

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FOURTH MEETING
July 21, 1959

Pursuant to bylaws, the Ohio Turnpike Commission met in regular session in Hearing Room 2 of the Departments of State Building in Columbus, Ohio, at 10:00 A.M. on July 21, 1959 with the key members of its staff, representatives of the Consulting Engineers, of the Trustee, of the Auditor of State, members of the press, and others in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, the roll was called and the attendance was reported to be as follows:

Present: Teagarden, Chastang, Shocknessy.

Absent: Beightler, Preston.

The Chairman announced that a quorum was present. He said General Beightler had been stung by a wasp the previous afternoon and had had a very dramatic reaction. He said General Beightler had gone to the hospital at Fort Hayes for treatment and then had been taken by ambulance to Lockbourne Air Force Base. He said that fortunately General Beightler had reacted as dramatically to treatment as he had reacted to the poison of the wasp and was much better but was still in the hospital.

The Chairman said also he had received a letter from Mr. Preston which he read as follows:

"July 21, 1959

"Honorable James W. Shocknessy
Chairman - Ohio Turnpike Commission
Huntington Bank Building
Columbus, Ohio

"Dear Mr. Shocknessy:

"Due to conditions beyond my control I regret that I will be unable to attend the meeting of the Ohio Turnpike Commission scheduled for this morning.

"Please convey my regrets to the other members of the Commission and I shall make every effort to attend the next meeting.

"Sincerely,
"E. S. Preston
"Director

"ESP:TL"

He said that because both those Members were absent it would be his suggestion to the Members that the meeting recess after doing such business as it should choose to do and reconvene at a later date when General Beightler would be well enough to attend and when Mr. Preston would expect to be able to be present.

A motion was made by Mr. Teagarden, seconded by Mr. Chastang, that the minutes for the meeting of May 29, 1959 which had been examined by the Members of the Commission and on which the corrections suggested by the Members had been made be approved without reading.

A vote by ayes and nays was taken and all Members present responded to roll call. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Teagarden, Chastang, Shocknessy.

Nays: None.

The Chairman declared the motion carried with the three Members present voting in the affirmative.

The Chairman reported the death of Colonel Fred Moritz, Commander of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, and said he would like to offer a resolution extending sympathy to the family of Colonel Moritz and to the Highway Patrol. A resolution extending sympathy to the family of Colonel Fred Moritz, deceased, was moved for adoption by Mr. Shocknessy, seconded by Mr. Chastang and Mr. Teagarden, as follows:

Resolution No. 9-1959

"WHEREAS the Commission has learned of the untimely death of the Commander of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Colonel Fred Moritz;

"WHEREAS the Commission is seriously bereaved at the loss of a dedicated man who, as Commander of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, commanded the complement of patrolmen on the Ohio Turnpike;

"WHEREAS the Commission had the greatest respect for Colonel Moritz as a noble man who gave outstanding service to his state and his country throughout his life; and

"WHEREAS the Commission wants its sentiments of sorrow and bereavement conveyed to the family of Colonel Moritz and the Ohio State Highway Patrol;

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

"RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Commission advise the members of the family of Colonel Moritz and the Acting Commander of the Ohio State Highway Patrol of its feeling of bereavement on the death of Colonel Moritz and its hope that Colonel Moritz's record of achievement will give consolation to his family and to the Patrol and that his life will be an inspiration to those who follow him in public service."

A vote by ayes and nays was taken and all Members present responded to roll call. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Shocknessy, Teagarden, Chastang.

Nays: None.

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted with the three Members present voting in the affirmative. The resolution was identified as No. 9-1959.

The Chairman reported further that the Commission's total revenue from all sources for the month of July was likely to be \$2,800,000. He said that depending upon the impact of the steel strike that estimate might be more and it might be less. He said the Commission could expect a reaction from the steel strike. He said the last strike in the steel industry two years before had not the impact upon the Commission's revenue that might have been expected because immediately prior to the strike the rates for toll for trucks had been adjusted and thus the Commission did not have a true reaction to the strike. He said the truck business had increased by virtue of the adjustment in revenues so it was difficult to establish, based upon the experience of two years before, what the experience with the current strike might be. He said it could be serious depending upon the length of the strike.

The Chairman reported further that based on the Commission's experience in the first six months of 1959 it was estimated that its revenue for the year would be about \$23,500,000 as opposed to a budget estimate of \$21,450,000.

The Chairman said that in the absence of any questions the report of the Chairman would be received as offered.

