

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING APRIL 3, 2023

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING OF THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, WAS HELD APRIL 3, 2023 IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM OF THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, 200 NE 21ST STREET, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73105

Notice of the schedule of regular meetings of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for the calendar year 2023 having been given in writing to the Oklahoma Secretary of State, and public notice and agenda having been posted in a prominent public view on the website of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, www.ok.gov/odot, and on the glass doors on the north side of the ODOT Building twenty-four (24) hours prior to this meeting, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, in accordance with Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, 25 O.S. Section 311.

ITEMS PRESENTED BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Peterson called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present:	Bob Peterson	Chairman
	Bob Coburn	Secretary
	James Grimsley	Member
	Don Freymiller	Member
	<i>(Comm. Freymiller is attending virtually, can't vote because he's out of town and not in his district)</i>	
	TW Shannon	Member
	David Dyson	Vice-Chairman
	Bobby Alexander	Member
	Steve LaForge	Member
	Michael Junk	Member

Absent: None

Presiding: Bob Peterson

The following items were presented and approved as written at the Transportation Commission meeting April 3, 2023. For those items amended, deferred, or rejected, those notations were also made. Action taken by the Commission is noted here on these sheets.

Commissioner Peterson thanked everyone for coming and introduced Special Guests: Bobby Stem, Executive Director of the Association of Oklahoma General Contractors and Mike Patterson, former Secretary of Transportation. We really do appreciate everybody coming and participating in our Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Peterson recognized Secretary Gatz for an announcement.

Secretary Gatz said April is the month we put an extra emphasis on work zone safety awareness, as the summer highway construction season and driving season gets started. Drivers can expect more than 160 work zones on highways and turnpikes statewide this spring and summer. These work zones are going to range from short-term bridge maintenance projects with minimal impact to major interstate reconstruction, which can affect sometimes more than 100,000 vehicles per day. Additionally, ODOT, OTA crews and contractors are performing routine and reactive maintenance daily, everything from repairing damaged guardrail, to patching potholes, and mowing.

In the past 5 years, 91 people, including 1 ODOT worker were killed, and 1,294 people were injured in more than 7,125 collisions in Oklahoma work zones. While 2022 data is still coming in, 5 people were killed and 81 were injured in 273 collisions in work zones through May of 2022. Crashes involving commercial motor vehicles, semi-trucks in Oklahoma work zones are also among the highest in the nation. In 2021, there were 93 work zone fatality crashes with an additional 120 crashes resulting in serious injuries that involved commercial motor vehicles. Overall, crashes and traffic fatalities in Oklahoma are up here in the state and nationwide. The data in Oklahoma shows that drivers and passengers are far more likely than workers to lose their lives in crashes inside of our construction work zones. One of the simplest ways to avoid a fatality in a crash is to always wear a seat belt. Oklahoma ranks 40th in the nation for seatbelt use; and we really have to improve on. But just by making good choices every time we get behind the wheel of a vehicle, by making sure not just yourself, but all occupants are buckled up. Our theme is "Make It Home Safe; Make Oklahoma Safe". We can all do that, motorists and workers, by following a few simple rules of the road such as buckling up, putting away distractions, slowing down and observing the posted speed limits inside of work zones. We must spread the message that any crash that results in serious injury or fatality affects more than just the driver. The choices you make behind the wheel can affect your family, your friends, and your community forever. We have a multifaceted outreach campaign with ODOT, OTA, and other partners to remind drivers about the need for extra caution and complete attention in construction work zones. At this time, we have got a new Public Service Announcement that the Department has developed. It is cued up on a video, please play it now.

After the PSA was through playing Secretary Gatz read the Governor's Proclamation declaring April 17-21, 2023 as Work Zone Awareness Week in Oklahoma.

Secretary Gatz recognized a group of field workers that had come from the field to support the activities. He thanked them for their support and called them up for a group photo.

