



**CUTR Advisory Board Meeting
CUTR Board Room
May 26, 2010**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m. by Board Chair Kimberlee DeBosier who welcomed board members and guests. Self-introductions of participants were made as follows:

Advisory Board Members and Designees:

Kimberlee DeBosier	Ysela Llort
John Forney (call-in)	Craig Diamond for Sec. Pelham (call-in)
Sen. James Hargrett, Jr.	William Sheppard
Debbie Hunt for Sec. Kopelousos (call in)	Chris Stahl for Sec. Sole (call-in)
	Thornton Williams

CUTR

Ed Mierzejewski	Steve Polzin	Joel Volinski
Dennis Hinebaugh	Steve Reich	Kristine Williams
Pei-Sung Lin	Lisa Staes	Phil Winters

Others: Kathy Betancourt, Dean Wiencek

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the January 2010 meeting were approved.

Chair's Comments: Ms. DeBosier greeted Senator Jim Hargett as our newest member of our Advisory Board. In addition, she recognized that CUTR's Director, Ed Mierzejewski, is retiring the end of December. She expressed the Board's appreciation for his able leadership.

Director's Report: Dr. Mierzejewski provided an update:

- It was with sadness that Ed announced Earl Durden, past recipient of the CUTR Transportation Achievement Award and past Chair of the FTC passed away recently.
- Ed met with the Board of Directors of the Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers and provided them with an overview of CUTR's operations.
- CUTR hosted Peter Appel, Administrator of USDOT's Research and Innovative Technologies Administration, who had very positive comments regarding his visit.
- CUTR is working on an agreement with USDOT's Transportation Safety Institute that allows CUTR to use our instructors to teach TSI classes and to issue TSI certificates to participants. It is our understanding that this will be the first agreement that TSI and RITA have executed to entrust an outside organization to provide their course materials.
- CUTR hosted Nazih Haddad, the COO of the new Florida Rail Enterprise. He briefed us on progress with the Florida High Speed Rail program. CUTR is currently executing a contract to work with the Rail Enterprise on how best to connect high speed rail to local areas.
- Ed and several of the management team met with the editorial board of the *Tampa Tribune* to help them understand the breadth of CUTR's activities.

- As part of USF's first Climate Action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions generated by campus operations, CUTR organized the effort to address USF's transportation needs.
- The Transportation Assistance Device for people with disabilities was featured on the **disability.gov** website and in the Florida Governor's Commission on Disabilities report.
- At the invitation of Representative Ron Reagan, Ed attended the Governor's bill-signing ceremony for the Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Act that establishes state standards for the implementation of red light cameras.
- Ed shared with the Board that he decided to take advantage of USF Early Retirement Incentive Program and will leave CUTR in December. He noted that one of the great challenges facing CUTR will be working within the framework as suggested by President Genshaft and Provost Wilcox in their meeting with the CUTR management team. Those points were reiterated in a follow-up letter.
 - Dean Wiencek suggested that CUTR have a strategic planning exercise prior to the search for a new director and his office will assist with hiring a facilitator.
 - Provost Wilcox first wants to have an external review of CUTR, thereby appointing an interim director and beginning the search in the spring of 2011.
 - Ed has submitted names of qualified external reviewers to the Dean.
- CUTR is fortunate to have Dean Wiencek who will work diligently to protect CUTR's interests.

Kim DeBosier announced that she plans to meet with Mayor Iorio and President Genshaft on a one-on-one basis and may call on individual board members to help in any way.

Dean's Comments:

- Dean Wiencek reiterated that since the Provost wants an external review, we should seize this opportunity, move quickly and make sure that those who are invited to participate are true experts in the field.
- Key thing in working with the Provost is that the process needs to be completed quickly and that any interim in place should be on a short term basis. A meeting has been scheduled in two weeks to discuss this issue. In the meantime, the Dean will draft a short memo outlining the steps we should take and proceed unless otherwise instructed by the Provost. He is hopeful that we get the process moving forward by summer. The Dean believes that the situation will smooth out and right itself but if needed, he will request the assistance of the board members.

After discussion of the President and Provost's letter, it was decided that Kim DeBosier should prepare a non-controversial response from the board.

2010 CUTR Award Committee: Kim DeBosier reported that the committee recommended Ben Watts as the 2010 Transportation Achievement Award recipient. Ben Watts is the former Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation. The Advisory Board unanimously approved the selection and Kim DeBosier will contact him. Mr. Watts joined the Florida DOT in 1974 and held increasingly responsible positions and was appointed as Secretary of Transportation in 1989. He held that position until 1997.

New Business: There was no other business.

Project Presentations:

- Increasing Mobility Options for People with Disabilities – Lisa Staes and Jay Goodwill
- Open Street Mapping – Ed Hillsman
- Vehicle Assist and Automation – Brian Pessaro
- Camera-Based Systems to Reduce Bus Side Collisions – Achilleas Kourtellis
- Moving the Bus Safely Back into Traffic – Aldo Fabregas

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Meeting Schedule for 2010:

July 28 at 1:30 pm teleconference

October 27 at 1:30 p.m. with Transportation Achievement Award dinner to follow