

MINUTES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

HELD IN THE ODOT BUILDING COMMISSION MEETING ROOM OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

BE IT REMEMBERED that on Monday the 3rd day of June, 2019, at the hour of 11:00 a.m., the Transportation Commission met in the Commission Meeting Room of the ODOT Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

NOTICE of the schedule of regular meetings of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for the calendar year 2019 having been given in writing to the Oklahoma Secretary of State, and public notice and agenda having been posted in a prominent public view at or before 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 30, 2019 prior to the meeting, on the Atrium Informational Monitor in the ODOT building, and on the glass doors on the north side of the ODOT Building in accordance with Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, 25 O.S. Section 311.

ITEMS PRESENTED BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Bobby Alexander called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present:	Bob Coburn	Member
	James Grimsley	Member
	T.W. Shannon	Secretary
	Don Freymiller	Member
	David Dyson	Member
	Bobby Alexander	Member
	Steve LaForge	Member
	Bob Peterson	Vice-Chairman
	Gene McKown	Chairman
Absent:	None	
Presiding:	Gene McKown	

The following items were presented and approved as written at the Transportation Commission meeting of June 3, 2019. For those items amended, deferred, or rejected, those notations were also made. Action taken by the Commission is noted here on these sheets.

Commissioner McKown thanked everyone for coming and introduced Special Guests: Governor, Kevin Stitt, Former Transportation Secretaries, Gary Ridley and Mike Patterson, John Cox from TRUST and Bobby Stem, AOGC Director. We really do appreciate everybody coming and participating in our Commission Meeting.

Commissioner McKown recognized Secretary/Director, Tim Gatz for an announcement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Secretary Gatz said Governor, I want on behalf of the Department of Transportation welcome you and express our extreme appreciation for joining us today to present our Safety Awards. Our Safety Awards for the Department is a really, really important part of our operations. Our crews out in the field and the folks that are out on the highways, out of the central office work really hard in their performance of their duties to make sure that they keep safety in the front of their minds. Everything that we do at the Department of Transportation is safety focused, and that includes our own operations when we're out protecting the safety of the traveling public. So again, our crews do an exceptional job; they work hard at it every day and it's important that we recognize that. Governor, if I might I also would express our appreciation, and Chelley Hilmes, our Comptroller will present our budget at this meeting. And I want to acknowledge the tremendous work that you did on the budget to put forth a budget that was both beneficial for the Department; this is the

first time in a long time that we haven't been under threat of going backwards. Our Roads Fund is fully funded this year, which is a tremendous shot in the arm for the Department to finally achieve the 575 cap in the Roads Fund. And I also want to thank you as a citizen of the state of Oklahoma for putting some money in our savings account. That was a big deal; that will help us weather the next storm that we may have. So I want to acknowledge that; and again, thank you so much for joining us. And with that, I would invite you to make a few remarks if you care to.

Governor Stitt said well thank you so much. I really appreciate you guy for the invite to be here today. We have got a great event going on today. I've got all the State Agency Heads together in a room for the first time ever, and we're doing a day long Strategy Planning Summit to talk about their Mission and to get everybody aligned with the vision to be a "Top 10 State"! And I can tell you Secretary Gatz and I, we talk a lot about what we're doing in road conditions, bridge conditions, pavement conditions; and he set a big bold goal to be "Top 10" in all that. And so I want you to know it was important for me, it was a no brainer to fully fund this department because this is such a core function of state government. It's an economic driver having the best infrastructure' and I'm just so excited to be here.

