

# MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

## April 7, 2025

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING OF THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, HELD APRIL 7, 2025, IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM OF THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, 200 NE 21<sup>ST</sup> STREET, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73105

Notice of the schedule of regular meetings of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for the calendar year 2025 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](http://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 the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, 25 O.S. Section 311.

### ITEMS PRESENTED BY COMMISSION VICE-CHAIRMAN

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

The following items were presented and approved as written at the Transportation Commission meeting March 3, 2025.

<b><u>ROLL CALL:</u></b>	<b>Present:</b>	Bob Peterson	Chairman
		David Dyson	Vice-Chairman
		Bob Coburn	Secretary
		Eric Stuteville	Member
		Michael Junk	Member
		Bobby Alexander	Member
		Don Freymiller	Member

**Absent:**

**Presiding:** Bob Peterson

Chairman Peterson thanked everyone for coming and recognized Paul Zachary with the City of Tulsa, former Secretary of Transportation, Mike Patterson and Bobby Stem with Association of General Contractors (AOGC) for their attendance.

#### **ITEMS TO BE PRESENTED BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN**

Call to Order

Roll Call – Commission Secretary

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Presentation of the Governor's Proclamation declaring April 21-25, 2025 as Work Zone Awareness Week in Oklahoma – Mr. Gatz

#### **ITEM TO BE PRESENTED BY THE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSION**

**43. Approval of the Minutes of the Transportation Commission Meeting of March 3, 2025**

ACTION: Dyson moved and Stuteville seconded that the Minutes be approved.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Coburn, Stuteville, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, Junk, Peterson

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

#### **CONSENT DOCKET TO BE PRESENTED BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN**

**44. Safety Improvement Projects – Ms. January**

a) District IV – Logan County – Guthrie US-77 & SH-33 School Zones - \$30,000.00

b) District VIII – Creek County – Bristow SH-16 School Zone - \$8,000.00

**45. Speed Zone Revisions – Ms. January**

a) District VII – Carter County – Along US-70 including the City of Ardmore for 11.21 miles

b) District VII – Murray County – Along US-177 including the City of Sulphur for 12.33 miles

c) District VII – Murray County – Along US-177 including the City of Sulphur for 8.72 miles

d) District VII – Murray County – Along SH-7 including the City of Sulphur for 8.42 miles

e) District VII – Murray County – Along SH-7 Spur including the City of Sulphur for 3.98 miles

**46. Land Sales – Mr. Phillips**

a) District II, LeFlore County - \$25,000.00

b) District III, Seminole County - \$51,400.00

c) District IV, Oklahoma County - \$51,000.00

d) District VIII, Rogers County - \$20,930.00

**47. Interstate Designation of I-644 to Creek Turnpike near Tulsa – Mr. Coldiron**

Districts I & VIII, Tulsa County

**48. Modification of Federal Railroad Crossing Safety Funds, 23 USC § 130 – Mr. Schwennesen**

a) District VI, Alfalfa County – Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway - \$80,627.00

**49. Programming of Federal Railroad Crossing Safety Funds, 23 USC § 130 – Mr. Schwennesen**

a) District I, Okmulgee County – Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway - \$345,965.00

ACTION: Coburn moved and Alexander seconded that the Consent Docket be approved.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Coburn, Stuteville, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, Junk, Peterson

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**END OF CONSENT DOCKET**

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**ITEMS TO BE PRESENTED BY DIRECTOR OF DESIGN – Mr. Hernandez**

**50. Programming Item – Bridge Fire Damage**

District VIII, Tulsa County - \$340,000.00

ACTION: Junk moved and Coburn seconded that the Consent Docket be approved.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Coburn, Stuteville, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, Junk, Peterson

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**ITEMS TO BE PRESENTED BY DIRECTOR OF DESIGN – Mr. Hernandez**

**51. Engineering Contracts**

a) All Districts – Statewide – On-Demand Off-System Truss and Fracture Critical Bridge Inspections - \$4,496,194.00

CI-2519A – Srinteg Corporation

CI-2519B – TranSystems, Inc.

b) All Districts – Statewide – On-Demand On-System Truss and Fracture Critical Bridge Inspections - \$1,683,013.00

CI-2520 – Srinteg Corporation

c) All Districts – Statewide – On-Demand Intelligent Transportation Systems and Fiber Optic Inspections - \$4,500,000.00

CI-2528A – Freese and Nichols, Inc.