ITEMS PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION

48. Approval of the Minutes of the Transportation Commission Meeting of March 6, 2023

ACTION: Grimsley moved and Dyson seconded that the Minutes be approved as presented.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
NO VOTE: Freymiller
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

ITEM PRESENTED BY THE GENERAL COUNSEL – Ms. Penn

49. Election of Transportation Commission Officers

Secretary

ACTION: Grimsley moved and Dyson seconded that Bob Coburn be elected as the Secretary.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
NO VOTE: Freymiller
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: Coburn
ABSENT: None

Bob Coburn, District I Commissioner was elected Secretary of the Transportation Commission.

Vice-Chairman

ACTION: Grimsley moved and Coburn seconded that David Dyson be elected as the Vice-Chairman.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
NO VOTE: Freymiller
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: Dyson
ABSENT: None

David Dyson, District V Commissioner was elected Vice-Chairman of the Transportation Commission.

Chairman

ACTION: Grimsley moved and LaForge seconded that Bob Peterson be elected as the Chairman.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge and Junk
NO VOTE: Freymiller
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: Peterson
ABSENT: None

Bob Coburn, District VIII Commissioner was elected Chairman of the Transportation Commission.

CONSENT DOCKET PRESENTED BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

50. Speed Zone Revisions - Ms. January

a) Commission District II – Three Locations

1. McCurtain County – Along US-70 including the City of Idabel for 4.01 miles
2. McCurtain County – Along US-259 including the City of Idabel for 5.38 miles
3. McCurtain County – Along SH-3 including the City of Idabel for 0.93 miles

b) Commission District VI – Four Locations

1. Beaver County – Along SH-3 (US-412) for 16.08 miles
2. Beaver County – Along US-83 for 26.43 miles
3. Beaver County – Along US-64 including the Unincorporated Community of Turpin for 3.01 miles
4. Beaver County – Along US-83 for 6.73 miles

c) Commission District VIII – One Location

1. Rogers County – Along SH-20 including the CDP of Limestone for 9.41 miles

51. Safety Improvement Projects - Ms. January

a) Installation of School Zone – Commission Districts III & VII

1. McClain County – District III - One location along SH-130, in the City of Newcastle, to include school zone advanced warning signs with flashing beacons, and pavement marking improvements.

2. Murray County – District VII - One location along US-177, in the City of Sulphur, to include school zone advanced warning signs with flashing beacons, and pavement marking improvements.
3. Murray County – District VII - One location along SH-7, in the City of Sulphur, to include school zone advanced warning signs with flashing beacons, and pavement marking improvements.

The total amount of equipment is estimated to cost \$24,000.00

52. Land Sales – Mr. Phillips

- a) Cherokee County – District I – located along the east side of SH-82, approximately 300 feet north of the SH-82 & US-62/SH-10 intersection in the City of Tahlequah, OK - \$18,796.00
- b) McCurtain County – District II – located along the north side of US-70, approximately 2.75 miles westerly of the intersection of US-70 & N. Dalton Ave. in Valliant, OK - \$8,100.00
- c) Grant County – District IV – located along the westerly side of US-81, between E. 3rd Street & Osage Ave. in Medford, OK - \$2,800.00
- d) Payne County – District IV – located along the south side of SH-33, between N. Depot Ave. & N. Seay Ave. in Cushing, OK - \$1,225.00
- e) Custer County - District V – located along the south side of Eagle Road/I-40 Frontage Road, between E. Eads Avenue & S. Washington Road in Weatherford, OK - \$7,700.00
- f) Custer County – District V – located along the south side of E. Main Street & east of S. Washington Road in Weatherford, OK - \$131,900.00

ACTION: Grimsley moved and Coburn seconded that the Consent Docket be approved as presented;
 MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
 AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
 NO VOTE: Freymiller
 NAYES: None
 ABSENT: None

END OF CONSENT DOCKET

ITEMS PRESENTED BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING – Mr. Tegeler