And then also during our flooding conditions that we've been experiencing for the last couple of weeks, it's been a rough time throughout a lot of the state, specifically eastern Oklahoma. And Secretary Gatz has just done a great job. The men and women at ODOT have been stationed at these bridges, just so on a moment's notice they could shut things down and protect public safety. So it was just amazing for me to watch the great men and women in this organization do such a great job. We had to evacuate Braggs, Oklahoma, which is just east of Muskogee, and then they were totally cut off. And so ODOT did a fantastic job; the crew actually built an impossible road; I think it was 7 miles long to deliver services to get the power back on to help the citizens there. So the group that did that, it was unbelievable. I got a chance to experience that and see that from the air. So they worked with the Corps of Engineers, we had our law enforcement out and the National Guard was helping. So it was great to see; and I just want to thank ODOT for being such great Oklahomans and helping out their fellow Oklahomans. And I'm here today to honor really the hardworking men and women of this area; and promote safety because they're always taking care of others and protecting Oklahomans; but we want to make sure that we are "Top 10" in safety of our team here and that we never put them in harm's way. So I'm excited to be here; and I know that's a top priority for ODOT. So as Governor of your state, it's just my privilege and honor to lend my support, and roll up my sleeves with you. And I look at ODOT as my coworkers and I want to thank the Commission here for serving with me and taking away from their busy lives and their jobs. They're great Oklahomans; and thank you all for your commitment and what you do to oversee this great agency. So thank you all for allowing me to be here.

Secretary Gatz said, Governor, to your point, in history the Department of Transportation has lost 61 employees that were killed in the line of duty, which is more than any other state agency. We work hard at this every day; and at this point, I'd like to acknowledge John Coleman, our Safety Manager and ask him to come up and present the Director's Awards first. This is an annual event where we get to recognize those crews and divisions that have exemplified what safety means at ODOT.

Mr. Coleman said, Good morning Commissioners, we are going to elect to honor the 2018 Safety Award Winners at this time. Today, we'll acknowledge the Director's Safety Excellence Awards, the Progressive Excellence Award, and the Governor's Safety Excellence Award.

Director's Safety Excellence Award

The following are this year's Division Winners:

Division 1	Superintendent, Beau Ballard	Cherokee County Maintenance Unit
Division 2	Supervisor, Billy Jack Wilkerson	Division Wide Bridge Crew
Division 3	Superintendent, Bart Tschacher	Pontotoc County Maintenance Unit
Division 4	Superintendent, John Green	Division Wide Bridge Crew
Division 5	Superintendent, Andy Slaton	Greer County Maintenance Unit

Division 6	Superintendent, Gene Dodd	Division Wide Traffic Crew
Division 7	Superintendent, Johnny Sullivan	I-35 Interstate Crew
Division 8	Superintendent, Edward Stewart	Division Wide Survey Crew
Division 9	Jamie Bleeker	Office Services Division

Progressive Excellence Award

The Progressive Excellence Award is given to the Division that has shown the most improvement in the last year.

Division 6	Ron McDaniel	Division Engineer
	Jarrid Drew	Safety Manager

Governor’s Safety Excellence Award

The final award is the Governor's Safety Excellence Award and is given to the Division that has the best safety record for the year. It takes into consideration the accident incident rate, lost time accidents, lost work days, and accident severity. To put this award in perspective, listen carefully:

The members of ODOT last year worked 5 million hours, who operate over 1,700 pieces of equipment and vehicles; and maintain 31,000 lane miles of roadway. And during that calendar year, there were only 82 reportable accidents. That's outstanding!

This winner's division worked approximately 450,000 hours, had 8 reportable injuries, and 12 lost days. For the first time in ODOT history we have a back to back winner. Congratulations to this winner:

Division 5	Brent Almquist	Division Engineer
	Jim Reeves	Safety Manager

Maintenance Division Engineer, Taylor Henderson also presented Division 5 with an incentive award, it was a Trailer Mounted Attenuator.

