Scott; Jim Cantor, Chief Asst. AG;
Henry Springer, Interim Executive Director.

Not Present: Commissioner Bill Corbus, Juneau (capability to telephone conference was not available at this site: Deputy Comm. Boutin excused)

Recorder: Betty Fauber, KABATA

There were 15 members of the public in attendance. Wuerch welcomed Military Liaisons Colonel Stephen Ribuffo and Dennis Mattson, ARR President/CEO Pat Gamble, and Executive form Congressman Young's Anchorage Office, Bill Sharrow, and Mat-Su Transportation Planning Committee Chairman George Williams.

2. Agenda was approved as presented.

Action #26-4-03.

3. Minutes from Meeting #3-03 were unanimously approved as is.

Action #27-4-03.

4. Chair's Report by George Wuerch

Chairman Wuerch announced that today a House Appropriation Bill was approved for \$6 million for the project that is in addition to the original appropriation of \$5 million. He gave an overview of progress made since the last board meeting recapping his recent visits to four Toll Authorities in California including the Golden

Gate Bridge, CalTrans, District 12 Toll Roads and Transportation Corridor Agency.

Vice Chair Darcie Salmon, advised that at the Mat-Su Resource Conservation & Development Council's Valley Economic development Conference on November 20, 2003 there was a resolution of unanimous support for the Knik Arm Bridge, along with the Mat-Su dock expansion and Hatcher Pass development.

5. Executive Director's Report by Henry Springer

Springer stated that the work plan is on schedule and gave a status report of progress made since last meeting to include:

- Met with 30 people of educational from federal resource agencies, state and military;
- Award of professional service contract to Darryl Jordan; for preparation of three RFPs for professional services contracts for the pre-NEPA process and three RFPs for professional services contracts in the Washington, D.C. area for federal activities' reaction, education and coordination purposes.
- Completion of the PowerPoint Presentation; and
- Establishment of the web site.

Springer reported the details of the additional work needed on the Policy and Procedures, Procurement code and MOU with ADOT. He stated that it would be advantageous for KABATA to join the International Bridge, Tunnel and Toll Authority (IBTTA) and will pursue membership effective January 1, 2004.

Springer advised that a rudimentary annual report would be prepared for the Legislature as required by the bill. AG's office will interpret bill and advise. The budget and CIP were reviewed.

Springer advised that Wuerch and he would be in Vicksburg, MS at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's ERDC/WES on December 11 and 12 for a tabletop modeling demonstration of the Knik Arm. He stated that the ADOT progress report of the Feasibility Study should be available in January 2004. Parson's report needs to be reviewed by KABATA before it is accepted by DOT and released to the public.

Mike Scott advised that pre-construction has decentralized as of December 1, 2003 and that the regions will handle agreements. Wuerch requested a copy of the addendum to review.

6. Old Business

a. Adoption of Policy and Procedures

Since further work is required this item was tabled until the January 2004 meeting.

b. Procurement Guidelines Draft

Chairman Wuerch introduced Resolution #2-03 to adopt five of ADOT/PF's civil rights DBE, EEO, ADA and other programs as required for federal statutory obligation for FHWA project funding. Also included is the vesting of power to execute and assure compliance to the Executive Director.

Action 28-04-03

Motion by Salmon, second by Haugen to open for discussion.

After discussion, there were no amendments. Approved by unanimous vote.

Since further work is required on the overall guidelines, the item will continued at the January 2004 meeting.

c. MoU with ADOT/PF

Since further work is required this item was tabled until the January 2004 meeting. Wuerch will meet with Comm. Barton and FHWA Regional Director Miller.

7. New Business

a. Update on Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP)

Mike Scott stated that the Plan was approved and that there is \$788 million earmarked for the project. He suggested that a letter be sent to DOT/PF to clarify and possibly raise the project total. \$36 million is authorized as "advanced construction." The Project Development Agreement needs to identify state matching funds.

b. Geotechnical and Geophysical Presentation

Sandra Cook, ADOT Project Manager stated that the revised structural and cost-estimate reports from ADOT should be prepared by January 2004.

Fred Brown, P.E. Sr. VP of Shannon & Wilson, Inc., made a powerpoint presentation detailing the Knik Arm geophysical and geotechnical data report and analysis.

c. Transvision/AMATS 2020 Plan Update

Scott advised that there is a seat on the committee for KABATA suggesting that Springer attend next meeting; date and time to be provided. He stressed that the plan should be balanced with members from the transportation industry. Wuerch appointed Dave Haugen and he accepted.

8. Directors' Remarks

Darcie Salmon thanked the board for holding the meeting in the Valley and for Wuerch and Springer speaking at the Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce meeting today.

9. Public Comments

Senator Lyda Green relayed her constituents' point of view that the rail component is a necessary part of this project. She introduced Alaska Railroad President/CEO Pat Gamble and asked that he speak to that subject.

Gamble stated that he supports the rail on bridge and feels it is a significant economical development opportunity for the municipality and the state; it would be an enabler to regional system. There needs to be dialog with "Stakeholders."

Wuerch stated the bridge will be designed to be railroad compatible and that railroad funds and discussions would be welcome. He recognized the need for a railroad corridor as a stand-alone project to join the three Knik Arm projects. He stated that that would be a substantially added effort for permitting.

Benny Cottle appreciates that meeting being in the Valley today.

Colonel Ribuffo relayed thanks from General Chandler for the presentation the Wuerch and Springer made at EAFB on Nov. 26, 2003. The military has a vested interest in property and flight operations and appreciates the opportunity to attend.

10. Announcements

Wuerch announced that the next board meeting would be held in Juneau in after the opening of the Legislature; Wednesday, January 21 was suggested. The final date, time and location will be coordinated with a NEPA Seminar by the Alaska FHWA and possible caucus meetings and presentations.

Unless otherwise notified the following board meeting will be held in April 2004 at which time the consultant team will have a work plan developed.

Wuerch invited anyone interested to stay after the meeting and view the KABATA PowerPoint presentation.

10. Adjournment: 3:40 PM

Action #29-4-03
MOTION by Scott, second by Haugen

Board Action:

Approved: _____

Attest: _____

Date: _____