The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer reported for the Secretary-Treasurer that since the last meeting the following had been sent to all Members:

1. Financial Reports as of May 31 and June 30, 1959.

2. Traffic and Revenue Reports for May and June of 1959.
3. Draft of the minutes of the May 29, 1959 meeting.
4. Detail of investment transactions for June 1959.
5. Budget Report, 1st Half of 1959.
6. Report on Concessionaires, 1st Half 1959.

The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer reported further that the transfer from the Revenue Fund early in August 1959 should fill the Bond Interest Account and leave about \$300,000 for transfer to the Reserve Account. He said all of the net revenues in the months of August, September, and October 1959 would go to the Reserve Account. He said that if the amounts available for transfer were the same as for those three months of 1958, the Reserve Account would end up 1959 with about \$9,200,000, or a gain of about \$6,450,000 during 1959.

The Executive Director reported the Highway Patrol had commenced the use of radar for the enforcement of speed regulations on the Ohio Turnpike on Friday, July 3, 1959. He said only one radar speed meter had been available for the Highway Patrol's use but that a second meter had been delivered the previous week and would be placed in service as soon as it could be checked. He said a third meter was being obtained and upon its delivery a radar speed meter would be assigned to each of the three patrol posts on the turnpike. He said that during the period from July 3 to and including July 15, 1959 the one radar unit was operated at 14 different locations along the turnpike between mileposts 18 and 229 and arrests were made of drivers of two commercial vehicles and 17 passenger cars and warning tickets were issued to drivers of 17 commercial vehicles and 66 passenger cars. He said that with the development of the most effective procedures and the availability of all three meters a substantial increase in the use of radar on the Ohio Turnpike could be expected.

The Executive Director reported further that work on special projects scheduled for the summer was progressing satisfactorily. He said current operations in the program included pavement jacking, pavement repair, bridge spot painting, guard rail painting, shoulder sealing, and chemical weed control. He said completed projects included the correction of the surface deficiencies at milepost 15 and of the westbound roadway at interchange 13, and the pavement striping program. He said the pavement jacking program had been delayed somewhat because of the loss of a mixer when a patron struck the mixer while it was in tow. He said the mixer had been replaced and operations were again normal. He said the pavement repair work scheduled for the summer consisted mainly of repair of

localized failures and was progressing as planned. He said the bridge spot painting crew had recently completed the spot painting of the twin bridges over the Cuyahoga River valley and was working currently on the bridges over the Black River and Vermilion River. He said that following completion of those bridges the crew would start spot painting of the bridges over the Huron River and then the bridges over the Maumee River. The Executive Director said also that a major shoulder resealing program had been commenced and approximately one-fourth of the shoulder work should be completed during the summer. He said it was planned to schedule a portion of the shoulder work each year so it would be a continuing program and not necessitate a complete resealing in any one year. He said that prior to 1959 the Commission's chemical weed control plan had been limited to certain control sections so a determination could be made of the effectiveness and cost of weed control by chemical methods as compared with mowing. He said the program was extended to cover the entire roadway in 1959. He said full annual treatment included three sprayings with the second of those then in progress.

The Executive Director reported further that because of the modification of the pavement paint striping equipment and favorable weather the striping program had been completed two months earlier in 1959 than in 1958. He said actual costs of the striping program in 1959 amounted to approximately \$46,500 or a saving of approximately \$6,000 over 1958 costs of \$52,500 despite an increase of 18% in the cost of paint.

The Executive Director reported further that since early in 1959 the Committee on Employee Relations had directed its attention to a study of the wage structure currently effective for Commission employees and a study to determine if cost of living adjustments were warranted by changed conditions. He said the Committee had reported orally from time to time concerning its progress and the considerations influencing its study. He said initial wage schedules adopted for employees on the Ohio Turnpike had been developed after giving due consideration to salaries and wages paid employees of the State of Ohio for comparable positions.

He said also that currently the General Assembly was considering legislation affecting wages and salaries paid state employees. He said one bill concerned a report made by the Research Staff of the Ohio Legislative Study Committee on State Personnel Problems. He said the Committee on Employee Relations had been furnished a copy of the report and had been able to relate a majority of the positions in the Commission's service to like positions in the state's service. He said some consideration was being given by the General Assembly also to a cost of living wage adjustment. He said that if either or both of those bills passed, the result would be an adjustment in wages paid state employees in most classifications. The Executive Director said studies had been completed

by the Committee on Employee Relations comparing the features of both bills to corresponding facets of positions in the Commission's service but recommendations by the Committee would not be made until final action had been taken with respect to pending legislation. He said it was expected the Committee would complete its work and make its report and recommendations at an early date.

The Chairman said the report of the Executive Director was accepted.

