

**I-85 Corridor Alliance  
Board of Directors Annual Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
National Center for Asphalt Technology  
Auburn, Alabama  
March 23, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 am.

Present were:

1. *Joe Sumners, AU/EDI (Executive Director)*
2. *Larry Fillmer, Auburn Univ.*
3. *Scott Slocum, Westin Solutions (Treasurer)*
4. *Amelia Hall Stehouwer, EDI-AU*
5. *Ray Vaughan, WildLaw (Secretary)*
6. *Al Cook, Opelika*
7. *Margaret Bentley, Alabama Power Company*
8. *Allen Hendrix, City of Valley*
9. *Valerie Gray, Chambers County IDB*
10. *Dr. Mary White, Southern Union (for Dr. Jordan)*
11. *Ralph Foster, AU Outreach Information*
12. *Mike Easterwood, AU/EDI*
13. *Bill Hutto, Auburn-Opelika Airport*
14. *Louis Lockhart, representing John Veres (UAB)*
15. *Joel Holly, City of Lanett*

*Electronic Participation/Voting:*

1. *Phillip Dunlap, City of Auburn*
2. *John Veres, AUM*
3. *Harold Powell, City of Shorter*
4. *Dean Matheson, Interport/SDS*

## **1. Officer's Reports**

- Deroald Hopkins was not present; Al Cook called the meeting to order.
- Joe Sumners gave a welcome and introductions were made.
- Al reported that Kia decided to build its North America plant in West Point, GA, and that should have major impacts on suppliers in the Corridor area. Many Hyundai suppliers may double or even triple in size. New suppliers coming into the area are a major opportunity.
- Ray Vaughan reported that the Alliance did not have enough income in 2005 to be required to file a Form 990 report with the IRS and recommended that we don't take

the time to do so until after we have a year were we go over the \$25,000/year threshold.

- Scott Slocum reported that we have \$3,899.55 in the account, same as last month.

## 2. Review of the Bylaws

- A discussion on possible revisions to the bylaws was held.
- Also held was a discussion of removing and adding member organizations to the Board.
- Batson-Cook needs to be approached to see if they want a new representative on the Board. Valerie Gray said she would call Jerry Clement.
- ACHE still wants to be involved but could not attend today.
- The City of Montgomery and the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce have voiced a decision to stay focused on Montgomery and not be involved.

### Actions by the Board:

1. Larry Fillmer moved that we strike Bylaws section 3.04. Al seconded the motion. Passed with no opposition and one abstention. .
2. Larry moved that we update the organizational membership section to show that membership is contingent upon payment of dues and the designation of one board representative and an alternate. Valerie seconded the motion. Passed with no opposition and one abstention.
3. A discussion occurred about the executive committee section and the section dealing with clusters (since we have moved away from the cluster structure) of the bylaws. Al moved that the phrase "the head of each cluster group," be removed from section 5.11 of the Bylaws and that the last sentence about initial at-large members also be struck from that section. Valerie seconded the motion. Received unanimous support.
4. Scott brought up the need to have a financial obligation for each organizational member and have that amount set at each annual meeting of the board for the year. Scott moved that we add a section under article 5 to include dues for member organizations with the amount to be set at each annual meeting. Al seconded the motion. Received unanimous support.
5. Scott moved that the dues amount for this year be \$500 per member organization (actual money, not in-kind). Al seconded the motion. Passed with no opposition and one abstention.
6. Al moved that we change section 6.01 to remove the reference to the initial officers and replace it with an enumeration of the officer positions and their term of service (from one annual meeting to the next). Larry seconded the motion. Received unanimous support.

### **3. Member Organizations**

- The group decided to send a letter to existing and prospective members asking them to renew their commitment. Those that respond, pay the annual dues, and designate a board representative and alternate will be member organizations until the next annual meeting.
- The roster of member organizations is: City of Opelika, City of Auburn, City of Tallahassee, City of Tuskegee, Town of Shorter, City of Montgomery, Chambers County, Alabama Commission on Higher Education, Auburn University, Southern Union State Community College, Auburn University - Montgomery, Alabama Power, First Tuskegee Bank, WildLaw, Michelin, Batson-Cook Company, Interport/SDS, and Weston Solutions.
- Prospective members include: City of Valley, City of Lanett, ALFA, Congressman Mike Roger's Office, Briggs and Stratton, a number of private businesses, Electrical Cooperatives and other local providers of utilities, EDOs and Chambers of Commerce along the corridor that are not yet members. Joe discussed creating a Stakeholder Relations Committee to identify and engage potential stakeholders and to make sure that the I-85 Corridor Alliance is meeting stakeholder needs.

### **4. Election of Officers.**

- A discussion was held regarding the election of new officers for 2006-2007.

Action by the Board:

1. Larry moved to nominate the same officers (President: Deroald Hopkins; Vice-President: Al Cook; Secretary: Ray Vaughan; and Treasurer: Scott Slocum) for the sake of continuity during this transition year. Margaret seconded the motion. Received unanimous support.

### **5. Committee Structure**

- Joe proposed that we create five committees:
  - ♦ Promotion and Marketing
  - ♦ Finance and Fundraising
  - ♦ Stakeholder Relations
  - ♦ Business and Innovation Forum Planning Committee
  - ♦ Networking Workshop Planning Committee
- Joe, as Executive Director, would be an ex officio member of each committee but would not serve as chair; we need to have someone else take the lead in each area.

- Margaret brought up the need to involve people who are not board members: friends of the Alliance, who help get things done.
- Al recommended that one should not have to be a board member to chair one of these committees.
- Scott recommended that we set up distinct goals for 2006.
  - ♦ **Finance and Fundraising Committee** will be chaired by Scott. Mike, Al and Mary will also be involved.
  - ♦ **Promotion and Marketing Committee** will be chaired by Ralph Foster. Amelia and Valerie will also be on that committee.
  - ♦ **Business and Innovation Forum Planning Committee** will be chaired by Larry. Scott and Margaret will also be on the committee. Nov. 2-4, 2006 is the scheduled date for the Forum this year; much funding has already been committed. Finding a location is difficult due to new policies requiring groups to book rooms for all home football games.
  - ♦ **Stakeholder Relations Committee** will be chaired by Al. Margaret Bentley and Joel Holly will also be on the committee.
  - ♦ **Networking Workshop Planning Committee** will be chaired by Ralph. Al and Valerie will also be on the committee.

## 6. Other Business

- Bill Hutto reported on the progress of the A-O Airport expansion.
- The Finance and Fundraising Committee will develop a budget for 2006 that will be submitted to the entire Board for approval soon.
- In April, EDI is sponsoring a course in retail development. Anyone interested in this topic is encouraged to attend the course.
- A review of the Alliance marketing brochure was conducted. Further proofing and changes will be made.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM.

8. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 27, 2006 at the National Center for Asphalt Technology in Auburn from 8:00-10:00 AM.