CI-2528B – Poe and Associates, Inc.

CI-2528C – WSB, LLC

ACTION: Dyson moved and Coburn seconded that the Item be approved as presented.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Coburn, Stuteville, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, Junk, Peterson

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**52. Engineering Contract Supplements**

a) All Districts – Statewide – On-Demand Preliminary Engineering, Site Plans & Inspections for Railroad Crossings, Supplement 4 - \$500,000.00



CI-2331 – JWebb & Associates, LLC

- b) District IV, Noble County, Prepare Construction Plans-Supplement 1 - \$71,757.00  
CI-2264E – Aguirre & Fields LP
- c) District VII, Grady County, Prepare Construction Plans- Supplement 1 - \$155,700.00  
CI-2405B – CEC Corporation

ACTION: Freymiller moved and Stuteville seconded that the Item be approved as presented.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Coburn, Stuteville, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, Junk, Peterson

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**ITEMS TO BE PRESENTED BY CONSTRUCTION DIVISION ENGINEER - Mr. Leonard**

**53. Change Orders with Cumulative Total of \$150,000.00 or Less - Information Only**

- a) District II, Bryan County, SH-78 - #3 - \$3,366.72, 0.03%
- b) District VII, Caddo County, County Road - #2 - \$20,247.49, 1.83%
- c) District VII, Carter County, US-70A - #3 - \$34.07, 0.01%
- d) District III, Cleveland County, City Street - #1 - \$56,752.00, 8.77%
- e) District III, Coal County, City Street - #1 - \$11,757.60, 2.66%
- f) District VII, Comanche County, City Street - #7 - \$7,421.60, 0.05%
- g) District VII, Comanche County, City Street - #2 - \$52,759.49, 2.18%
- h) District III, Garvin County, Multiple Locations - #1 - \$5,745.79, 3.42%
- i) District VI, Harper County, US-183 - #2 - \$2,469.36, 0.02% Underrun
- j) District VI, Harper County, US-183 - #3 - \$8,500.80, 0.07%
- k) District V, Jackson County, County Road - #2 - \$2,200.00, 0.42%
- l) District V, Jackson County, Altus Detention Pond - #2 - \$945.56, 0.23%
- m) District III, Johnston County, SH-48 - #3 - \$4,165.45, 0.09%
- n) District III, Johnston County, County Road - #1 - \$8,400.00, 0.63%
- o) District II, LeFlore County, US-271 - #1 - \$97,415.09, 2.97%
- p) District III, Lincoln County, SH-66 - #2 - \$40,955.50, 1.00%
- q) District III, Lincoln County, SH-66 - #3 - \$5,368.00, 0.13%
- r) District IV, Logan County, City Streets - #1 - \$36,070.10, 6.37%
- s) District I, McIntosh County, US-266 - #2 - \$5,015.40, 0.19%
- t) District I, Muskogee County, US-62 - #7 - \$1,134.11, 0.03%
- u) District IV, Oklahoma County, I-40 - #1 - \$47,609.70, -0.39% Underrun
- v) District IV, Oklahoma County, I-35 - #3 - \$12,365.00, 0.72%
- w) District IV, Oklahoma County, City Street - #1 - \$96,367.01, 25.90%
- x) District I, Okmulgee County, US-75 - #2 - \$15,385.36, -0.40% Underrun
- y) District VIII, Osage County, County Road - #2 - \$49,766.29, 3.27%
- z) District II, Pittsburg County, County Road - #2 - \$22,390.37, 1.39%
- aa) District II, Pittsburg County, Waterway Trail - #4 - \$4,875.00, 0.47%
- bb) District III, Pontotoc County, SH-3 - #3 - \$60,335.68, 1.82%
- cc) District III, Pottawatomie County - County Road - #4 - \$13,367.35, 1.38%
- dd) District VIII, Rogers County, SH-66 - #2 - \$59,429.01, 2.71%
- ee) District I, Sequoyah County, SH-64D / I-40 RAMP C - #1 - \$3,410.00, 0.19%
- ff) District VIII, Tulsa County, County Road - #2 - \$1.84, 0.00%

gg) District VIII, Tulsa County, City Streets - #4 - \$4,000.00, 0.08%  
 hh) District I, Wagoner County, City Street - #3 - \$18,687.40, 1.58%  
 ii) District I, Wagoner County, City Street - #4 - \$2,689.96, 0.23%  
 jj) District I, Wagoner County, SH-51 - #2 - \$2.54, -0.00% Underrun  
**Total of Less Than Change Orders: \$650,472.72**

