

JOINT PUBLIC MEETING
of the
MICHIGAN STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
and the
MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

January 25, 2018, Aeronautics Administration Building, Lansing, Michigan

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Todd A. Wyett, State Transportation Commission (STC) Chairman
Michael D. Hayes, STC Vice Chair
Ron J. Boji, STC Commissioner
George K. Heartwell, STC Vice Chair Commissioner
Helen Zeerip, STC Commissioner
J. David VanderVeen, Michigan Aeronautics Commission (MAC)
Chairman
Rick Fiddler, MAC Commissioner
Roger Salo, MAC Commissioner
Russ Kavalhuna, MAC Commissioner
Maj. Gen. Len Isabelle, MAC Commissioner, Michigan Department of
Military and Veterans Affairs Designee
Capt. Joe Gasper, MAC Commissioner, Michigan Department of State
Police Designee
Laura J. Mester, MAC Commissioner, Michigan Department of
Transportation Designee

Members Absent: Charles Moser, STC Commissioner
Pete Kamarainen, MAC Vice Chairman
Kevin Jacobs, MAC Commissioner, Michigan Department of Natural
Resources Designee

Also Present: David Brickey, Assistant Attorney General, Transportation Division
Phil Browne, STC Commission Advisor
Andrew Beardslee, STC Deputy Commission Advisor
Jack Cotter, Commission Auditor, Office of Commission Audits
ShuKeyna Thurman, Executive Assistant, Office of Commission Audits
Michael Trout, MAC Director, Office of Aeronautics
Bryan Budds, MAC Advisor, Office of Aeronautics
Judy Baker, MAC Analyst, Office of Aeronautics
About 20 people were in the audience; a sign-in list is attached to the
official minutes.

I. WELCOME

- ***Michigan State Transportation Commission – Todd Wyett, Chairman***

STC Chair Wyett called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

- ***Michigan Aeronautics Commissioner – J. David VanderVeen, Chairman***

MAC Chair VanderVeen welcomed everyone and noted that the joint meeting was being hosted by the STC this year.

II. PRESENTATIONS

- ***Michigan Department of Transportation Director's Report – Laura Mester, CAO***

Chief Administrative Officer Laura Mester said the Fiscal Year 2019 budget is the first-year tax increases from the 2015 road funding package will be included in the transportation budget. Ms. Mester said that the State Budget Office has agreed to include \$10 million for bridge activity, especially after several emergency bridge strikes. For maintenance and emerging technology, Ms. Mester said that MDOT has identified \$8 million dedicated to addressing culverts and \$2 million for information technology to handle autonomous vehicles.

- ***Office of Aeronautics Report – Michael Trout***

Aeronautics Commission Director Mike Trout said the Office of Aeronautics (Aero) has submitted their annual report to the governor, and the Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Task Force has issued their final report. One of the task force's recommendations was to participate in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Integration Pilot Program, which is an opportunity for governments to partner with the private sector to accelerate safe UAS integration. Aero recently submitted a proposal and promotional video to the FAA in an effort to be selected.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

STC Chair Wyett asked if anyone would like to make a public comment.

Dave Robinson, National Federation of the Blind member

Mr. Robinson expressed his frustrations with the lack of assistance the blind and overall persons with disabilities receive at the Detroit Metro Airport (DTW). Mr. Robinson is seeking help in making a change for the better at the DTW for persons with disabilities.

Joe Sontag, National Federation of the Blind member

Mr. Sontag expressed his impression that the current system is less safe and segregates persons with disabilities.

Donna Rose, citizen

Ms. Rose spoke about the lack of public transportation to get from DTW airport to Detroit or other areas in Michigan. Ms. Rose addressed her concerns of how persons with disabilities are faced with dangerous obstacles when riding buses or shuttle to/from the DTW. For instance, she stated current bus stops are supposed to be barrier free, which they are not. Ms. Rose stated she strongly suggest that people use other airports that accommodate persons with disabilities because she feels the DTW does not.

Karla Hudson, citizen

Ms. Hudson is a frequent user of the Michigan Flyer. She noted that separate is not equal and that persons with disabilities should not have to identify that they have a disability. She also felt that other airports across the country treat persons with disabilities much better.

IV. **ADJOURNMENT OF JOINT MEETING**

With no further business being before both commissions, STC Chair Todd Wyett declared this meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

V. **REGULAR PUBLIC MEETINGS OF BOTH COMMISSIONS**

- The STC met in the auditorium prior to this meeting, their minutes can be found at www.michigan.gov/transcommission.
- The MAC met in the Commission Conference Room prior to this meeting, their minutes can be found at www.michigan.gov/aero, select *Commission*.

Signed copy on file

Phil Brown, Commission Advisor
State Transportation Commission

Signed copy on file

Michael G. Trout, Director
Michigan Aeronautics Commission

April 19, 2018

Dated: _____