

**MINUTES OF THE 477th MEETING OF
THE OHIO TURNPIKE COMMISSION**

May 13, 2002

Pursuant to the bylaws, the Ohio Turnpike Commission met for a meeting at the Commission's Administration Building at 10:06 a.m. on May 13, 2002, with members of the staff: Gino Zomparelli, Executive Director and Assistant-Secretary Treasurer, Thomas Amato, General Counsel; James Steiner, CFO/Comptroller; David Miller, Chief Auditor; Tim Ujvari, Maintenance Engineer; Kathy Dolbin, Manager, Human Relations; Sharon Isaac, Director of Toll Operations, Rob Fleischman, Asst. Chief Engineer, Dick Morgan, Manager, Information Systems; Pat Patton, Government Liaison Officer; Lauren Dehrmann, Manager, Public Affairs, Heidi Jedel, Tracy Cowley and Diane Pring.

The Chairman then called the meeting to order and requested the Asst. Secretary-Treasurer to call the roll

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

Ayes: Senator Armbruster; Mo Darwish (for Gordon Proctor);
Mr. Wilkins, Mr. Strnisha, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Dixon
(10:15 a.m.)

Absent: Representative Buehrer

Greenwood: We have a quorum so we will proceed. Mr. Darwish is here with us today representing the Ohio Department of Transportation Director, Gordon Proctor, and is authorized to vote for him.

We have a number of guests today, would you please introduce yourselves.

John Peca, Alan Hirth, Climaco, Lefkowitz; Capt. Bob Ferguson, OSHP; Eric Erickson, Fifth Third Securities; Bobby Everhart, Mike Burgess, URS; Frank Lamb, Huntington Bank; Richard Exner, The

(Cleveland) Plain Dealer; Tim DelVecchio (retired, OSHP); Alan Plain (retired, former Executive Director); Kevin Redden, Gladieux Corp. Tony Yacobucci, HNTB; Stefan Holmes, First Merit Bank.

This is the 477th meeting of the Ohio Turnpike Commission, and we are meeting here in the Commission's headquarters as provided for in the Commission's Code of Bylaws.

The minutes of the last Commission meeting of April 15, 2002 have been distributed to the Members for their comments, and I will accept a motion to adopt them without reading.

The minutes were moved for adoption by Mr. Darwish and seconded by Mr. Wilkins. A vote of ayes and nays was taken and all Members present responded to roll call. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Wilkins-yes; Mr. Darwish-yes; Mr. Strnisha-yes;
Mr. Greenwood-yes.

Nays : None.

The minutes of the April 15, 2002 meeting are adopted.

The Chairman stated that various reports will be received and we will act on at least one resolution today – draft copies of which have been previously sent to Members and updated drafts are also in the members' folders. This resolution will be explained during the appropriate report. I'd like to proceed with the report of the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Strnisha.

Strnisha: The following items have been sent to the members since the last regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on April 15, 2002:

1. Draft of Commission Meeting Minutes of April 15, 2002
2. Traffic Accident Summary Report, April, 2002 *
3. Traffic and Revenue Report, April, 2002 *
4. Total Revenue by Month & Year, April, 2002 *
5. Investment Report, April, 2002 *

6. OTC Financial Statements, March 31, 2002
7. OTC Budget Report, three-months, 2002
8. Litigation Report, May 2002
9. Ohio Ethics Laws and related statutes
10. Various News Releases

- copy in Members' folders

Greenwood: Mr. Steiner – financial and budgetary matters? Do we have any money in the checkbook?

Steiner: Yes, we do Mr. Chairman, Commission Members, our passenger car traffic during the month of April totaled 2,947,000 cars exceeding the previous record set last year by 69,000 cars or 2.4%. Commercial traffic during April totaled 758,000 vehicles exceeding the previous record set in 2000 by 6,000 vehicles or 0.8%. Total traffic during April totaled 3,706,000 vehicles exceeding the previous record set in 2000 by 86,000 vehicles or 2.4%.