53. Engineering Contracts

a) Statewide – All Districts - On-Demand Land Surveying

- | | |
|----------|---|
| CI-2430A | Benchmark Construction Services, LLC |
| CI-2430B | Carroll Surveying and Mapping, LLC |
| CI-2430C | CEC Corporation |
| CI-2430D | Frontier Land Surveying, LLC |
| CI-2430E | Heartland Surveying & Mapping, PLLC |
| CI-2430F | Keystone Engineering & Land Surveying, Inc. |
| CI-2430G | Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc. |
| CI-2430H | Universal Surveying and Mapping, LLC |
| CI-2430I | White Hawk Engineering & Design, LLC |

Total Aggregate Not to Exceed Amount for these nine (9) contracts is \$6,750,000.00

- b) McIntosh County – District I - to prepare construction plans for SH-9: slide repair 1.0 miles east of Indian Nation Turnpike. Proposed project improvements: reconstruct/rehabilitate existing facility
- | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| CI-2398 | The Schemmer Associates, Inc. | \$427,443.00 |
|---------|-------------------------------|--------------|
- c) Johnston County – District III – to provide preliminary engineering and prepare construction plans for US-377: at the junction of SH-22. Proposed project improvements: add shoulders to a 2-lane road, intersection modification, geometric and safety improvements
- | | | |
|---------|------------------------|----------------|
| CI-2434 | Freese & Nichols, Inc. | \$1,500,000.00 |
|---------|------------------------|----------------|
- d) Logan County – District IV – to prepare construction plans for SH-74: from junction of SH-74C, extending north 8 miles to intersection of SH-74 and E0650 and SH-74: from E0650 approximately 8 mile north of SH-74C, extending north to Garfield County line. Proposed project improvements: add shoulders to a 2-lane road
- | | | |
|----------|--|----------------|
| CI-2404B | Hudson Prince Engineering & Inspection, PLLC | \$2,739,587.00 |
|----------|--|----------------|
- e) Roger Mills County – District V- to prepare construction plans for US-283: beginning at SH-33 South junction and extending north 8.0 miles to the North SH-47 junction. Proposed project improvements: add shoulders to a 2-lane road
- | | | |
|----------|-----------------|----------------|
| CE-2422B | CEC Corporation | \$2,107,746.00 |
|----------|-----------------|----------------|
- f) Harper County – District VI – to prepare construction plans for US-183: beginning 4.6 miles north of the Harper/Woodward County line, extending north 4.0 miles, proposed. Proposed project improvements: add shoulders to a 2-lane road, geometric improvements and replace bridge on offset alignment
- | | | |
|----------|------------------------------|--------------|
| CI-2424A | Cowan Group Engineering, LLC | \$505,870.00 |
|----------|------------------------------|--------------|

ACTION: Dyson moved and Shannon seconded that the Item be approved as presented.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
NO VOTE: Freymiller
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

54. Engineering Contract Supplements

a) Statewide – All Districts - On-Demand Overload Permit Studies

CI-2323	Supplement 2	Grossman & Keith Engineering Co.	\$50,000.00
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- b) McCurtain County – District II – this supplement is for additional engineering to develop final construction plans for SH-3: from junction US-259, extending west 5.09 miles. Proposed project improvements: add shoulders to a 2-lane road, intersection modification and safety project improvements

EC-1329	Supplement 7	H W Lochner, Inc.	\$11,300.00
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- c) Canadian County – District IV – this supplement is for additional engineering to develop final construction plans for US-81: at SH-66 junction in El Reno. Proposed project improvements: intersection modification and reconstruct/rehabilitate existing facility

EC-1824 Supplement 4 Freese & Nichols, Inc. \$44,400.00

- d) Kay County – District IV – this supplement is for additional engineering to develop final construction plans for US-60: over the Chikaskia River and Overflow, from approximately 1.7 miles east of US-177 to approximately 2.9 miles east of US-177. Proposed project improvements: reconstruct/rehabilitate existing facility and safety improvements

