



INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Oconee County Administrative Offices, Walhalla, South Carolina 29691

No audio recording was made of this meeting.

The Oconee County Infrastructure Advisory Commission met 1:00 pm in Conference Room, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 S. Pine Street, SC.

[Lunch was provided at 12:30 prior to the start of the meeting courtesy the City of Seneca.]

Commission Members Present:

Present

YES Richard Blackwell, OC Econ. Development
YES Tjay Bagwell, City of Walhalla
YES Alan Blackmon, BREC, Inc.
YES Paul Corbell, OC County Council
No Jim Evers, AT&T
No Bob Faires, City of Seneca
YES Joey Hawkins, Fort Hill Natural Gas
YES Art Holbrooks, OC Planning
YES Elizabeth Hulst, Secretary

Present

YES Mack Kelly, OC Roads & Bridges
No Scott Moulder, OC Administrator
YES Linda Oliver, Town of West Union
No Mike Powell, OC IT
No Terry Pruitt, Pioneer Rural Water District
No Lamar Taylor, Duke Energy
YES Bobby Williams, City of Westminster (Chair)
YES Bob Winchester, OJRSA
No TBD, City of Salem

GUESTS / PUBLIC: Scott Miller, Duke Energy

Press:

None at this meeting.

Call to Order:

Mr. Williams called to order at 1:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Winchester made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hawkins, approved unanimously to approve the minutes from the May 23, 2012 meeting as amended.

Representatives Present Provided the Following Updates:

AT&T	No Report Provided.
Fort Hill Natural Gas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work ongoing on Highway 59 project to Exit #4 on I85 [back feed for the area]• Work ongoing on Friendship Road• Pricing is stable; anticipate this winter rates comparable to last year
Blue Ridge Electric	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Echo Hills – Ready to start feeder lines• Pointe West project ongoing.• Highway 50 – progress is ongoing with expansion to Earls Grove
Duke Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A lot of Right of Way work ongoing• Power Outage in Walhalla/West Union attributed to squirrel on top line• Tree work ongoing
Pioneer Rural Water District	No report provided

OJRSA

- Martins Creek: operating but not yet complete with some construction issues
- Septage system development at the WWTP: facility specs being reviewed and will be forwarded to DHEC for approval when complete
- Golden Corner Commerce Park [GCCP]: negotiating with the city and county re: sewer
- Annual Audit ongoing this week
- Flows down significantly
- Rate increase effective July 2012 of 5%

County Council

- Expect within 90 days to have significant announcements regarding several ongoing projects and project completions
- Capital Project Advisory Committee reviewed ACOG's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy: reviewed with David Shellhorse, ACOG representative, the upcoming 5 year update

Administration

No report provided

Planning

- No significant new developments
- Potential New Air Quality Regulations: work ongoing to address air quality issues on a regional basis

Economic Development

- Economic Development Strategic Plan: Kick off meeting held, more meetings scheduled before report to Council in November 2012.
- Mountain Lakes Business Development Corporation [MLBDC]: Dave Eldridge acting interim chair, 5 clients: Money Cents big success story
- Product: Shell Building #2 sold [third reading on ordinance scheduled for 8/14/12]. Shell sold in less than 12 months.
- Echo Hills: End of June received "Certified Site" designation; a lot of business interest
- Seneca Rail Site / Propex: County closed on property: good interest
- Recruitment Activity: Ongoing and very busy: busiest time in last 4 years
- Project Star / Hotel: progressing
- Capital Project off Highway 11 [unidentified]: progressing

Information Technology

(Mr. Corbett Reported for IT)

Road**Department**

- Broadband Project FOCUS: Phase II: 150 +/- miles of conduit installed with 75 +/- miles fiber installed; begin hooking up to anchor institutions within a few weeks, Phase III: will be bid out soon. Project on budget.
- Anticipate preparing complete by November 2012
- Lands Bridge Project: environmental permitting process ongoing
- Bridge & Culvert Project: Mauldin Mill: culvert has flooding issues / work ongoing

City of Walhalla

- Council focus to retain youth in City of Walhalla and Oconee County: focus on developing town, working to re-open pool; main street beautification project
- City Council Planning Retreat: Friday, August 3, 2012

City of Seneca

No report provided

City of Westminster

- Northern loop toward Highway 11 begun – expect complete within a month

**Town of West
Union**

- Old Schoolhouse: Bids will be out August 14th and the Bid Award will be August 28th.
- Summer Festival: Planning ongoing for next year's festival
- Flow Meters: Working on grant to upgrade lines
- Farmer's Market: Working to open in the summer of 2013 near Highway 11
- Ordinance/Fee Review: Work is ongoing to review and update existing ordinances and to in a step fashion increase business license fees

Town of Salem No report was provided.

Other Business:

Speaker for November 7, 2012 Meeting

Mr. Williams agreed to contact the SC DOT to arrange a speaker for the next meeting.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of Infrastructure Advisory Commission is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC. [Lunch will be provided by the Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority beginning at 12:30 p.m.]

Adjourn:

Mr. Winchester made a motion, approved unanimously to adjourn at 1:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Elizabeth G. Huise
Clerk to Council