



Statutory Powers and Policies of the Transportation Board

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State Transportation Board

Election – O.C.G.A. § 32-2-20:

One member from each congressional district

- Elected by a majority vote of members of the House and Senate whose district are embraced or partially embraced within congressional district boundaries.
- 5 year terms- (vacancies for incomplete terms are filled the same way as full terms and serve the remainder of the term.
- Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary are elected by the Board.



Duties & Powers of the Board

O.C.G.A §32-2-21 & §32-2-40

- Select Commissioner as the CEO of the Department
- “General control and supervision of the Department”
- Specific control over:
 1. **Designation of public roads on the State Highway System.**
 2. **Approval of negotiated construction contracts, authority lease rentals or the advertising of non-negotiated construction contracts.**
 3. **Approval of all long range plans and programs of the Department.**
- Other powers as expressly conferred by law.



Other Express Board Powers

Examples of other powers expressly conferred by state law:

- Designation of restricted travel lanes on the highway system. -- O.C.G.A. § 32-9-4
- Designation of FlexAuto Lanes. -- O.C.G.A. § 32-9-4.1
- Approval of the Department Budget prepared by staff for submission to OPB and General Assembly. -- O.C.G.A. § 45-12-78(a)
- Congressional District Balancing requirement waivers (under certain circumstances). -- O.C.G.A. § 32-5-30
- Power to authorize the Department to enter into joint study, construction, operations and maintenance of projects with SRTA. - O.C.G.A. § 32-10-67



Other Express Board Powers (Cont'd)

- Approval of contracts between the Department and proposers of a public-private partnerships. -- O.C.G.A. § 32-2-80
- Authorize studies for road relocation connected with Stone Mountain Memorial Association project. -- O.C.G.A. § 12-3-198
- Authorize operation of traction engines or tractors on highway where it would otherwise be prohibited. -- O.C.G.A. § 40-8-74



General Control = Setting Policy

Policy *noun*

A high-level overall plan embracing the general goals and acceptable procedures especially of a governmental body.

Merriam Webster 2016

A course of action adopted and pursued by a government, ruler, political party, etc.

Dictionary.com 2016



Board Policies

Policies divided into two general parts:

- Policies that affect the Board and its operations.
- Policies providing guidance on the Department's operations.



Board Policies

Board Governance

- 2A-2- Minutes
 - Minutes taken to include in Official Minute Book.
 - Speakers requesting to speak in front of the Board must make request 10 days before meeting.
 - 10-Day Rule.
 - Board must approve any proposed legislation
 - 2/3 vote to waive procedure.



Board Policies

Board Governance

- 2A-6- By-laws
 - Outlines election process and term limits for Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary.
 - *Robert's Rules of Order* adopted.
 - 2/3 vote of membership to amend rules or policies.
 - Establishment and appointment of committees.
 - Internal censure process.



Board Policies

Board Governance

- 2A-7- Meetings and Compensation
 - Meetings on the third Thursday of the Month and Special meetings called by Commissioner or Chairman.
 - Board Member compensation and reimbursement for meetings is outlined according to the governing statute.
 - Per diem and reimbursement for studying transportation needs also outlined.



Board Policies

Board Governance

- 2A-8- Ethics Resolution
 - Policy for the Department to follow when it is necessary for the Department to acquire property from a Board Member or Board Member's immediate family.
 - Two appraisals, then reviewed by a third appraiser
 - Eminent domain process must be utilized.
 - Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner must not be involved in negotiations.
 - Board Members recuse themselves from project involving direct benefit to the board member or family member.



Board Policies

Additional Board Policies providing direction to the Department

2C- Special Staff

2D- Planning and Programming

2E- Preconstruction

2F- Construction

2G- Operations

2H- Administration

2I- General

2J- Policy Statements



Next Steps

- Review Board Policies with affected staff.
- Make recommendations for changes or reaffirm current policy.
- Bring to Committee of the Whole for discussion and approval.



Questions?