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December OTA Board Meeting Wrap-Up **Board approves 2023 budget; sets 2023 meeting schedule**

The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority board approved the budget for the 2023 calendar year at its Tuesday, Dec. 6, meeting. The routine vote sets the budget at more than \$137 million for operations and maintenance.

“We appreciate our team and the dedication it put into the annual budget,” said Secretary of Transportation and OTA Executive Director Tim Gatz. “This significantly helps explain what the Turnpike Authority is going to try to accomplish in 2023.”

Board members also approved the schedule for monthly board meetings throughout 2023. The schedule will allow for more bid opportunities for turnpike projects. “We want to provide the most robust bidding environment possible while creating more opportunities for competition in the bidding process.”

The board, a six-member panel appointed by the governor to an eight-year term to oversee turnpike development, awards project contracts for road and bridge construction on a monthly basis.

The next Oklahoma Turnpike Authority board meeting is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, at the Oklahoma Department of Transportation Commission Room, 200 N.E. 21st St., Oklahoma City. The meeting also will be available to view live online.