

**HIGHWAY ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
August 15, 2018**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tom Vierzba, Cheryl Everitt, Ed Houle, Richard Robertson, Daniel Ferguson, Brian Galpin, Michael James, Jean Meinzer, Jim Mesite, Larry Tobias

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Brian Wess

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Stan VanderWerf (EPC BoCC), Jim Reid (EPC DPW), Scot Cuthbertson (EPC DPW), Anton Ramage (EPC DPW), Troy Wiitala (EPC DPW), Ellen Heaverlo (EPC DPW), Joel Quevillon (EPC PIO)

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair Vierzba called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ABSENCES**

**MOTION (Mr. Mesite/Mr. Galpin)** to excuse Brian Wess's absence. **MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED WITH 9 AYES AND 1 NO.**

**4. MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION (Ms. Everitt/Mr. Mesite)** to approve minutes of the June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting. **MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**5. COMMISSIONER/CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- Mr. Mesite voiced his concerns about inconsistent speed limits on the north bound (55 mph) and south bound (45 mph) lanes of S Marksheffel Rd between Bradley Rd and Fontaine Blvd. The speed limit should be 55 mph in both lanes. Mr. Reid will ask Engineering personnel to review this and also contact City of Colorado Springs Engineering as Marksheffel Rd is multijurisdictional.
- Mr. Robertson would like a report on this issue at the next meeting, to include what kind a resolution was reached.
- Commissioner VanderWerf invited the HAC to the I-25 GAP project ribbon-cutting ceremony that will take place on Aug 30<sup>th</sup> at I-25 & County Line Rd. He also advocated for HAC members to attend the State Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) meetings.
- Mr. Tobias asked Commissioner VanderWerf about the progress of the IGA that is being developed for the I-25 GAP. Commissioner VanderWerf gave an update on the timelines. Mr. Tobias also asked about a study pertaining to toll fees that was to be conducted by HTPE. Commissioner VanderWerf has not been informed of the outcome at this time.

- A discussion regarding the merits of toll roads took place.
- Ms. Everitt cautioned everyone to be on the lookout for noxious weeds, and to contact the El Paso County Environmental Division so that they can mitigate them.
- Both, Commissioner VanderWerf and Mr. Reid encouraged the HAC members to participate in citizen engagements in their districts. It is important to get feedback from the citizens.

## **6. STAFF REPORTS**

### **A. ADMINISTRATION**

#### **Jim Reid (Executive Director, Department of Public Works)**

- Mr. Reid provided an update on the recent flooding in the county and how DPW personnel assisted with cleanup and repair work. DPW also supported the municipalities of Manitou Springs and Green Mountain Falls with their cleanup efforts. Commissioner VanderWerf extended his thanks for all the work during the flooding and the praised the cooperation among the different jurisdictions.
- An in-depth update on the repair of the washout on Old Pueblo Rd was given.
- Mr. Cuthbertson is currently briefing all County Commissioners on a proposed truck wash facility at the Akers location. An on-site truck wash facility would decrease the amount of personnel time it takes to wash a vehicle, and therefore save cost. It is also an important factor of mitigating corrosion during the winter season. This specific proposal would allow for a rust inhibitor to be added to the wash unit.
- A contract is in the works to hire a company to compile data on the County's road pavement quality index (PQI).

### **B. HIGHWAY DIVISION**

#### **Troy Wiitala (Highway Manager, Department of Public Works)**

- Mr. Wiitala briefed the Commission on the following:
  - Graveling Program – 28.4 miles completed
  - Dust Abatement Program – 76.64 miles completed
  - Chip Seal Program – 24.88 miles completed and an additional 2.21 within the Town of Ramah
  - Customer Service Request – 1520 completed so far this year. Of those there were 393 grading requests, 203 potholes, 198 street signs, 172 dead animal removals and 93 drainage repair requests. The Highway Division has been able to mow a lot more areas this year due to having more mowers.
  - Striping – 150 centerline miles using 9,000 gallons of paint.
  - Fire Support – none over the past 2 months
  - Flood Assistance – Manitou Springs, Green Mountain Falls & Old Pueblo Rd Culvert
  - Staffing – Currently there are 11 vacant positions which have been posted, and there are 12 seasonal hires at this time.

## **C. ENGINEERING DIVISION**

### **Anton Ramage (Deputy County Engineer, Department of Public Works)**

- Mr. Ramage briefed the Commission on the following:
  - Total Contract Construction – 47 projects totaling \$120M
    - Tabor Ballot Projects: 4 projects remaining totaling \$6M
    - Fire/Flood Recovery: 8 projects remaining totaling \$11.3M
    - PPRTA Construction: 7 projects totaling \$68.3M
    - All Other: 28 projects totaling \$34.4M
  - PPRTA Maintenance Program
    - Paving: \$4.0M servicing 23.6 miles overlay
    - Concrete Prep: \$3.44M supporting the 2019 paving program
    - Crack Seal: \$710K supporting 2019 in-house chip seal program and existing paved roads.
  - Planning
    - PPACG 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan
    - Asset Management
  - Stormwater
    - 2018 Program Description Document
    - Dedicated Stormwater Inspectors
    - 2018 Media Campaign

## **7. GALLAGHER AMENDMENT VIDEO**

### **Joel Quevillon (EPC Public Information Office)**

- Unable to show video due to technical difficulties.

## **8. AGENDA TOPICS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

- Presentation of Gallagher Amendment Video
- S Marksheffel Rd speed limit issue between Bradley Rd & Fontaine Blvd
- HWY 105 project presentation including mitigation plans near Monument Academy

## **ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting was adjourned at 10:24 AM.

**The next HAC meeting will be on August 15, 2018**

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Heaverlo  
Office Manager/Board Liaison – Department of Public Works