Passenger car traffic during the first four months of this year totaled 10,773,000 vehicles surpassing the prior record set last year by 487,000 cars or 4.7%. Commercial traffic during the first four months of the year totaled 2,788,000 vehicles falling short of the prior record set in 2000 by 181,000 vehicles or 6.1%. Total traffic for the first four months of this year totaled 13,561,000 vehicles surpassing the prior record set in 2000 by 311,000 or 2.3%. Mr. Chairman, that completes my report and I'll be happy to respond to any questions.

Greenwood: Any questions for Mr. Steiner from the Commission? Thank you, Jim. Staff report from the Executive Director, Mr. Zomparelli.

Zomparelli: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm happy to report we only have one resolution this morning before the Board. It is draft resolution titled, "Resolution Awarding Contract No. 43-02-03

(Part A and B).” The Commission advertised according to law for bids on a contract for bridge rehabilitation (Part A) Ohio Turnpike over I-76/I-80 at Milepost 219.0 and (Part B) Lipkey Road at Milepost 220.3 located in Mahoning County which contract has been designated Contract No. 43-02-03 (Part A and B).

The Commission received three bids for the performance of said contract. The bid tab is attached. Two of the three bids were below estimate. The bids have been reviewed and analyzed by the Commission’s Deputy Executive Director-Chief Engineer. He submitted his report and analysis as well as letters attached from W. E. Quicksall and Associates, Inc. and MS Consultants, Inc. both firms have reviewed the bids and are recommending award to the lowest bid submitted by National Engineering & Contracting Company of Strongsville, Ohio.

National Engineering has done work for the Commission in the past and is involved in a joint venture on the project with Trumbull Corporation – the construction of our largest bridges on the Ohio Turnpike – Cuyahoga River Bridges. I’ll read the Resolved and then after the motion is put on the table, I’d like to bring the Commission up to date on National Engineering’s financials as it is important to the deliberations.

“RESOLVED that the bid of **National Engineering & Contracting Company** of Strongsville, Ohio in the total amount of **\$3,748,097.20** for the performance of **Contract No. 43-02-03 (Part A and B)** is, and is by the Commission, determined to be the lowest responsive and responsible bid received for the performance of said contract, and is accepted, and that the chairperson and executive director, or either of them, hereby is authorized (1) to execute a contract with said successful bidder in the form heretofore prescribed by the Commission pursuant to the aforesaid bid; (2) to direct the return to the other bidders of their bid security, when appropriate, and (3) to take any and all action necessary or proper to carry out the terms of said bid and of said contract; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that Project No. 43-02-03 (*Part A and B*) is designated a System Project under the Commission’s 1994 Master Trust Agreement.”

I’d recommend that the Commission move to adopt this resolution.

Greenwood: Is there a motion to adopt the resolution? Mr. Darwish moves and Mr. Strnisha seconds.

Darwish: Move.

Strnisha: Second.

Greenwood: Is there any discussion on the motion? Before we start the discussion, we might have the record reflect that Mr. Dixon has joined the Commission Meeting. (*Mr. Dixon arrived at 10:15 a.m.*) Excuse me, Mr. Darwish, I'm sorry.

Darwish: I just want to make a point that the ODOT is paying for Part A of this project so we are partnering with the Commission on this project as far as engineering and construction for the bridges over I-76.

Greenwood: That was one of my questions – it's captioned bridge rehabilitation – what are they doing?

Castrigano: Mr. Chairman, Commission Members, on the I-76/I-80 bridges we are replacing the bridge deck and also raising the bridge to provide for additional clearance on I-76/I-80 below the Turnpike. Lipkey Road is a deck replacement and we are also replacing the dual median piers with the single median pier. Also, as Mr. Darwish stated, the I-76/I-80 bridges although they carry Turnpike traffic, they are ODOT's responsibility to maintain. I'd like to thank Mr. Darwish along with your office for the cooperation we received throughout the design and engineering process on this structure.

Greenwood: Any further discussion on the motion?

Zomparelli: Mr. Chairman, if I may? We had our CFO review the financials of National Engineering & Contracting Company. There was an item that we were concerned about. Jim, would you briefly report what you found on National Engineering's financials.

Steiner: Mr. Chairman, Commission Members, it appears that National Engineering seems to be in fairly good financial situation up through calendar year 2000. In calendar year 2001 their revenues dropped from over \$90-M to approximately \$44-M and they incurred a loss for the year of close to \$25-M.