The Director of Information and Research reported that during the month of June a total of 178,000 pieces of literature, mostly routing information and maps of the Ohio Turnpike and instructions on how to get to the New York State Thruway by using the Warren Interchange of the Ohio Turnpike, had been distributed by the Department of Information and Research. The Chairman said he thought that a great job was being done in salesmanship to enhance business.

The Chairman announced that, there being no objection by the three Members present, the meeting would stand recessed until some time in the near future when General Beightler and Mr. Preston would be able to attend.

The meeting was recessed at 10:35 A.M. Eastern Standard Time.

The meeting reconvened in Room 907 of the Departments of State Building in Columbus on July 29, 1959 at 10:00 A.M. Eastern Standard Time. All Members of the Commission were present. The Chairman said the meeting was the second portion of the meeting of July 21 which was recessed at the thirteenth order of business. He said the meeting of July 21 was the 134th meeting of the Commission so that the meeting on July 29 was a continuation of the 134th meeting.

The Chairman said that when the meeting began on July 21 a vacancy existed on the Commission and since that time the vacancy had been filled by the Governor and the Member, James W. Shocknessy, sworn in. He handed the appointment and oath to the Secretary-Treasurer to complete the filing with the Secretary of State.

The Chairman said also it was required by the bylaws that at the first meeting in July, which that meeting was, the officers of the Commission be elected for a period of two years. He declared that nominations were open for the offices of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer.

A motion was made by Mr. Preston, seconded by Mr. Chastang, that a resolution be approved nominating and electing officers of Commission as follows:

Resolution No. 10-1959

"RESOLVED that the following officers be nominated and elected, each to serve until July 1, 1961, and until his respective successor is elected and qualified; provided, however, that should any officer hereby elected, who is now a member or employee of the Commission cease to be such member or employee, the term of such officer shall terminate at such time as he ceases to be such member or employee:

"For Chairman James W. Shocknessy

"For Vice Chairman O. L. Teagarden

"For Secretary-Treasurer Robt. S. Beightler"

The Chairman asked Mr. Teagarden if he would accept renomination. Mr. Teagarden replied in the affirmative. The Chairman asked General Beightler if he would accept renomination. General Beightler said he would have no objection to continuing to serve as Secretary-Treasurer as long as he was a Member. The Chairman asked if there were any other nominations. No other nominations were offered. The Chairman said the roll would be called on the offices separately. A vote by ayes and nays was taken on the office of Chairman for which Mr. James W. Shocknessy was nominated and all Members responded to roll call. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Preston, Chastang, Beightler, Teagarden.

Nays: None.

Not voting: Shocknessy.

The Chairman declared James W. Shocknessy elected Chairman.

A vote by ayes and nays was taken on the office of Vice Chairman for which Mr. O. L. Teagarden was nominated and all Members responded to roll call. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Preston, Chastang, Beightler, Shocknessy.

Nays: None.

Not voting: Teagarden.

The Chairman declared O. L. Teagarden elected Vice Chairman. A vote by ayes and nays was taken on the office of Secretary-Treasurer for which Major General Robert S. Beightler, USA (Ret.) was nominated and all Members responded to roll call. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Preston, Chastang, Teagarden, Shocknessy.

Nays: None.

Not voting: Beightler.

The Chairman declared Robert S. Beightler, USA (Ret.) elected Secretary-Treasurer.

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted. The resolution was identified as No. 10-1959.

The Chairman extended his thanks to the Governor for reappointing him to the Commission. He said he personally had offered his thanks to the Governor the day previous for reappointing him and for expressing his confidence reposed in the appointment. He said he also wanted to express his thanks to the Members of the Ohio Senate for confirming him. He said he assured everybody that he would try to fulfill the mission intended for him as a Member of the Commission. He asked Mr. Preston to accept his thanks for nominating him as Chairman and asked the Members of the Commission to accept his thanks and to be assured that in his sixth term he would try to serve the Commission, the people of Ohio, and people of the nation who were affected by the Commission's works as God should give him best to do.

A motion was made by General Beightler, seconded by Mr. Teagarden, that a resolution be adopted nominating and electing Assistant Secretary-Treasurer of Commission as follows:

Resolution No. 11-1959

"RESOLVED that the following officer be nominated and elected, to serve until July 1, 1961, and until his successor is elected and qualified; provided, however, that should he cease to be an employee of the Commission his term shall terminate at such time as he ceases to be such employee:

"For Assistant Secretary-Treasurer John Soller"

A vote by ayes and nays was taken by the Chairman and all Members responded to roll call. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Beightler, Teagarden, Preston, Chastang, Shocknessy.

Nays: None.

The Chairman declared John Soller elected Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted. The resolution was identified as No. 11-1959.

