

**STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD OF GEORGIA  
MINUTES**

**Georgia Department of Transportation  
600 West Peachtree Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308**

**March 19, 2015  
9:00 a.m.**

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Don Grantham, Chair (via telephone)  
Emily Dunn, Vice Chair  
Robert Brown, Secretary  
Ann Purcell  
Johnny Floyd  
Stacey Key  
Mark Burkhalter  
Rudy Bowen  
Jay Shaw  
Jamie Boswell  
Jeff Lewis  
Dana Lemon  
Roger Williams

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Sam Wellborn

**DOT STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

Todd Long, Deputy Commissioner  
Angela Whitworth, Treasurer  
Meg Pirkle, Chief Engineer  
Matt Cline, General Counsel

Chair Emily Dunn called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Jeff Lewis gave the invocation.

Chair Dunn asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 2015 meetings. Ann Purcell made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 2015 meetings, seconded by Johnny Floyd and unanimously approved.\*

Joe Carpenter, Director P3/Program Delivery, presented the projects proposed for the April 2015 Letting for approval. Mike Dover, TIA Administrator, presented the TIA projects proposed for the April 2015 Letting. Chair Dunn asked for a motion to approve. Jay Shaw made a motion to approve the projects proposed for the April 2015 Letting, seconded by Jamie Boswell and unanimously approved.\*

Cindy VanDyke, State Transportation Planning Administer, presented the revisions to the Construction Work Program for March 2015 for approval. Chair Dunn asked for a motion to approve the revisions to the Construction Program for March 2015. Robert Brown made a motion to approve the revisions to the Construction Work Program for March 2015, seconded by Dana Lemon and unanimously approved.

John Hibbard, Director of Operations, provided a review of the Department's preparations and response to inclement weather threats during the winter season, noting that the public response to GA DOT's efforts had been overwhelmingly positive.

Todd Long, Deputy Commissioner, gave the monthly Department report, beginning with a short video clip produced by WSB-TV expressing thanks to all involved with winter weather efforts. Other topics included state fund collections; total employment figure for the month ending February 2015; major projects opened to traffic; project and staff awards; Work Zone Safety Awareness Week; activities at the ports; and the brand new external website.

Chair Dunn asked for a motion to approve the following resolution. Johnny Floyd made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Roger Williams and unanimously approved.

**Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, Thomas Howell, P.E., a native Georgian, graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, and started his career at the Georgia Department of Transportation in 1987 as a Transportation Engineering Trainee; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Howell successfully completed his two year training program and moved into the role of Assistant Area Engineer, then Area Engineer, District Construction Engineer and District Maintenance Engineer; and

**WHEREAS**, Thomas Howell moved into the position of Assistant District Engineer and in 2002 was promoted to District Engineer in the Thomaston District; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2009, Thomas Howell was promoted to the Atlanta General Office as the Director of Construction, until 2013 when he returned to District Three once again as the District Engineer; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Howell managed all operations in District Three, covering 31 counties in Central Georgia, 524 employees and an annual operating budget of \$35 million; and

**WHEREAS**, During the tenure of Mr. Howell, the completion of all roadways in the Governor's Road Improvement Program, known as GRIP Corridors, within the boundaries of District Three was accomplished, helping to connect rural communities with efficient transportation options and economic development opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, Thomas Howell's 28 years with the Department of Transportation provided an opportunity for him to impact the quality of life for citizens in Central Georgia.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the State Transportation Board recognizes Thomas Howell for his exemplary service and contributions to the Georgia Department of Transportation, appreciates his loyal and devoted service, and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a suitable copy be presented to Thomas Howell in recognition of his commitment, dedication and selfless service.

**Adopted this the 19th day of March, 2015.**

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Chair Dunn asked for a motion to approve the following resolution. Ann Purcell made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Rudy Bowen and unanimously approved.

**Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, Frank L. Danchetz, P.E., graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, and started his career at the Georgia Department of Transportation in 1971; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Danchetz worked in a variety of roles within the Department including the Offices of Environment and Location, Urban Design and Planning, prior to being appointed as Chief Engineer in 1993; and

**WHEREAS**, Frank Danchetz served as Chief Engineer for ten years before retiring from the Georgia Department of Transportation in 2003 with 34 years of service; and

**WHEREAS**, during his long and successful career, Mr. Danchetz mentored many of the Department's recent Chief Engineers and senior leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Danchetz was a respected transportation professional, with strong relationships as a liaison to federal, state and local legislators, providing expert knowledge on issues; and

**WHEREAS**, upon retirement, Frank Danchetz continued his work in the field of transportation as Vice President of ARCADIS, and also continued his activities with AASHTO, the Transportation Research Board, ACEC and others.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the State Transportation Board recognizes Frank Danchetz as a dedicated public servant for his contributions to the Georgia Department of Transportation, the State of Georgia and its citizens.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a suitable copy be presented to the family of Frank L. Danchetz in recognition of his commitment, dedication and selfless service.

**Adopted this the 19th day of March, 2015.**

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Johnny Floyd gave a report from the Legislative Committee.\* Johnny Floyd made a motion to contact Congressman Rob Woodall's office and offer a congratulations on his appointment to the House T&I committee and to offer Department resources and support in his new committee role. Ann Purcell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Jay Shaw gave a report from the Finance Committee.\* There was no action taken at the meeting.

Jamie Boswell gave a report from the Property Utilization Committee.\* There was no action taken at the meeting.

There being no further business, Chair Dunn adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

**Approved:**

  
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Emily Dunn, Vice Chair

**Respectfully submitted:**

  
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Robert L. Brown, Jr., Secretary

\*Denotes documentation in file.