Last summer they were purchased by a much larger company called **Balfour Beatty, Inc.** which is a company based in London – a multi-billion dollar company and it appears that they have invested approximately \$40-M into National Engineering to make them solvent and they appear to be in relatively good shape at this point. They have stockholders' equity of approximately \$16-M as of 07/31/2001. So assuming that their revenues pick back up, I'm hoping that they are going to be OK this year with the backing of the parent company.

Greenwood: I have a question for Jim – in the three years that I have been here this is the first time I recall that we have discussed the financial standing of a contractor in connection with a motion on a bid to award a contract. What prompted the question in the first place? Is this something we normally do?

Steiner: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I review the financial statements of the low bidder on every bid that comes before the Commission.

Greenwood: Do they have to submit financials in when they bid?

Steiner: Yes they do.

Greenwood: So you do that routinely, right? And this time something caught your eye on the financials?

Steiner: Yes, Mr. Chairman – the \$25-M loss.

Zomparelli: Mr. Chairman, Commission Members. There is a bond that had to be submitted obviously with the bid. The bond was dated May 3. We are satisfied that the bonding company is fine. Tom has the bid in front of him if the Commission wants to look at the bid. Who is the bonding company, Tom?

Amato: Federal Insurance Company out of Indiana. It's for 100% of the bid.

Strnisha: Are you familiar with this bonding company?

Zomparelli: I don't recall that name, but they were out of Indiana you said, Tom? Does that name seem familiar to you, Tom? They meet the requirements of having the proper rating of a bonding company. We checked that out in the Legal Department. The bonding company is supposedly sufficient to meet the bond obligations. This is a relatively low bridge project at \$3.7-M. It is significant enough in amount, but the bond is valid and is for the full amount.

I don't know the dynamics behind the purchase, but they are being propped up by the international company out of London. Reporting wise, I don't know how the joint venture reporting affects their financials on the Cuyahoga River Bridge project – that's \$51-M. They seem to be doing the work. The first bridge opened on time as the Commission Members recall and the second bridge is underway. The company has been able to perform work for the Commission in the past and also is a sub to prime contractors in the past.

Just in the spirit of full disclosure, that is a significant number of the financial statements to carry, and I wanted the Commission Members to be aware of it. I am concerned, but I would recommend that the Commission move to adopt this resolution. In the event that National Engineering is unable to perform, we have the bond to seek reimbursement and as well General Counsel has contacted the parent company out of London asking for a corporate guaranty. We have not heard a reply yet and we are still going to seek, but we do not want to make this resolution contingent on it. That would be just a safeguard. We have that in the past – asking for a corporate guaranty.

Greenwood: Any more discussion on the motion from the members? Why don't we call the roll on the motion to award Contract No. 43-02-03?

Roll: Mr. Dixon-yes; Mr. Darwish-yes; Mr. Strnisha-yes; Mr. Wilkins-yes; Mr. Greenwood-yes.

The resolution passes.

Zomparelli: Mr. Chairman, Commission Members, at the last Commission Meeting, we were going to give you a report on our website. We have our projector this morning and I'd like to show the Commission Members the website that Lauren Dehrmann, our Manager of Public Affairs and Dick Morgan, Director of Information Systems have helped create.

Dehrmann: As we are getting set up, the website was actually started between 1997 and 1998. In 1999 we began hosting our own website. It has a lot of information on the website, but we'll just run through some of the pages to give you an overview of what's on our website.

In your packets, I have printed out a summary table. Each month I get a monthly web access report that shows the number of hits we get and who is viewing what pages, As you see if you take a look of the report, at some point our numbers have almost doubled as to the number of people looking at our website at home page from what they were at this time last year. Our home page itself in April received over 8,000 hits. In fact, 8,665 people just viewing this home page.

When you go to a website, possibly the general information you want is at hand here – the address, phone number, who the Chairman and Executive Director are. To click on the General Information which is something we just added as a link, - the Commission Members' photos as well as their title. If you scroll down, it also gives some information on what the Commission is and who the members are.

