



Nevada Department of Transportation

Board of Directors • Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2024

9:30 AM

Meeting Location:

1263 South Stewart Street
Third Floor Conference Room
Carson City, Nevada 89712

123 East Washington Avenue
Building B
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

1951 Idaho Street
Conference Room
Elko, Nevada 89801

SEC 1. OPENING

1. Welcome/Call to Order/Roll Call

Governor Lombardo called the meeting to order on Monday, June 10, 2024. A roll call was conducted, and a quorum was established.

In attendance: Governor Joe Lombardo, Lieutenant Governor Stavros Anthony, Controller Andy Matthews, Member Virginia Valentine, Member Gary Perea, Member Frank Lepori.

Not in attendance: Member Justin Kalb

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Receive Director's Report – *Informational item only*

Director Tracy Larkin Thomason discussed a recent visit to Florida to look at the Brightline operations. Leadership from the governor's office, RTC of Southern Nevada, and NDOT explored stations at Orlando, West Palm Beach, and Miami, where they met with several leaders to talk about the economic development that this type of investment in the rail brings around the stations and the importance of the connecting of modes.

Director Larkin Thomason indicated that they continue to meet with FRA, both with NDOT and separately, and with Brightline in the room, to work on the grant recipient agreement and the sub-recipient agreement. The Director stated those should be done shortly and actual construction will begin later this year.

Director Larkin Thomason next discussed the impact the Mormon crickets are having on state highways, especially in the Northeast. The Director indicated there are signage for them due to the fact they are carnivorous and the buildup of the crickets being ran over can actually cause the highway to become slick.



Nevada Department of Transportation

Board of Directors • Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2024

9:30 AM

The Director noted they are being plowed and sanded. The Director also discussed the impact on some of the preservation projects as they cannot keep them off of the roadways.

Director Larkin Thomason next discussed how political signage is not allowed on the state rights away. The Director noted that it would be removed and taken to the closest maintenance center and that persons may call and pick them up. The Director asked that the public please check before the signs are put up and to remember if it is owed by the state, the sign cannot be put up. The Director indicated that if the fence line belongs to NDOT, a sign may not be put up. However, if it is a private fence line, a sign may be placed with permission from the owner. The Director encouraged the public to call their office with any questions.

Director Larkin Thomason followed up on the fallen heroes from last year, Michael Abbate and Trooper Alberto Felix, in that their signs have been put up utilizing the Honorary Highway Name program. The Director recognized Colonel Conmay from Northern Nevada, Major Kevin Honoree, and Lieutenant Governor Moleski in attendance for their efforts in supporting this program.

Director Larkin Thomason next discussed the kickoff last month to launch Respect the Cone Work Zone Safety Awareness Program. This campaign is led by Associated General Contractors in coordination with NDOT, RTC of Washoe County, Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County. The Director noted that between 2022 and 2023, Nevada saw a 39% increase in work zone crashes. The Director also noted that NDOT has more than 800 maintenance and 300 construction workers working on the highway in Truckee Meadows, and another 1,200 with construction partners in Truckee Meadows. The Director thanked AGC for taking the lead in getting the campaign kicked off.

Director Larkin Thomason moved on to thank the Lieutenant Governor for coming out to tour several projects in Northern Nevada and speaking to the contractors about issues they are facing, such as inflation and safety.

Director Larkin Thomason next gave an update on the I-15 Tropicana Project. In setting the foundations for the Tropicana Bridge, the flyover exit is being rebuilt, the bridge rehab and paving is currently being worked on, and there will be several different closures throughout summer, all of which will be posted ahead of time. The Director noted that it is on track to be completed next year.

Director Larkin Thomason informed the Board that the yearlong project to reconstruct US 395 through downtown Gardnerville and Douglas County launched its major reconstruction today. The preliminary drainage sidewalk, curb, and gutter improvements have been completed. The reconstruction, beginning with the two miles of 395 between Waterloo Lane and the first street in downtown Gardnerville, will



Nevada Department of Transportation

Board of Directors • Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2024

9:30 AM

include electronic flashing pedestrian crossing signs, upgraded lighting, underground conduit enhanced for better connectivity to roadway cameras and road weather information centers, and additional drainage and ADA improvements.

Director Larkin Thomason next moved on to the I-11 feasibility study, which goes from Kyle Canyon to Mercury. The Director noted information from the virtual meeting, being held June 10th through July 12th, and the feedback received during the last public meeting will be used. The Director also indicated that the draft menu of improvements include interchange locations, access road modifications, improvements to upgrade US 95 to an interstate, and how to traverse the Indian Springs area. The Director discussed bringing a state highway up to interstate standards and how that requires looking at purchasing control of access so that there are no intersections on the freeway, only interchanges.

Director Larkin Thomason next reported that it is time for the next round of bond sales, which is another \$150 million Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax bond and the \$50 million Fuel Revenue Indexing bond. The Director noted the Fuel Revenue Indexing bond is based on money received from fuel revenue indexing in Southern Nevada and is only used in Southern Nevada. The main designation for these bonds being considered is Henderson interchange.

Director Larkin Thomason thanked the governor for the process he put in place for bringing on, particularly maintenance workers, at an advanced step. The Director indicated that the vacancy rate continues to decline and has now decreased from 26% vacancy to 18% in all the districts at headquarters.

Director Larkin Thomason next recognized retirees, beginning with Steven Bear, an 18-year NDOT employee, and Kevin Killian, a 26-year employee.

The Governor thanked two retirees for their service, noting the appreciation of their contributions by both NDOT and the state of Nevada.