ITEM PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION

78. Approval of the Minutes of the Transportation Commission Meeting of May 6, 2019

- ACTION: Shannon moved and Alexander seconded that the Minutes be approved as presented.
- MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
- AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Freymiller, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, Peterson and McKown
- NAYES: None
- ABSTAIN: None
- ABSENT: None

CONSENT DOCKET PRESENTED BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

79. Safety Improvement Project – Mr. Pendley

Tulsa County – District VIII - for the installation of all-weather pavement markings at US-169: Beginning at US 64 (Memorial Drive) and extending northerly approximately 11 miles to IH-244 - \$1,100,000.00

80. Land Sales – Mr. Phillips

- a) Muskogee County – District I – Land Sale – located on the north side of US-62 (Shawnee Bypass), between N. 11th St. W. and N. 6th St. in the City of Muskogee - \$134,740.00

- b) Choctaw County – District II – located along the south side of US-70 in the Town of Sawyer - \$4,000.00
- c) Garvin County – District III – located on the south side of SH-29 at the intersection of Cemetery Road and SH-29 approximately 1.25 miles west of Elmore City - \$952.00
- d) Pottawatomie County – District III – located along the east side of SH-102, approximately 0.50 mile south of I-40 - \$5,000.00
- e) Oklahoma County – District IV – located on the north side of NE 2nd Street between Central Ave. and Russell Perry Ave. (Stiles Ave.) in the City of Oklahoma City - \$142,700.00
- f) Mayes County - District VIII – Land Sale – located at the northeast corner of Elliott Street and the new SH-20 in the Town of Pryor - \$19,100.00

81. State Highway System Revision – Mr. Swift

Kiowa County – District V

This item is necessitated by the City of Gotebo’s approval for removal of SH-9B through the City of Gotebo in Kiowa County.

Remove from the State Highway System, a 1.16 mile stretch of roadway, known as SH-9B, beginning at the intersection of OK-54 and SH-9B to the intersection of SH-9 and SH-9B. This portion of SH-9B will be transferred to the appropriate local jurisdiction for further maintenance or abandonment. In accordance with state law, a Public Removal Hearing was held May 3rd, 2019.

This revision will become effective upon approval by the State Transportation Commission, completion of new construction and completion of certification by Division V Engineer that the proposed removed roadways meet mandated criteria

- ACTION: Shannon moved and Peterson seconded that the Consent Docket be approved as presented.
- MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
- AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Freymiller, McKown, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge and Peterson
- NAYES: None
- ABSENT: None

END OF CONSENT DOCKET

ITEMS PRESENTED BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING – Mr. Tegeler

82. Engineering Contracts

- a) Okmulgee County – District I – to prepare construction plans for US-75 at Preston Road, 7.0 miles north of US-62 east junction

CI-2087B	CP&Y, Inc.	\$1,401,195.00
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- b) Sequoyah County – District I – to prepare construction plans for I-40: Access improvement at I-40/US-64 junction (Mile Post 325)

CI-2087A	MKEC Engineering, Inc.	\$440,276.00
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- ACTION: Coburn moved and Grimsley seconded that the Item be approved as presented.
- MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
- AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Freymiller, McKown, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, and Peterson
- NAYES: None
- ABSENT: None

83. Engineering Contract Supplements

- a) Statewide – All Districts – this supplement is for On-Demand Underwater Bridge Inspections

CI-1812 Supplement 1 CONSOR Engineers, LLC \$200,000.00

- b) Statewide – All Districts – this supplement is for On-Demand On-System Bridge Inspections Services

CI-2062B Supplement 1 CEC Corporation \$100,000.00

- c) Osage County – District VIII – this supplement is for additional engineering to develop final construction plans for SH-20: Bug Creek, 11.5 miles east of junction SH-18

EC-1391 Supplement 5 Benham Design, LLC \$135,211.00

ACTION: Alexander moved and Dyson seconded that the Item be approved as presented.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Freymiller, McKown, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, and Peterson