You can go to Service Plazas – we actually have a link in two areas for service plazas because it is something that receives a lot of hits. You can click on one of the service plazas and obtain more information on what services are available, what

County. If you click on the closed plaza which are currently under construction. If you go back to the initial page, on top you'll see it also lists which service plazas are new, where they are located at Milepost 100, 170 and 197. If you scroll down on this page, it lists all of the amenities and services that are available at each service plazas.

On the general information page, you can view our Turnpike history. This is the same that is printed in our Annual Report. There are also photos and if you click on them, it enlarges for a view of what a particular area looked like – I believe those were taken in the 50's. Some of the original construction and this is the laying of the foundation of the Turnpike Administration Building.

Going back to the general information page, you can also click on Attractions. This lists some of the local attractions along the Turnpike corridor. Currently, these individuals are listed on our website for free. It's a benefit to the public who want to see what is along the Turnpike corridor, but at some point, we may decide that since a lot of people are looking at this page, I think 386 people viewed Attractions in just April so it may be something we might charge for in the future.

Other links are neighboring, local transportation agencies as well as Ohio State links. It goes directly to their home page.

The Turnpike rules and regulations lists exactly that – the rules and regulations of traffic on the Ohio Turnpike. It's the entire document on our website.

The goal again of our website was to provide information first and I think we have done a good of doing that as well as showing photos. It's a good combination and it's easy to access for any one using the internet with a regular phone line.

Going to the Turnpike map, we have broken this down into sections. You can view the map in its entirety here or you can go to the western section; and if you would click on an interchange, it would show you where that is located. It also

references its old exit number and its milepost number, what route it connects to. You can also the service plazas and where they are located and its amenities which we have viewed earlier.

Going back to the main page, you can scroll down and it gives information about our construction projects. You can click there and it gives a little synopsis of what is going on and if you want a daily report of what maintenance and construction zones are going to be out, at what milepost, about how long they are and what county. It's all listed here.

Additionally, if an individual wants to get a hard copy of the map they can click on my E-mail and request that a copy be sent to them.

Back to the service plazas, this is what we viewed earlier in the general information page, fare, schedules and mileage tables. It tells you how tolls are determined. Information about over-dimensional vehicles. It also lists a brief description of what class a vehicle would fall into - a regular passenger vehicle would be a Class 1. If they click on there they can see the appropriate tolls depending upon where they are traveling.

You can also access the mileage table. You click on mileage table and it can tell you the distance from one interchange to another.

From the home page you can also access the construction and lane closures. Our actual construction booklet which you previously received is available on-line and it lists more detailed description of the construction projects, where they are located, whether they will be single-lane closures or whether traffic will be maintained, approximately when the projects will be completed and it lists everything that was contained in the Construction Booklet.

Also on that page is the Daily which we saw previously, and the weekly construction update which is a general synopsis of what is featured in the Construction Booklet. Also, there is

information on the construction page regarding things for contractors, submitting bids and other things below which I am not too familiar with.

Going back to the home page, you can access current weather and road conditions. This information is updated daily and I believe it is obtained from a local weather service – from Burke Lakefront Airport. Everything is broken down by zone. So if a person is only traveling between MP 0 – 75, they can see what the weather conditions are. For road conditions, they can call our automated line and it tells whether the road is wet, dry, snowy.

The Charge Account information is primarily for the trucking industry or individuals who spend \$100 or more in tolls a month. They can access the application, the Terms & Conditions as well as the bond application all on line. We have a lot of people who take advantage of this.

Back to the home page, you can also check “Employment.” This is a very popular site. In one month we had almost 8,000 hits. There are only two jobs listed today, but it lists the process of what to do in order to receive or send in an application – deadline information. All of our job openings are listed on-line. It is checked frequently by individuals who are interested in employment opportunities.

Back to the home page – Annual Report and news releases. News Releases are listed by year; you can click on previous year it goes back to 1997.

Annual Report – there are two versions of the annual report a smaller version which only has cover, Commission Members photos but no other photos in the actual document. There is a full version on-line which has all the photos and appears exactly as the hard copy does. By listing the size of the file, it gives people an idea of how long a phone line would take to download the full version which is – probably a couple hours. We just recently included the Annual Report on-line and in April 658 people viewed the Annual Report.

