

**MINUTES
MID-BAY BRIDGE AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024**

**CITY OF DESTIN BOARD ROOM
4200 INDIAN BAYOU TRAIL
DESTIN, FLORIDA**

I. OPENING

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

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 welcomed Mr. Rob VandenBroeck, Okaloosa County Road Division Chief and County liaison to the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority. There were no members of the press present.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting – November 21, 2024

A motion to approve the November 21, 2024, 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 November 2024. Account balances were:

FNBT Bank	\$	353,419.46
Regions		\$53,999,711.25

Mr. Wood made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Reports for November 2024 with a second by Mr. Wintner and a 5-0 vote was taken for approval.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A. Operations. Mr. Fuller reported that the October 2024 Mid-Bay Bridge Unaudited Traffic and Revenue Report does not include the interoperability revenues, as shown on the report by asterisk. Traffic and Revenue for the first month of the fiscal year is consistent with projections; however, there was an error in the report and the Revenue Variance should be -5.2% not +5.2%.

Mr. Fuller explained FDOT District 3 representatives are scheduled to brief the Authority on the planned 2025 resurfacing of Danny Wuerffel Way and the 2026 resurfacing of SR293 from the Toll Plaza to Range Road.

Mr. Fuller updated the Authority on initial planning with respect to refinancing its bond debt as discussed at the August 2024 Authority meeting. If viable, the Authority may vote on a new Master Bond Reoluion at its April 17, 2025, meeting.

Finally, Mr. Fuller reported that the Election of Officers for the Authority will be held at the January 16, 2025, meeting.

VI. LEGAL COUNSEL

None

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Neilson complimented the Authority's staff and the work they have performed, and he expressed his gratitude to them for their exceptional effort. He recommended the same year-end financial benefit as was approved in 2023.

Mr. Neilson made a motion to approve the same year-end financial benefit for Mr. Fuller and Mrs. Demoreski that they received in 2023 with a second by Mr. Wintner and a 5-0 vote was taken for approval.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Anchors recommended that "Personnel" be included on the December 11, 2025 Meeting Agenda for consideration. Mr. Fuller clarified the year end benefit last year was \$2,000 each and that it is included in the budget, if approved.

Mr. Fornell will coordinate for the Eglin AFB to invite the 96 TW Commander for a tour of the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority System sometime after the first of the year.

Mr. Paulk, with FDOT, reported that the Brooks Bridge Replacement Project continues to move forward at a good pace. The PD&E Study on the Marler Bridge Replacement Project should begin in a year or so with construction expected in 2031-2032. A PD&E Study, which will include Environmental and Feasibility is expected to begin in 2028 for Hwy. 98 and Danny Wuerffel Way although the Right-of-Way costs are greatly restrictive. Construction can't afford access management.

VIII. GENERAL DISCUSSION

The next regular meeting of the Authority will be held on **Thursday, January 16, 2025**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Niceville City Council Chambers, Niceville, Florida.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:27 a.m.

Approved this 16th day of January 2025.



Chair