EC-1580 Supplement 3 Aguirre & Fields, LP \$35,632.00

- e) Caddo County – District VII – this supplement is for additional engineering to develop final construction plans for SH-58: from 0.65 miles south of junction 58/SH-19W, extending north 5.65 miles. Proposed project improvements: add shoulders to a 2-lane road

CI-2374C Supplement 1 H W Lochner, Inc. \$219,113.00

- f) Rogers County – District VIII – this supplement is for additional engineering to develop final construction plans for I-44/US-412: from I-244/I-44 interchange, extending east to SH-66. Proposed project improvements: geometric and safety improvements and reconstruct/rehabilitate existing facility

EC-659 Supplement 9 Benham Design, LLC \$1,654,954.13

- g) Tulsa County – District VIII – this supplement is for additional engineering to develop final construction plans for I-44: at the US-75 interchange (Work Package #3). Proposed project improvements: add capacity to roadway, add sidewalks and traffic control devices, geometric improvements and replace bridge on offset alignment

CI-2123B Supplement 6 Poe & Associates, Inc. \$299,650.00

ACTION: Alexander moved and Dyson seconded that the Item be approved as presented.
 MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
 AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
 NO VOTE: Freymiller
 NAYES: None
 ABSENT: None

ITEMS PRESENTED BY CONSTRUCTION DIVISION ENGINEER – Mr. Leonard

55. Change Orders with Cumulative Total of \$75,000.00 or Less – Information Only

- a) Cimarron County - US-287 - NHPP-017N(282)PM / 13337(06), \$28,350.00, 0.13%
- b) Garvin County - SH-19 - STP-225B(081)PM / 27830(04), \$4,290.02, 0.22%
- c) Garvin County - City Street - TAP-225F(101)TP / 34116(04), \$6,814.38, 3.46%
- d) Hughes County - County Road - STP-232C(070)CI / 32973(04), \$31,053.01, 5.91%
- e) McIntosh County - US-69 - NHPP-019N(175)PM / 30572(04), \$0.48, -0.00% Underrun
- f) Muskogee County - County Road - STP-251B(125)CI / 28516(04), \$11,213.64, 0.91%
- g) Noble County - US-77 - STP-252F(093)PM / 24237(08), \$23,387.57, 7.97%
- h) Ottawa County - SH-125 - STP-258B(079)PM / 29689(04), \$13,110.49, 0.21%
- i) Tulsa County - I-44 - SSP-4400(096)PM / SBR-4400(075)SB / 10981(05), \$17,762.61, 0.11%
- j) Tulsa County - SH-51 - STP-272B(351)PM / 31094(04), \$41,781.50, -1.80% Underrun
- k) Washita County - SH-44 - STP-275C(074)AD / 33948(04), \$3,000.00, 0.77%