Finally, the contact information lists an individual if you want to mail something or if they would like to E-mail a question or comment, they can do so which goes directly to the Public Affairs Dept. or the Office of Executive Director which goes directly to Diane. April of 2001 there were 114 E-mails sent; in April 2002 there were 353 E-mails received in just the month of April. That's questions, comments – we spend a great deal of time corresponding with the public through E-mail which includes questions, comments, suggestions, complaints and compliments.

That is our website in a nutshell. We are continuing to update it. We hope at some point when you click at the photos on the right it will go into a photo library which will highlight some of our construction projects and we are continuing to take suggestions on things to be included on-line. As you can see from these numbers almost 8,000 or 9,000 people are accessing our website each month. It's a great way to relay information to the public.

That's it – any questions? Thank you.

Zomparelli: Thank you, Lauren and Dick – nice job. Keeping in mind with public access, the Ohio Turnpike Commission is accessible now worldwide. It saves staff time not having to send out documents when they request an Annual Report. Does anyone have any questions about the website?

Strnisha: As this is being constructed, is the breakdown as to where people are looking, does that surprise anyone? Was that what we anticipated? Did you expect people to go past the home page? This seems to indicate that people are looking at a lot of different things beyond the home page. Is there any rule of thumb on that?

Dehrmann: We thought our service plazas would be something that would be looked at most frequently as well as the Turnpike map. We tried to make buttons for each of the sites that are accessed most frequently. The breakdown that you see here is we separated some things but I lumped some things together like

Employment and people who looked at the Index. What you have in front of you is more of a general nature just to show you how many people are looking.

Strnisha: It seems like people check the home page and go on to look at other things.

Zomparelli: It seems to be increasing as time goes on and more people become aware of our website.

Dehrmann: I think as we publicize it more, we include it on ads, on our letterhead, people will become more aware of it.

Zomparelli: Thank you. I'd also report that at our June Commission Meeting, that the Commission staff and I will be participating in the closing meeting with our auditors, Deloitte & Touche on Wednesday, May 15th. At our June meeting, I'll ask Mr. Steiner to give us a report at that time.

Collective bargaining negotiations – I think a Commission Member will move later to go into executive session to speak regarding the status of where we are with our new union representative – the Teamsters.

Mr. Castrigano will be giving us a report of where we are at Middle Ridge/Vermilion Valley and I'm sure Senator Armbruster will be interested in that.

On Friday, May 24th at 10:00 a.m. the next Turnpike Oversight Meeting will be held in this room here in Berea, Ohio at our Administration Building. Any Commission Members are welcome to attend. At the last meeting in Columbus, our Chairman and Vice-Chairman attended.

Mr. Fleischman, Mr. Cawley and I recently attended the IBTTA Management Workshop . A lot of discussion at that meeting related to “open tolling” – essentially electronic toll collection (ETC) on mainlines without having to stop for toll collection processes. We are getting an awful lot of questions now about what's the status on electronic toll collection in Ohio. I was

informed that Indiana is now moving towards ETC. Pennsylvania is making progress with their ETC. We have always taken the position that we'll wait and see what they do and let's try to make it better. We don't have a lot of delays and capacity issues that the other states have. That's one reason ETC has not been as large an issue in Ohio. We have dealt with the capacity issue by widening the road from two lanes to three lanes. In a lot different states like New York, New Jersey, they don't have the ability to increase capacity and they had to move to ETC to help with the movement of vehicles and also in the urban areas to deal with delays where they are sitting in toll booths for maybe 20-40 minutes each day on a commute back and forth to work in New York City and places like Florida and California in particular.

In Ohio, we don't have that situation. The toll transactions are very rapid. I always say less than 30 seconds and Sharon Isaac and Gary Cawley say even faster than that. You really don't wait long at our toll booths.

The staff and I are exploring ETC. We have a little task force group that we are evaluating what is happening on the other toll roads. By the end of this year, we'll have a strategy for the Commission that we will be recommending in the area of ETC. That concludes my report, Mr. Chairman unless there are any questions of me.

Greenwood: Any questions for the Executive Director? OK, Mr. Castrigano.