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

ITEMS PRESENTED BY CONSTRUCTION DIVISION ENGINEER – Mr. Leonard

84. Change Orders with Cumulative Total of \$75,000.00 or Less – Information Only

- a) Alfalfa County - US-64 - ACSTP-102C(156)SS / 24124(07), \$62.50, -0.00% Underrun
- b) Blaine County - Co. Rd. - STP-206D(050)CI / 32902(04), \$12,000.00, 2.66%
- c) Bryan County – US-69 - STP-NBIP(522) / 24333(15), \$3,812.06, 0.41%
- d) Cherokee County - SH-51 - ACSTP-111B(090)SS / 23138(04), \$11.98, -0.00% Underrun
- e) Cleveland County - Ct. St. - STP-114C(255)AG / 26836(04), \$18,088.73, 0.37%
- f) Cotton County - Co. Rd. - ERSTP-217C(021)ER / 32035(08), \$52,449.01, 6.11%
- g) Kingfisher County - SH-33 - STP-237B(033)SS / 29490(04), \$17,496.54, 1.75%
- h) Kiowa County - SH-115 - HSIPG-238C(041)AD / 32947(04), \$43,955.09, 5.26%
- i) Latimer County - US-270 - ACSTP-139B(049)SS / 20922(04) #1, \$16,328.71, 0.30%
- j) Latimer County - US-270 - ACSTP-139B(049)SS / 20922(04) #2, \$37,776.20, 0.69%
- k) Latimer County - Co. Rd. - ACSTP-239D(034)CI / 29976(04), \$19,683.90, 3.68%
- l) Lincoln County - SH-18 - STP-241C(058)PM / 27143(04), \$32,644.59, 1.01%
- m) Murray County - Co. Rd. - STP-250D(019)CI / 28440(04), \$8,056.58, 0.82%
- n) Noble County - US-64 - HSIPG-252N(037)AD / TAP-252E(049)TP / 32745(04), \$37,042.50, 2.52%
- o) Okmulgee County - SH-56 - STP-256C(047)PM / 10465(04), \$55,326.08, 1.85%
- p) Okmulgee County - Co. Rd. - STP-256C(044)CI / 31193(04), \$9,102.00, 0.56%
- q) Seminole County - SH-56 - STP-267C(045)SS / 28911(04), \$65,944.55, 2.22%
- r) Seminole County - US-270 - NHPP-267N(004)SS / 29109(04), \$3,280.00, 0.16%
- s) Seminole County - SH-99A - STP-167C(150)PM / STP-267C(071)SS / 29460(04), \$18,556.38, 0.41%
- t) Tulsa County - SH-266 - STP-272A(093)SS / 27053(04), \$57,406.86, 0.24%
- u) Tulsa County - SH-11 - NHPPI-2440-(018)PM / NHPP-272N(245)PM / 29076(04), \$3,468.37, -0.04% Underrun
- v) Washita County - I-40 - SSP-4000(062)PM / 29003(04), \$6,300.00, 0.85%

85. Change Orders with Cumulative Total Greater than \$75,000.00

- a) Beckham County - SH-30 - STPY-105C(124)SS / STPY-105C(183) / 23243(04), \$70,575.54, 0.73%
- b) Blaine County - SH-8 - ACSTP-206C(043)PM / SBR-206C(045)(046)SB / 27903(04) #5, \$9,711.07, 0.27%