4. Consideration of Approval of the May 13, 2024, Nevada Department of Transportation Board of Directors Meeting Minutes. – *For possible action*

Motion:	Approve the May 13, 2024, NDOT Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
By:	Controller Andy Matthews
Second:	Member Virginia Valentine
Vote:	Passed unanimously



Nevada Department of Transportation

Board of Directors • Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2024

9:30 AM

SEC .2. CONSENT AGENDA: Items No. 5 through No. 7

Governor Lombardo explained that items 5 through 7 will be taken together unless any of the Board members wish to hear an item separately.

Contracts over \$40,000,000 or 20% over the engineer's estimate from April 12, 2024, through May 9, 2024

There are no contracts.

Agreements over \$10,000,000 from April 12, 2024, through May 9, 2024

There are no agreements.

Right-of-Way

5. REL 21-03: Relinquishment of the Frontage Road FRLY01, Fernley, Lyon County, Nevada. – *For possible action*
6. ABD 23-10: Resolution of Abandonment of a relocatable permanent access easement located near the Interstate Route 580 and State Route 431, Washoe County, Nevada. – *For possible action*
7. ABD 23-11: Resolution of Abandonment of a non-exclusive access easement located near the Interstate Route 580 and State Route 431, Washoe County, Nevada. – *For possible action*

Motion: Approve Consent Agenda Items 5 through 7

By: Lt. Governor Stavros Anthony

Second: Member Virginia Valentine

Vote: Passed unanimously

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

SEC. 3. ITEMS TAKEN SEPARATELY FROM CONSENT AGENDA

No items were taken separately.



Nevada Department of Transportation

Board of Directors • Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2024

9:30 AM

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS ITEMS

8. **Contracts, Agreements, and Settlements/Judgments** -- Pursuant to NRS 408.131 the Board may delegate authority to the Director which the Director may exercise pursuant to NRS 408.205. These items and matters have been delegated to the Director by the Board by resolutions in April 1990, and July 2011. – *Informational item only*

There were no contracts, agreements, settlements, or judgments.

9. **Executive Session:** Receive information from legal counsel regarding potential and existing litigation involving a matter over which the Transportation Board of Directors has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power and to deliberate toward a decision on the matter (Note: This item may be closed to the public pursuant to NRS 241.015(3)(b)(2) in order to discuss legal matters.). – *For possible action*

There was no executive session.

10. **Public Comment:** A period devoted to comments by the general public about matters relevant to the Board's jurisdiction will be held. No vote may be taken upon a matter not listed on the posted agenda. Comments will be limited to three minutes. Please clearly state your name and SPELL your last name for the record. If any of the Board wishes to extend the length of a presentation, this will be done by the Chair, or the Board by majority vote.

Alexis Motowitz with the Nevada Chapter Associated General Contractors thanked Governor Lombardo, Director Larkin, and Frank Lepori for attending the kickoff press conference and partnering with the RESPECT K campaign to make work zones safer. Ms. Motowitz noted the safety of the workforce is their most important priority and are grateful to have the support and partnership with the state as they educate the driving public to slow down and pay attention in work zones.

Bill Stremwall, a resident of Pahrump in Nye County, Nevada wrote in of his concerns of Highway 160. Mr. Stremwall stated that Highway 160 is the primary arterial in Pahrump, is vital for internal circulation as a regional link, and is also a route of national significance serving as the primary gateway into Death Valley National Park. Mr. Stremwall indicated his concerns are SR 160 within the town of Pahrump remains just two lanes half of that length to the turnoff for Death Valley, lacking even paved shoulders. Mr. Stremwall spoke to the emphatic support for widening 160 expressed at the 2022 hearings on NDOT's 159 through 160 corridor study, and the questions about the roundabouts to be built at Mountain Falls and Calvada.



Nevada Department of Transportation

Board of Directors • Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2024

9:30 AM

Mr. Stremwall noted that both are long overdue where serious collisions have occurred, and that accommodations for a third roundabout at Mesquite should be incorporated into the widening plans north of town due to increasing conflicts between heavy trucks and fast-moving passenger vehicles. Mr. Stremwall went on to list three low-cost improvements among the many identified in the 2022 study that he feels are vital to life safety and should be implemented without delay in advance of the overall widening. Mr. Stremwall suggested a right turn lane from southbound SR 160 onto Westbound 372 at the Bank of America corner in Central Pahrump. Mr. Stremwall indicated that increase in congestion at this intersection is delaying emergency vehicles backed up behind motorists intending to make a right turn but stuck in the queue at the red light. Mr. Stremwall went on to suggest two traffic signals at the outlet from Sky Vista onto 159 in the Summerlin area of Las Vegas, and a traffic signal at 160 plus Grand Canyon, where thousands of new residents lack safe egress to major arterial through their community. Mr. Stremwall indicated that Clark County Public Works says the intersection is NDOTs responsibility.

Member Valentine also recognized Sophie Kane, a member of the Girl Scouts since kindergarten when she joined the Daisies. Member Valentine recognized Ms. Kane for representing the community as a delegate to their national convention.

Ms. Kane stated she was interviewing Ms. Valentine due to her being recognized at the Think Big Bash.

There was no additional public comment.

11. Adjournment – *For possible action*

Motion:	Adjournment
By:	Controller Andy Matthews
Second:	Member Virginia Valentine
Vote:	Passed unanimously

Sajid Sulahria, Deputy Director
Secretary to the Board of Directors



Nevada Department of Transportation

Board of Directors • Meeting Minutes

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