Castrigano: Thank you Mr. Chairman, Commission Members. Our Construction Update for this month – we have currently three third-lane contracts under construction. The first one is in western Cuyahoga County, MP 151-156. They are progressing very well. They have shifted into the traffic configuration of using the right hand shoulder and right driving lane. The second project in eastern Cuyahoga County, they are still in the Phase I construction sequence of re-constructing the shoulders. The third is in Wood County. That project just began three weeks ago. These three projects are scheduled for completion this year.

Our two resurfacing projects are also progressing very well. One is in Williams County, the second in Sandusky County. Both are on schedule and will be completed in June prior to the onset of heavy summer traffic volumes.

Our Cuyahoga River Bridge, we now have 5 of the 17 new piers along with the new westbound abutment constructed. There are currently four other piers under construction at this time and that project is also moving along very well.

Our Service Plaza project – the Middle Ridge/Vermilion Valley, I visited the site along with the contractors on Friday, May 10th. We are wrapping the project up. We are still shooting for an opening prior to Memorial Day. The vendors, HMS Host and Panera Bread have moved in. They are beginning their build-out of their restaurant areas. When the plazas re-opens later this month, we will re-open it with parking, restroom facilities, vending and limited food service.

We currently have three toll plaza projects under construction: Exit 118 (Erie County); Exit 152 (Lorain County) and Exit 187 (Portage County.)

Our bridge painting contract that was awarded at the last Commission Meeting is scheduled to begin work this week – weather permitting.

Also, we have completed our mainline striping contract. The entire mainline has been completed and we have now moved into the interchanges and service plazas and re-striping those areas. That completes my report.

Greenwood: Any questions for Mr. Castrigano? Thanks, Dan. Mr. Erickson – our financial advisor?

Erickson: The only report I have is I mentioned last time that we need to begin preparing the Commission's staff and members of the Commission for meetings with respective rating agencies. It is my understanding that subsequent to the last meeting, that there

have been some personnel changes at those rating agencies and we need to introduce ourselves to the new analyst in charge of the Commission. Again, as I said last time, I think it's important that we wait until we have conclusions on both the labor negotiations as well as the Inspector General's investigation prior to our meeting with the rating agencies. We need to begin preparing for those meetings perhaps some time this summer or hopefully no later than the fall. That concludes my report.

Strnisha: Which rating agency has had personnel changes?

Erickson: Moody's -- I believe. Ed Roach moved to this area. If he is in charge of this area, we need to have him become acquainted with us. He worked in the Tax area.

Strnisha: Adam -- he's gone?

Erickson: Well, he's not gone, but he may not be in charge of this credit area.

Zomparelli: He was dealing a lot with airports.

Erickson: That has been a fairly active area this year.

Greenwood: Any other questions for Eric -- thanks. Our trustee, Mr. Lamb?

Lamb: No report, Mr. Chairman.

Greenwood: OSHP -- Captain Ferguson?

Ferguson: Mr. Chairman, the only report we have that I'd like to mention is that the month of April remained fatality-free on the Ohio Turnpike -- that's the second month in a row. So far to date in the month, there have been no fatalities.

Greenwood: Do you have anything extraordinary with Memorial Day weekend coming up or just your normal holiday coverage.

Ferguson: Just our normal holiday coverage which is predominantly 100% of our manpower working.

Greenwood: Any construction locations do you see any patterns or problems?

Ferguson: No, nothing unusual that we have not experienced before. The re-paving and the third lane construction are areas where we keep our people monitoring for any difficulties.

Greenwood: Any questions for Capt. Ferguson from the Commission? Thank you very much.

Zomparelli: I do want to point out that we avoided a potentially fatal situation with one of the tow truck operators. Maybe you can give us a little information on that incident. Sometimes, people don't realize we contract with towing companies up and down the Turnpike corridor. I think one potentially hazardous situation happened a couple weeks ago.

Ferguson: Last week, fairly early in the day there was a towing company out servicing a disabled motorist around MP 140. A sleepy motorist or a motorist not paying close attention came by, swerved off the road and caught the wrecker as it was stopped helping the patron. It was an injury, not life-threatening, but it was a less serious situation that it could have turned out to be.