Total amount of presented Change Orders: \$97,199.74

56. Change Orders with Cumulative Total Greater than \$75,000.00

- a) Atoka County - US-69 - NHPP-013N(174)PM / 30411(04), \$58,765.62, 0.30%
- b) Canadian County - US-281 - STP-109B(154)PM / 26360(04), \$128,773.22, 0.38%
- c) Custer County - I-40 - NHPPI-4000(073)PM / 28997(04), \$4,060.41, 0.05%
- d) Grady County - US-62 - NHPP-126N(187)PM / 28182(04), #4, \$89,963.30, 0.72%
- e) Grady County - US-62 - NHPP-126N(187)PM / 28182(04), #5, \$79,063.38, 0.63%
- f) Grady County - SH-37 - SSR-226C(099)SR / 34416(04), \$2,000.00, 0.13%
- g) Kingfisher County - SH-51 - STP-237C(034)PM / 27945(04), \$17,572.40, 0.14%
- h) McCurtain County - SH-3 - NHPP-245N(006)PM / 24409(04), \$672,605.00, 3.47%
- i) Muskogee County - I-40 / US-266 - SSP-251C(116)PM / SBR-4000(107)SB / 33440(04), \$623.86, 0.01%
- j) Nowata County - US-169 - NHPP-030N(079)PM / 28892(04), \$7,754.40, 0.15%
- k) Osage County - US-60 - NHPP-257N(085)PM / 24233(04), #4, \$39,515.49, -0.13% Underrun
- l) Osage County - US-60 - NHPP-257N(085)PM / 24233(04), #5, \$44,057.52, 0.15%
- m) Osage County - SH-99 - STP-257B(090)PM / 29686(04), \$14,632.08, 0.36%
- n) Pontotoc County - SH-19 - STP-162B(187)SS / 21841(07), \$11,250.00, 0.07%
- o) Pontotoc County - SH-1 - NHPP-262N(061)PM / 28946(04), \$884,101.00, 9.80%
- p) Rogers County - SH-20 - STP-266B(081)PM / 27031(04), #9, \$10,734.29, 0.02%
- q) Rogers County - SH-20 - STP-266B(081)PM / 27031(04), #10, \$112,894.98, 0.26%
- r) Rogers County - US-412 - NHPP-019N(144)3P / 33370(04), \$22,586.58, 1.35%
- s) Tulsa County - SH-20 - STP-172B(360)SS / 24346(04), \$339,269.60, 2.20%
- t) Tulsa County - SH-51 - NHPP-015N(034)PM / 26303(08), \$24,000.00, 0.16%
- u) Tulsa County - I-44 - NHPPI-4400(054)(077)PM / 33788(04), \$125,970.74, -0.14% Underrun

Total amount of presented Change Orders: \$2,359,221.41

ACTION: Coburn moved and LaForge seconded that the Item be approved as presented.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
NO VOTE: Freymiller
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

ITEMS PRESENTED BY THE COMPTROLLER DIVISION

57. Proposed Bid Openings – Mr. Hackney, Project Funding Manager

- a) Final May, 2023 Proposed Bid Opening
- b) Tentative June, 2023 Proposed Bid Opening
- c) Tentative July, 2023 Proposed Bid Opening

ACTION: Grimsley moved and Coburn seconded that the Item be approved as presented.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
NO VOTE: Freymiller
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

ITEM PRESENTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS – Mr. Davis

58. Settlement of Claim for Wildcat Construction Co., Inc.

Canadian County – District IV – Bridge Rehabilitation – on I-40 over South Maple Road, 3.0 miles west of US-270, Project No.: SBR-4000(146)SB; 33420(04) - \$16,667.06

ACTION: LaForge moved and Shannon seconded that the Item be approved as presented.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
NO VOTE: Freymiller
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

ITEMS PRESENTED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT DIVISION – Ms. Williams

59. Award of 2022 Transportation Alternative Projects

The Transportation Alternative Program provides federal funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including pedestrian and bicycle facilities, community improvement activities, safe routes to school projects, and other related activities. Awards are made based on a competitive application process developed by the Department, with funding made available by FHWA. The goal of the Departments is to conduct the application and award cycle every two years.

The Department, along with the Transportation Alternative Advisory Committee (TAAC), reviewed 135 applications submitted by eligible sponsors. The TAAC committee was comprised of representatives from Department of Commerce, Department of Agriculture, Department of Health, Oklahoma Municipal Assurance Group, Association of Central Oklahoma Governments, Indian Nations Council of Governments, Rural Transportation Planning Organizations, ODOT-Local Government Division, and Oklahoma University – Institute for Quality Communities. The committee evaluated and scored eligible applications which resulted in the recommended awards.

This award recommendation includes allocations for FY2022, FY2023 and FY2024. The Department is recommending award of 62 projects totaling \$52,183,324.