- c) Blaine County - SH-8 - ACSTP-206C(043)PM / SBR-206C(045)(046)SB / 27903(04) #6, \$99,223.29, 2.76%
- d) Caddo County - SH-58 - STP-208C(052)SS / 24092(04), \$453,072.71, 8.49%
- e) Cleveland County - Ct. St. - STP-214C(011)AG / 29261(04), \$23,491.62, 0.30%
- f) Cleveland County - Ct. St. - STP-214B(042)(063)AG / 29293(04), \$485,053.68, 1.81%
- g) Cleveland County - Ct. St. - STP-214B(077)AG / 30501(04), \$4,408.81, 0.40%
- h) Dewey County - US-183 - ACNHPP-122N(052)PM / 06377(14), \$6,597.00, 0.16%
- i) Kingfisher County - US-81 - SSR-237N(047)SR / 33655(04), \$86,533.60, 14.19%
- j) Logan County - US-77 - STP-242C(055)PM / 27103(04), \$20,662.89, 0.38%
- k) Major County - US-60 - ACNHPP-247N(018)SS / 27009(04), \$97,026.45, 1.24%
- l) Marshall County - US-377 - STP-248C(036)PM / 28828(04), \$222,059.97, 0.51%
- m) McCurtain County - US-70 - ACNHPP-245N(037)SS / 18853(04) #5, \$91,628.85, 0.79%
- n) McCurtain County - US-70 - ACNHPP-245N(037)SS / 18853(04) #6, \$60,433.28, 0.52%
- o) McIntosh County - US-69 - NHPP-246N(027) / 29755(04), \$31,526.01, 0.13%
- p) Oklahoma County - Ct. St. - STP-255A(450)AG / 30230(04), \$21,735.00, 0.76%
- q) Oklahoma County - Ct. St. - STP-255C(430)(431)AG / 31102(04), \$128,368.75, 3.25%
- r) Pushmataha County - SH-3 - SSR-264N(058)(059)SR / 29720(04), \$49,400.00, 6.76%
- s) Roger Mills County - Co. Rd. - CIRB-165C(100)RB / 25478(04), \$2,096.02, 0.04%
- t) Rogers County - SH-20 - STP-266A(001)SS / 27167(04), \$86,526.56, 2.80%
- u) Sequoyah County - I-40 - NHPPI-4000-(248)FP / NHPPI-4000-(064)PM / 10618(07), \$82,421.29, 0.19%
- v) Stephens County - US-81 - ACNHPP-011N(100)SS / 20316(04), \$6,837.60, 0.05%
- w) Stephens County - SH-29 - STP-169B(134)PM / 24412(04), \$133,836.97, 1.07%
- x) Tulsa County - US-75 - NHPPI-4400-(013)SS / NHPP-272N(150)SS / 28876(04), \$171,500.00, 5.87%
- y) Tulsa County - US-64 - SBR-272A(201)SB / 29826(04), \$15,150.28, 0.82%
- z) Tulsa County - US-169 - NHPP-272N(242)3P / 31357(04), \$233,261.04, 11.62%
- aa) Washita County - I-40 - ACNHPP-4000-(057)PM / 27935(04), \$2,252.54, 0.03%

ACTION: Dyson moved and Alexander seconded that the Item be approved as presented.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Freymiller, McKown, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, and Peterson

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

ITEMS PRESENTED BY THE COMPTROLLER DIVISION – Ms. Hilmes

86. Lettings

- a) Final August, 2019 Bid Opening
- b) Tentative September, 2019 Bid Opening
- c) Tentative October, 2019 Bid Opening

ACTION: Freymiller moved and Dyson seconded that the Item be approved as presented.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Freymiller, McKown, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, and Peterson

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

87. Settlement for Damages to State Property

Hunter Chaney – Oklahoma County - \$51.72

ACTION: Shannon moved and Freymiller seconded that the Item be approved as presented.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Freymiller, McKown, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, and Peterson

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

88. Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Work Program

The Department is required to submit a Budget Work Program to the Office of Management and Enterprise Services in June of each year which will provide budget authority for the upcoming fiscal year. In keeping with that process, the Department is submitting for Commission approval the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Work Program in the amount of \$1,792,849,359.

ACTION: Peterson moved and Shannon seconded that the Item be approved as presented.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Freymiller, McKown, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, and Peterson
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

ITEM PRESENTED BY THE OFFICE ENGINEER – Mr. Delce

89. Awards

May 16, 2019 – Regular Letting

ACTION: LaForge moved and Dyson seconded that the Item be approved as presented.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Freymiller, McKown, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge, and Peterson
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

ITEM PRESENTED BY THE DIRECTOR – Mr. Gatz

90. Director's Report

Secretary Gatz said I have a few other awards to present. At this time I recognize Chief Engineer, Brian Taylor to come forward and present an award to one of our extremely important partners in transportation.