We are seeing quite a bit from the Move Over signs that are posted. A lot more traffic is paying attention to that and moving over for not only our vehicles but other vehicles that are pulled off on the berm – service trucks, Turnpike maintenance trucks and also patrons' disabled vehicles. We still have a situation once in a while where someone – particularly in transient traffic traveling across long distances that the Turnpike cover and having that sleepy driver traveling off the road and for some reason hitting someone who has pulled off. It is an inherent problem.

Zomparelli: Thank you, the reason I bring it up is we have installed those "Move Over/Slow Down signs" and we were asked why we

put those signs up. That's the reason. It's also to protect the traveling public and those assisting the public. A lot of times we take patrons to the service plaza while their cars are being worked on so that they will be taken out of harm's way. It's a service that the Turnpike is providing. A lot of times we talk about tolls, I try to explain to the public or other public officials that when you pay tolls, you are paying for service. That's a service we provided, but these people providing the service also put their lives on the line for our patrons. Since the Ohio Turnpike is the only place that has both these types of signs, maybe we ought to look at possibly introducing some of these other signs.

Where it says "Move Over-Slow Down" in yellow the way we have.

Darwish: We have those – it's a requirement.

Zomparelli: You have the ones that says Ohio Law. We think those signs are a little bit lengthy. That was what the Captain was saying, that the signs are starting to attract attention. I think what we're saying and I think the Captain will agree, we're starting to have some good experience where the signs are noticeable. The signs on the other road – maybe it's not popular to say it – but I can't read them. By the time I drive by I can't get to the end.

We are all interested in safety – those people who drive on our road are driving on the other state roads more often – it's just more education. We ought to look at a campaign towards that goal. That's all, thank you.

Greenwood: Any other questions for Capt. Ferguson? Our general consultant report, Mr. Yacobucci?

Yacobucci: Mr. Chairman, Commission Members, bridge and culvert inspections are still in progress. We have two more sections to complete – Swanton and Elmore. There are no major issues to date. Roadway inspections were to begin today, obviously the weather has not cooperated. They will be underway as soon as

we get some better weather. The facility inspections will begin in June. That's all I have.

Greenwood: Any questions for our general consultant? Thank you. General Counsel, Mr. Amato – your report.

Amato: Thank you Mr. Chairman, Commission Members. I distributed three materials prior to this meeting. Hopefully you received them, we sent them by regular mail. The first item was the Litigation Report. Again, if you have any questions regarding any of the cases that are cited, you can contact me at any time. I'll be glad to discuss them. The second item was the Ohio Ethics Law and related statutes. That was a pamphlet which we actually downloaded off the website from the Ethics Commission. In speaking with the Executive Director, we found it advisable to distribute that to all our employees and our Commission Members. You can review that at your leisure. The third item was from the Teamsters. It was a newsletter which was a couple weeks old that had some interesting foresight into their mindset going into negotiations. I wanted you to look at that before we had our discussions which leads me into my request for an executive session to discuss the status of the Inspector General's investigation and our negotiations with the bargaining unit. I have had running dialogue with their attorney and I'd like to tell you about it. I'd like to request executive session for that purpose.

Greenwood: Is there a motion?

Strnisha: Mr. Chairman, I move we adjourn the meeting to hold an executive session in order to discuss collective bargaining issues, the Inspector General's investigation, and at the end of such executive session the Commission shall reconvene.

Dixon: Second.

Greenwood: Any discussion on the motion? Please take the roll:

Roll: Mr. Strnisha-yes; Mr. Dixon-yes; Mr. Darwish-yes; Mr. Wilkins-yes; Mr. Greenwood-yes.

Darwish: Will there be any other business after we're done with the executive session?

Zomparelli: It's possible.

Greenwood: Yes, there might be some other business. We'll stand adjourned for executive session. *(Time: 10:53 a.m.)*

Greenwood: Let the record reflect that the Ohio Turnpike Commission Members are back at 2:09 p.m. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn until our next scheduled meeting on June 10, 2002.

Wilkins: So moved.

Darwish: Second.

Roll: Mr. Wilkins-yes; Mr. Darwish-yes; Mr. Dixon-yes; Mr. Strnisha-yes and Mr. Greenwood-yes. We are adjourned. *(Time: 2:11 p.m.)*

/dsp