ACTION: Dyson moved and Alexander seconded that the Item be approved as presented.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
NO VOTE: Freymiller
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

60. Request for Approval of Bridge Formula Program Funding – Structurally Deficient City Bridges

Recognizing the importance of decreasing the number of Off-System Structurally Deficient bridges, the Department has selected 11 SD bridges located within the incorporated city limits of Chandler, Rush Springs, Chelsea, Pawnee, Drumright, Arcadia, Fairview and Shawnee for participation in the SD City Bridge program. The Department will work in conjunction with the cities to replace or rehabilitate these bridges to remove the deficiency. This federally funded program was initially presented as informational only in July 2022.

This program commits \$10 million annually to correct Structurally Deficient Bridges within municipalities. The selection process evaluates each structure, helping to establish prioritization. Consideration is given to Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT), school bus routes, load posting, local matching ability, age of structure, and cost of rehabilitation versus replacement.

ACTION: Dyson moved and LaForge seconded that the Item be approved as presented.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
NO VOTE: Freymiller
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

ITEMS PRESENTED BY THE OFFICE ENGINEER – Mr. Delce

61. Awards

- a) March 9, 2023 – Regular Bid Opening
- b) March 16, 2023 – Regular Bid Opening

ACTION: LaForge moved and Coburn seconded that the Item be approved as presented.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Junk and Peterson
NO VOTE: Freymiller
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

62. Director's Report

Secretary Gatz said, I want to talk just for a minute about the Transportation Alternatives Program and the job that Shelly and her team in Local Government do to really make sure that we're conducting an appropriate level of outreach to the partners that are interested in these types of projects, communities, et cetera. And the work that's accomplished for the investment level that we have here in Oklahoma is significant. It really is of tremendous impact to those communities. So, we really appreciate their work; and to get as broad of coverage and the level of engagement takes a lot of work; and I don't want that to go unrecognized or unnoticed.

Likewise, with the Bridge Formula Program funding and our efforts around structurally-deficient bridges not just on the highway system, but on the county road system and the municipalities. Again, I want to commend the work that Shelly and her team does in conjunction with our bridge division, bridge designers, they really work hard to make sure that we identify bridges that are really in need, and make sure that we get the resources to the right places. With this bridge formula program, I'm going to tell you that the Department of Transportation here in Oklahoma is going above and beyond working with our local entities, county commissioners, and municipalities to make sure that we're getting at these locations that otherwise are likely to go unaddressed. So again, congratulations to Shelly and the team.

He talked about the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program scoring rubric. Oklahoma is receiving \$66 million during the next 5 years to build out Oklahoma's EV infrastructure. This summer, we have \$23 million available for Phase 1 which will focus on charging infrastructure around our interstate system. That money is going to be awarded to applicants to build out charging infrastructures within 50 miles of the interstate; and targeting, primarily, those 150-kilowatt-hour charging ports for up to 4 vehicles each. And our goal is to have those in this phase located within 1 mile of key interstate interchanges. Before we award those funds, we've created that scoring rubric to help rate the applications. That rubric is going live today for public comments and will be open for 30 days at the oklahoma.gov/evok website. Jared Schwennesen and his team have done a great job working with our consultant partners to start up this program.

Another exciting thing that's coming up over the summer, will be our "Fair Miles Oklahoma" program. This is a financial pilot program that was asked of us by the legislature, that could help replace declining motor fuel taxes as a resource for infrastructure funding. Enrollment is underway, and we have got about 75 people that are enrolled so far, and several hundred more that have indicated an interest. And enrollment really means that you're going to help us test this out. It's not a monetary test, so there won't be any change in the revenue structure; it's just simply a pilot project. And we are asking the traveling public to assist us in coming up with some reporting about what worked well, what maybe didn't work so well and some of the concerns that they have. So, it's really something to just get us started and put our first step down the path to something that is more futuristic. The Tulsa Auto Show is April 14th and there's going to be an additional enrollment available there. And we are trying to get a broad cross-section of Oklahoma through tribal and university student outreach; and our goal is to have about 600 enrolled before June. The pilot will run through November and we will report our findings to the Legislature in December.

Commissioner Peterson commented we are not the only state doing that, I think Oregon was an early leader and Colorado.