Mr. Teagarden expressed his thanks to the Members of the Commission for supporting him for Vice Chairman. General Beightler thanked Mr. Preston for nominating him and thanked the Members of the Commission for their expressions in regard to his possible continuance on the Commission.

The Chairman said the Commission continued to get complaints about speeding trucks. He said the Executive Director had talked to the Ohio State Highway Patrol and he did not know what more the Commission as such could do since it did not itself patrol the highway than assure the Highway Patrol as it had often done that the Commission did not want any indulgence allowed with respect to compliance with law by operators of vehicles on the Ohio Turnpike. He said he had had it said to him many times "oh you people are just so crazy to get truck business that you don't want the trucks picked up for speeding". The Chairman said that was not true. He said the Ohio Turnpike Patrol of the Highway Patrol and the Safety Patrol which the truckers themselves operated on the turnpike both were under instructions from their respective principals to enforce the regulations with respect to speed.

The Chairman said he had seen recently that the New York State Thruway Authority had set up a minimum speed. He said the Commission always had considered that it did not set up a minimum arbitrary speed but that the Highway Patrol would govern that. He said one of the jobs of the Highway Patrol was to see that the traffic moves and, therefore, the Commission never considered that it establish a minimum speed other than the minimum which the Highway Patrol from time to time would establish and enforce in the interest of maintaining safe operation of the highway. He urged the Executive Director to have conferences from time to time with the Highway Patrol. The Chairman said he wanted it understood that he was not making an attack on the trucking industry because it was the Commission's belief, based on all the records that it had been able to maintain, that the trucks generally maintained a proper speed. He said the truck schedules undoubtedly were set up within lawful limits

so the violators were the exception. He said that nevertheless the Commission got enough complaints about it that it wanted to assure the whole public that it wanted the commercial vehicles to maintain the speed limitations the same as it expected the passenger vehicles.

The Executive Director summarized for Mr. Preston and General Beightler the report he had made to the Commission on July 21 with respect to radar speed enforcement and summer maintenance activities, and the Committee on Employee Relations.

Mr. Chastang suggested that radar enforcement warning signs might be permanently posted at various spots along the turnpike. The Chairman said he thought the mere incidence of the signs had an effect on the traffic. He said he thought merely when drivers saw there was a possibility of radar even though they were sophisticated enough to look for the vehicle used in radar enforcement they were not sure because there might be another system. Mr. Preston said the suggestion of installing permanent signs was a very good one. He said the Commission could start a program of erecting signs at intervals all the way along the length of the turnpike and then the Highway Patrol would be eligible to install radar units any place.

Mr. Chastang asked whether the Commission was getting as much patrolling per police car as it should. The Executive Director said the Commission had precise records on patrolling to the extent that it could tell just where each patrolman was at all times. He said it should be understood that the patrolling was not uniform twenty-four hours of the day, seven days of the week. He said the patrolling was patterned to accommodate the traffic that was expected, so that, for instance, on a weekend or holiday there were more patrolmen on the turnpike than there would be on a normal Monday.

In connection with the Executive Director's report on a fatal accident in which the driver of one of the two vehicles involved apparently had fallen asleep, the Chairman said he had been convinced for at least two years that the Commission's biggest safety hazard was sleepiness. The Executive Director said he was very much convinced of that.

A motion was made by Mr. Teagarden, seconded by General Beightler, that a resolution be adopted ratifying actions of administrative officers, as follows:

Resolution No. 12-1959

"WHEREAS the executive director, deputy executive director,

chief engineer, general counsel, assistant general counsel, secretary-treasurer, assistant secretary-treasurer, comptroller, maintenance engineer, and the director of information and research of the Commission, have, by various written and oral communications, fully advised the members of the Commission with respect to their official actions taken on behalf of the Commission since the Commission's last meeting on May 29, 1959, and the Commission has duly reviewed and considered the same;

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

"RESOLVED that all official actions taken by the aforesaid administrative officers of the Commission on its behalf since the Commission's meeting on May 29, 1959, hereby are ratified, approved, and confirmed."

A vote by ayes and nays was taken and all Members responded to roll call. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Teagarden, Beightler, Chastang, Preston, Shocknessy.

Nays: None.

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted. The resolution was identified as No. 12-1959.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was made by Mr. Chastang, seconded by General Beightler, that the meeting adjourn subject to call of the Chairman. A vote by ayes and nays was taken and all Members responded to roll call. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Chastang, Beightler, Teagarden, Preston, Shocknessy.

Nays: None.

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned. The time of adjournment was 10:40 o'clock A. M.

Approved as a correct transcript of the
proceedings of the Ohio Turnpike
Commission


Robert S. Beightler, Secretary-Treasurer