



**JASPER COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
358 THIRD AVE.
RIDGELAND, SC 29936
SEPTEMBER 14, 2008
4:00 P.M.**

Officials Present: Chairman Henry Lawton, Vice Chairman Jimmy Baker, Walter Baxter, Rudy Smith, Alan Galloway, Richie Smalls Reid, Weldon Wall, Leo Gaston

Officials absent: Alex Flint

Staff Present: Clerk to Council Judith Frank, Dep. Administrator of Administrative Services Ronnie Malphrus.

In accordance with the freedom of information act the electronic and print media were notified.

During periods of discussion and/or presentations, minutes are typically condensed and paraphrased.

Call to Order: Chairman Lawton called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Invocation: Mr. Smith gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Lawton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the minutes: Chairman Lawton asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes. There were no corrections or additions to the minutes and Chairman Lawton approved the minutes as presented.

Public Comment: Ms. Pittman said that the dedication ceremony for Trooper Bruce Smalls will be held on Sept. 25, 2009 and that Rev. Galloway was providing a car for the family and a donation for the reception. Ms. Pittman said the Highway Patrol would provide a motorcycle unit to accompany the family car from the delegation office to Hardeeville. Ms. Pittman said that the family would travel to Hardeeville down Hwy. 17. Ms. Pittman said that she worked with Kevin Smalls and the family on the program that she presented to the commissioners to review. Ms. Pittman informed the commission that Sept. 25, 2009 was Trooper Smalls birthday and the date was changed

from Sept. 27, 2009 due to the Senator not being able to attend on a Sunday. Chairman Lawton asked Ms. Pittman to read the verbiage from the back of the program. Chairman Lawton said he felt too much emphasis was placed on the incident and not enough on Trooper Smalls. Chairman Lawton said that he felt more should have been said about Trooper Smalls. Vice Chairman Baker said he felt the same way and he had contacted Ms. Pittman. Ms. Pittman said the photo and information came from Kevin Smalls and that the family will discuss him and his life at the dedication and this is the write-up that the family requested. Chairman Lawton said the dedication was to pay tribute to Trooper Smalls, not the incident. Ms. Smalls-Reid said that the essence of the incident was listed under his picture and she also stated that Trooper Smalls was involved in his church and had a family, and that information should be detailed in the program. Ms. Pittman said that this is not what she would have chosen for her family member, but this is what the family wanted. Chairman Lawton and Vice Chairman Baker suggested that Ms. Pittman go back to the family and see if they would object if more was said about Trooper Smalls on the program and not so much about the incident. Mr. Wall said he felt it should be up to the family what is on the program. Chairman Lawton said he felt the information on the program was unfitting for a dedication. Vice Chairman Baker said the family may agree with the transportation committee's concerns. Ms. Pittman said that Senator Pinckney and Representative Brantley both reviewed and approved the program she presented. Ms. Pittman told the commission that she would speak with the family and get back to the commission. Ms. Reid said the program should focus on Trooper Small's contributions to the community and how much was lost, and his family should also be mentioned. Chairman Lawton asked that Ms. Pittman consult with the family about his selection of Let Your Life Shine and see if they would agree to it being sung. Ms. Smalls-Reid also asked Ms. Pittman to correct the names of the schools. Ms. Pittman said that her office has no budget, not even enough to cover her salary and the highway department was going to print the programs. Rev. Galloway said that he would take care of printing the program. Ms. Smalls-Reid motioned and Mr. Gaston seconded the motion to have Rev. Galloway print the programs. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor. The commission told Ms. Pittman they would like to review the program before it was printed. Ms. Pittman said that many people made contributions for the dedication and signs would be placed at the event. Ms. Pittman said that the family did not feel it was appropriate to list the donations on the program.

Old Business:

Malzone Russell – update on 25% Match for 2010 -Mr. Russell was not present and Mr. Brown did not have the correct information on the 25% match or the update for Ms. Tilton’s request. Mr. Wall commented that the commission has requested this information several times and they still have not received it. Mr. Baker added that last year Mr. Russell’s boss came to a transportation committee meeting and chastised the commission for not meeting the match and he did not want for that to happen again. Ms. Smalls-Reid motioned and Mr. Baker seconded the motion that the clerk send a letter to Mr. Russell and state exactly what information the commission is requesting and that he and Mr. Rewis attend the next commission meeting. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Malzone Russell - Update on Ms. Tilton’s Request- Mr. Baker asked that the update on Ms. Tilton’s request be tabled until the next meeting. Ms. Tilton addressed the commission and stated that this is a very dangerous intersection and the stop signs are not working. Mr. Keiffer and Mr. Hudson were also present regarding this issue. Ms. Tilton said she spoke with Mr. Russell and he put her off to Charleston and Charleston sent her back to Mr. Russell. Mr. Baker said he thought they would have some answers today as things were done according to the SCDOT guidelines. Mr. Wall asked if the commission could fund a caution light. Mr. Brown responded that it has to be designated as needed by a traffic engineer through Charleston and the local SCDOT department cannot do anything. Ms. Tilton stated that the Charleston office told her that Mr. Russell was to take care of the problem. Ms. Smalls Reid motioned to add a paragraph to the letter requesting that Mr. Russell fulfill the request and respond to the commission by the next meeting. Chairman Lawton said that a motion will not work and the transportation commission needs to address it themselves and that they have to go through a process. Chairman Lawton suggested that the commission contact Charleston and when they get a response, the commission will contact Ms. Tilton.

New Business:

Thomas Ezekiel Miller - Ms. Smalls-Reid asked that the transportation committee consider installing a sign in Feredeeville, SC, as the home of Thomas Ezekiel Miller, Ms. Smalls-Reid told the commission that Mr. Miller served in the House of Representatives and was a founder and 1st president of SC State University. Mr. Baker said that they would have to check with the delegation office. Ms. Pittman said the delegation does not name roads and that Ms. Smalls-Reid was requesting was a historical marker. Mr. Gaston suggested that Ms. Smalls-Reid discuss this with the Historical Society. Ms. Smalls-Reid

said she was requesting a marker stating that Feredeeville was the home of Mr. Thomas Miller. Ms. Pittman said that the delegation office would need the facts sent to their office and if the senator and the representative decided to do this, they would sponsor a joint resolution and a portion of a road would be named for the person. Ms. Smalls-Reid is to prepare the written request.

Cypress Ridge Road Extension- Ronnie Malphrus reported that the paving was complete and he will be closing that out with the state. Mr. Smith asked why the \$350,000.00 approved for SCDOT was not deducted in his report. Mr. Malphrus said he would include it in the next report and mark it pending.

Adjourn – Chairman Lawton adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved by:

Judith M. Frank, CCC
Clerk to Council

Henry C. Lawton
Chairman