Secretary Gatz said, yes there are many states that are taking a hard look at some type of a road user charge format for the future. I think it's inherent as we continue to evolve with different alternative fuel types, et cetera, to find some common ground about how we want to do this. And there's also a national initiative where USDOT is going to undertake something very similar.

I wanted to again put a real exclamation point on Work Zone Safety Awareness by bringing attention to several current and upcoming projects that will have a direct impact on traffic. They are:

- *US-77 (Broadway Extension) resurfacing in Edmond, this \$9 million project begins on April 10th and completion anticipated by Fall 2023 weather permitting;*
- *I-40 / Douglas Blvd. interchange and I-40 widening to 6 lanes in Midwest City, this \$170 million project begins on April 10th and will take about 2 years to complete;*
- *US-169 / WB I-244 interchange in Tulsa, this work has started and currently has 1 lane closed on I-244 and both ramps from US-169 narrowed. This project will be very disruptive to traffic and this area has a very high volume of traffic.*
- *US-62 over the Arkansas River bridge and approaches in Muskogee. This more than \$74 million project started in September 2022 and last month saw blasting demolition to bring down the main navigation span over the river, also had 2 smaller blasts to remove piers last month, and 1 blast remains and is scheduled for this coming Wednesday. US-62 must be shut down for each blast to ensure everyone's safety. Closures last about 30 minutes, most of which is checking the other bridge for damage and debris. Blast closures require great partnership between ODOT, City of Muskogee, our law enforcement partners, as well as the Coast Guard and US Army Corps of Engineers;*
- *US-259 widen and resurface south of Idabel, 2 miles north of the Texas state line and north 6 miles. This \$22 million project begins first week of April, weather permitting and estimated to be completed Summer 2024;*
- *I-40 resurfacing project west of Oklahoma City, this \$6 million project will start in July. With the high traffic volume and large number of businesses located within this section of the corridor, motorists can expect significant delays and congestion during this summer;*
- *I-40 resurfacing west of El Reno, this more than \$24 million project will significantly impact traffic through late 2023 and starts in June;*
- *I-35 / I-240 interchange in Oklahoma City, this \$75 million 3rd phase of the I-35/I-240 Crossroad interchange reconstruction is expected to start in early summer. This phase will focus on the outside of the interchange and will include a protected turnaround at 59th street, replacement of the railroad bridges, a new NB I-35 to EB I-240 connection ramp and pavement upgrades on I-240, I-35, frontage roads and Pole Road.*

I had the great honor of attending the ribbon cutting last week for the SH-71 project over the Lake Eufaula Dam. This \$22 million project was a great example of our ability to partner with the US Army Corps of Engineers. We have the potential of other such partnerships in the future at Lakes Tenkiller, Fort Gibson and Keystone.

The Department very much appreciates your support for making these projects happen. And just ask the traveling public to be Work Zone Aware as we go forward

Chairman Peterson asked if it would be appropriate to touch on the change of the sub-committee makeeups.

Secretary Gatz said absolutely; these are the proposed lineups:

Operations Sub-Committee: Commissioners Peters, Alexander and Grimsley;

Audit Sub-Committee: Commissioners Dyson, Coburn and Junk;

Pre-Construction Sub-Committee: Shannon, LaForge and Freymiller.

Information Only: No Commission action required.

ITEM PRESENTED BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

63. Adjournment Motion

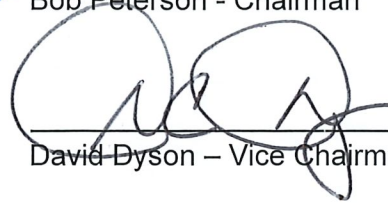
ACTION: Shannon moved and Dyson seconded that the Meeting be adjourned.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Peterson and Junk
NO VOTE: Freymiller
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes of the Transportation Commission Meeting April 3, 2023.



Bob Peterson - Chairman



David Dyson - Vice Chairman

