

**MINUTES
MID-BAY BRIDGE AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024**

**CITY OF NICEVILLE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
208 NORTH PARTIN DRIVE
NICEVILLE, FLORIDA**

I. OPENING

Members present: Gordon E. Fornell
 James D. Neilson, Jr.
 James T. Wood, Jr.
 Parker Destin
 Kim Wintner

Also present: Van Fuller Executive Director
 Michelle Anchors Legal Counsel
 Bryant Paulk FDOT Ex officio, non-voting
 Cathy Demoreski Administrative Assistant

II. INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Fornell introduced and welcomed Mr. Rob Vandebroek, Okaloosa County Road Division Chief who was recently appointed by Okaloosa County Commission Chairman Paul Mixon as the County’s liaison to the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting – December 7, 2023

A motion to approve the December 7, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Mr. Neilson with a second by Mr. Wood and a 5-0 vote was taken for approval.

IV. TREASURER’S REPORT

Mr. Wood presented the Treasurer’s Report for December 2023. Account balances were:

FNBT Bank	\$	320,515.62
Regions		\$53,299,626.44

Mr. Wood made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Reports for December 2023 with a second by Mr. Destin and a 5-0 vote was taken for approval.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A. Operations. Mr. Fuller reported that both Traffic and Revenue on the System are doing fine and are within the Traffic Engineers projections. The State Toll Relief Program ended on December 31, 2023, and the final rebates will be posted to customers SunPass accounts this week. During 2023 SunPass customers using the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority System received a total of \$1.3M in rebates through the Authority’s Frequent Customer discount program and an additional \$1.9M from the State Program.

An announcement was made by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) regarding the Mid-Bay Bridge Rehabilitation Project, scheduled to begin in January 2024 with a performance period through Spring of 2025, by mail, variable message signage and in local media outlets. The \$3.1M project will consist of spall repairs as well as sealing and re-striping and installation of closely spaced RPMs as a safety measure on the roadway surface. Additionally, several piers will be repaired. All work is scheduled to be performed between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday with intermittent lane closures directed by flagmen. No lane closures or other construction related traffic impacts will occur during holidays and special events. Construction materials are to be stored on the west side of the North Lakeshore Drive interchange. The plan is for the deck work (e.g., spall repair, sealing, RPM installation) to begin first. The cost of the project will be added to the Authority's Long-Term Debt (LTD) with the FDOT and repaid through the annual flow of funds identified in the Authority's master indenture of trust.

VI. LEGAL COUNSEL

A. Executive Director Authorization for Mid-Bay Bridge Authority Projects. Ms. Anchors recommended the Board consider continuing this authorization, to avoid delays awaiting review and approval by the Board or the need for special meetings at short notice, and allow the Executive Director specific authority, within the already approved Budget, to act to approve actions to keep the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority projects moving forward. The Sunshine Law requires that the Board members not discuss issues among themselves that could at any time require a vote, so the use of e-mail to approve proposed actions is not appropriate. Acknowledging such authority formally would permit the Executive Director the latitude to address matters immediately, although such action would be subject to review and ratification at the next meeting of the Authority. This would allow any projects to advance in a timely manner. Both Mr. Fuller and Ms. Anchors regularly confer about the projects, and this suggestion is made only to continue to meet the objective of the Authority in moving the projects forward.

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Wintner reported that Mr. Fuller's recent presentation at the Destin Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Meeting was well received with positive feedback from Destin area businesspeople who were unaware of the positive impacts the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority has made to the local community.

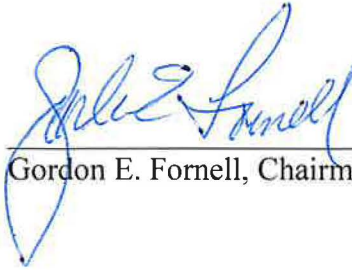
VIII. GENERAL DISCUSSION

The next regular meeting of the Authority will be held on **Thursday, February 15, 2024**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Destin City Hall Board, Destin, Florida.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:26 a.m.

Approved this 15th day of February 2024.



Gordon E. Fornell, Chairman