**54. Change Orders with Cumulative Total Greater than \$150,000.00 - Mr. Leonard**

a) District IV, Canadian County, SH-4 / City Street - #8 - \$109,914.04, 0.87%  
 b) District IV, Canadian County, SH-152 - #2 - \$45,941.70, 0.12%  
 c) District VII, Carter County, SH-53 - #4 - \$6,101.87, 0.02%  
 d) District I, Cherokee County, SH-82 / SH-51 - #4 - \$199,567.45, 0.40%  
 e) District II, Choctaw County, US-271 - #4 - \$2,000.00, 0.01%  
 f) District III, Garvin County, US-77 - #8 - \$62,880.00, 1.24%  
 g) District I, Haskell County, County Roads - #9 - \$24,257.00, 0.32%  
 h) District IV, Kay County, US-60 - #3 - \$260.00, -0.00% Underrun  
 i) District II, Latimer County, County Road - #3 - \$451,640.00, 9.17%  
 j) District II, Marshall County, US-377 / SH-99 - #9 - \$15,373.11, 0.04%  
 k) District III, McClain County, I-35 - #17 - \$2,850.00, 0.00%  
 l) District II, McCurtain County, US-70 - #6 - \$176,127.39, 8.27%  
 m) District IV, Oklahoma County, I-35 - #18 - \$53,774.27, 0.09%  
 n) District IV, Oklahoma County, I-35 - #20 - \$41,465.64, 0.07%  
 o) District VIII, Osage County, US-60 - #2 - \$103,210.94, 0.67%  
 p) District VIII, Rogers County, TNPK / SH-20 / CO RD - #8 - \$34,698.00, 0.05%  
 q) District III, Seminole County, SH-99 - #10 - \$23,524.44, 0.24%  
 r) District VII, Stephens County, SH-29 - #17 - \$36,879.48, 0.30%  
 s) District VI, Texas County, US-54 - #2 - \$264,784.21, 0.80%  
 t) District VIII, Tulsa County, SH-97 - #11 - \$226,635.20, -0.85% Underrun  
 u) District VIII, Tulsa County, SH-97 - #12 - \$22,620.20, 0.09%  
 v) District VIII, Tulsa County, US-64 - #4 - \$561,966.43, 17.78

**Total of Greater Than Change Orders: \$2,012,680.97**

ACTION: Dyson moved and Freymiller seconded that the Item be approved as presented.  
 MOTION: Carried by the following vote:  
 AYES: Coburn, Stuteville, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, Junk, Peterson  
 ABSTAIN:  
 ABSENT:

**ITEM TO BE PRESENTED BY GENERAL COUNSEL – Ms. Penn**

**55. Election of Transportation Commission Officers**

ACTION: Junk moved and Stuteville seconded that the Item of Officers to be elected, Bob Peterson for Chairman, David Dyson for Vice-Chairman and Bob Coburn for Secretary, be approved as presented.  
 MOTION: Carried by the following vote:  
 AYES: Coburn, Stuteville, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, Junk, Peterson  
 ABSTAIN:  
 ABSENT:



**ITEM TO BE PRESENTED BY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER – Ms. Hilmes**

**56. Oklahoma Capitol Improvement Authority Lease Agreement**

This is a request for authorization to negotiate the terms and conditions and to enter into a lease agreement with the Oklahoma Capitol Improvement Authority to address the debt associated with the State Highways Capital Improvement Revenue Bonds Series 2025A.