Mr. Taylor presented a commendation to Melodie Luke-Coleman with the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety for her work to permit and route commercial trucks through the state.

Secretary Gatz commented, part of the safety awards and what makes safe travel possible out there on the highway system, is absolutely the coordination that we have with the Department of Public Safety and the Highway Patrol and all that they do to help us keep, not only the traveling public safe, but our people that are out there working in work zones safe. And I promise you the routing of those oversized and overweight loads is a really critical component of that; because it helps keep that traffic away from our work zones when we have those activities going on.

Mr. Chairman, I've got one more award to acknowledge; and at this time with your permission, I would invite Russell Hulin to the podium to make a presentation on behalf of the Federal Transit Administration.

Mr. Hulin presented an Excellence in FTA Program Management Award from the Federal Transit Administration to the ODOT Transit Program Division. Accepting the award was Division Manager, Ernie Mbroh.

Secretary Gatz said I have a few announcements I want to make. Terri Angier has agreed to take on a special assignment. So in addition to her duties as Chief of Media and Public Relations, she's going to assist me and be our "Interagency Liaison" to oversee coordination of resources between ODOT, OTA and Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission. Part of what we're going to be really focusing on is making that we're leveraging resources across agencies, looking for efficiencies, probably implementing some new delivery methodologies and things like that. And quite frankly, I'm going to need somebody to kind of help me keep track of everything; so I want to acknowledge Terri and thank her for her willingness to do that.

The last announcement I have is to announce that Trenton January has been selected as the new Division IV Engineer. Mr. January is a longtime Department employee for as young as he is, but really has been an instrumental part of operations in Division IV. He comes to us from his previous position where he was the Assistant Division Engineer in Division IV for maintenance and construction. We are really happy to have Trent on the team as a Division Engineer and look forward to working with him.

A couple more things I'd like to call the Commission's attention to. This month on June the 14 we're going to be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Amtrak Heartland Flyer Passenger Rail Service between Oklahoma City and Fort Worth, Texas. The service continues today thanks to the financial support from the Department of Transportation in Texas. So again, they are a really, really important part of the operation of that passenger rail service. They participate not only at the depot stops, but they also participate financially in that operation. So we're really, really thankful for that; and to be honest, without the participation of TxDOT, that Heartland Flyer operation wouldn't be possible for us to fund and go forward. So again, that partnership has been invaluable to us across the operation of the Heartland Flyer and we look forward to many years of operation going forward. So it is important that we acknowledge this month this 20 year anniversary of the Heartland Flyer.

So the Department has a program that you might be familiar with, that was set up as part of an effort to assist with traffic control in work zones. It was called GO-DOT, that operation started right up here on Interstate 235 in the work zone where we actually moved the enormous railroad bridge into place, and it was pretty successful in the work zone. We did a pilot project that would have expanded that operation out for motorist assist type activities across the metropolitan area. We determined that the GO-DOT pilot program will be discontinued as ODOT looks for a more cost-effective option, including possibly using a private contractor. We think it would be just too expensive to fully implement this program.

And lastly, I'd close with thanking the men and women with the Department of Transportation behind me that have worked really, really hard over the last 6 weeks or so with managing some of the weather events that we've had. The focus has a tendency to turn to northeastern and eastern Oklahoma, but quite frankly we've had extreme weather events all across the state. We've had crews responding to flooding and storm damage statewide; and all of them have done a good job. They've worked extremely hard to make sure that we were looking out for the safety of the traveling public; and I want to thank them for that.

The event that we had in northeastern and eastern Oklahoma is significant. It was a historic flood event, unlike anything I've ever seen before; I think, unlike anything most of us have ever seen before! I want to start out by thanking all of the State Agency partners that we had; the Office of Emergency Management did a tremendous job along with the Department of Public Safety; many of those operations are ongoing.