ACTION: Alexander moved and Coburn seconded that the Item be approved as presented.  
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:  
AYES: Coburn, Stuteville, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, Junk, Peterson  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

**ITEM TO BE PRESENTED BY FINANCIAL SERVICES – Ms. Bryant**

**57. Proposed Bid Openings**

- a) Final May 2025 Proposed Bid Opening
- b) Tentative June 2025 Proposed Bid Opening
- c) Tentative July 2025 Proposed Bid Opening

ACTION: Dyson moved and Coburn seconded that the Item be approved as presented.  
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:  
AYES: Coburn, Stuteville, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, Junk, Peterson  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

**ITEMS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE OFFICE ENGINEER – Mr. Ngoka**

**58. Awards**

- a) March 13, 2025 – Regular Bid Opening
- b) March 20, 2025 – Regular Bid Opening

ACTION: Stuteville moved and Freymiller seconded that the Item be approved as presented.  
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:  
AYES: Coburn, Stuteville, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, Junk, Peterson  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT: Shannon

**ITEM TO BE PRESENTED BY THE DIRECTOR – Mr. Gatz**

**59. Director's Report – Information Only**

Director Gatz announced that Congress passed a Continuing Resolution, extending federal transportation funding through September 30, 2025. This development allowed the Oklahoma Department of Transportation to proceed confidently with the April letting schedule. Although the Resolution ensured access to necessary funding, it did not include a proposed fix for the recurring Fourth Quarter Redistribution issue, a challenge that typically forces the Department to accelerate spending at the end of the fiscal year. Gatz indicated that while this was not ideal, ODOT remained prepared to navigate the complications associated with annual appropriations and contract authority.

Gatz addressed recent media coverage concerning the safety of navigation bridges across the United States following a National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) report. Although Oklahoma was not among the states with bridges on the NTSB's list, Gatz reaffirmed that the state had taken proactive steps following the Arkansas River I-40 bridge collapse years earlier. He cited projects such as the construction of bridges on US-62 in Muskogee and US-59, as well as the installation of pier protection systems. ODOT continued to make advancements on navigation structure bridges, particularly within District 1, ensuring they met modern safety standards.

The Commission then discussed the issue of fire damage to bridges caused by homeless encampments, particularly in the metropolitan areas of Tulsa and Oklahoma City. Gatz outlined efforts made by ODOT in collaboration with municipalities to deter encampments through hardening measures like concrete barriers and riprap, while recognizing the broader humanitarian context. He emphasized the importance of balancing public safety and infrastructure protection with empathy toward affected individuals.

Commissioner Bobby Alexander raised concerns regarding the safety of ODOT personnel during encampment relocations. He inquired whether staff members encountered dangerous situations and what support the Commission could provide. Gatz confirmed that such encounters did occur and stated that law enforcement assistance was often required. He noted that existing protocols were in place and continued to evolve, supported by partnerships with municipalities and social services. Commissioner Michael Junk echoed these concerns and highlighted the importance of encouraging municipalities to enter into memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with the state to allow municipal law enforcement participation. He stressed that ODOT employees were not trained to handle individuals in crisis and emphasized the need for coordinated responses involving cities and nonprofits.

Gatz transitioned to project updates, beginning with the major reconstruction of the I-44 and US-75 interchange in Tulsa. The \$252 million project, the largest contract in ODOT's history, officially began on April 7, 2025, with a groundbreaking ceremony scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup>. The project received \$95 million in federal grants and was expected to span three years. Key ramp closures and a significant traffic shift are anticipated, with the latter scheduled for August 2025.

He also provided an update on the I-40 and Douglas interchange project in Midwest City, which began in November 2022. The most recent traffic shift moved eastbound traffic onto newly constructed pavement to allow for demolition of the old Douglas Bridge, slated for completion by the end of 2025. Gatz cited the area as a case study in work zone safety, noting several accidents and close calls. He emphasized that speed remained the most critical factor in ensuring safety within these zones.

To address these concerns, ODOT launched two public service announcements (PSAs) during the meeting. The first, a testimonial-based video titled "Close Call," featured workers describing their experiences in hazardous work zones. The second, a musical "Jingle PSA," delivered a lighthearted but firm reminder to buckle up and slow down in construction areas.

Gatz closed by reminding attendees that Oklahoma ranked 40th in the nation for seatbelt usage and that increased compliance could significantly reduce the severity of crash-related injuries and fatalities. He called on the public to make safer driving decisions and expressed gratitude for the continued support of the Commission.

The meeting concluded with recognition of ODOT and OTA field employees in attendance. Commissioners expressed their appreciation for their hard work and dedication.



**ITEM TO BE PRESENTED BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN**

**60. Adjournment Motion**

ACTION: Dyson moved and Coburn seconded that the Item be approved as presented.  
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:  
AYES: Coburn, Stuteville, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, Junk, Peterson  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

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Bob Peterson - Chairman



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David Dyson – Vice Chairman