Also, we had a lot of Federal partners; our local FHWA Office and the USDOT again reached out to us and we will continue to work with them. They reached out early and asked us if there was anything that we needed to be sure and advise them. So from a federal perspective, I want to acknowledge the Corps of Engineers who really did a tremendous job managing the flood control system that they got in place; because without that flood control network, this event could have been much, much worse for Oklahoma. They did a masterful job of making sure that they were controlling what they could in very, very extreme circumstances. So I want to acknowledge their efforts.

And statewide we had 150 total highway closures across the state, in all 8 field divisions. At one time I counted 65 locations on the highway system that were closed at the same time. I've never seen that before; and again, those weren't isolated to just the east or the northeast; those were statewide closures! We still have closures that are ongoing statewide; so we've got folks still deployed taking care of those locations.

And I think it's important for us to acknowledge; in the sub-committee upstairs, we talked at length about the effect that these extreme weather events are having on our construction projects. We are going to have to work closely with our partners on the contracting side to manage these construction contracts in a way that we still deliver a good quality product, but make sure that we acknowledge the challenges that they're going to have. Such as everything from the availability of sand, to just the conditions that have been presented for them on the ground because those construction sites are not immune to some of the flooding activities and the adverse impacts even though they're under construction. So there is a lot of work that we'll have to go back and make sure that we get buttoned up and propped up correctly. So I certainly want to acknowledge the efforts that are going to go into taking care of that business.

As the water levels continue to subside, we will be out doing inspections because, again, right now we don't know what we don't know because the water levels are still up at a lot of locations. We have seen some damage already where the waters have begun to subside. We've lost some shoulders on Highway 62 and we know that we're going to have other damage like that scour at our bridge columns and piers and certainly we're going to have some of those issues that are erosion related at our concrete box structures and drainage structures of other types.

So we're going to be putting eyes on everything, all of our infrastructure and assets out there that have been impacted by flooding. I can assure you we will have inspections performed to make sure that everything is continuing to be in good shape and performing as expected; so that'll be ongoing.

One of the things that is caused in flood events of this magnitude that will be extreme for the Department is drift removal. Any type of log or branch or anything else that was laying in a field that might have been half a mile away from a river is probably in the river now, and subsequently that drift will end up on our bridge structures. That's something that we're going to have to work really hard at for the next 18 months or two years because it'll take a long time for us to go and clear that drift. But it's extremely important that we do so because if we don't, in the next flood event the forces that could be exerted on those bridge structures is extreme. So that's part of managing that infrastructure to make sure that we take care of that drift that's going to accumulate. And again, we're going to see that statewide because we've had a lot of rivers that have been out of their banks across the last 6 weeks.

The Governor was here with us this morning; and his efforts out there on the ground; he traveled statewide to make sure that he understood the magnitude of the event and what was going on out there, and did a tremendous job for the State of Oklahoma. I know he's working closely now with the Federal Government to make sure that the emergencies that we've been experiencing are properly acknowledged. So not just state resources are made available to the public, but also many types of federal resources might be made available to them; so we really appreciate his efforts there.

Secretary Gatz then presented a slideshow of the flooding and tornado damage.

So Commissioners, I thought it was important just to give you a little bit of an example on an overview of what we were dealing with. And again, it was a pretty extreme event! When we have had flood events, it rains 10 inches at a few locations and comes up overnight and we deal with it and then it goes back down. This was an extended event; so the water levels came up over weeks through several storm events that really dumped a lot of rain on us, and therefore it took longer to reduce the levels after it did quit raining. And like I said, we were getting rain every day just about there for a while. So it's been a difficult storm event to manage statewide and our folks did a tremendous job; and I want to thank them for the work that they've done.

NOTE: *Commissioner Coburn said, I have shown my appreciation to your comments regarding Division 1's response to our area; they have done a stellar job!*

Secretary Gatz said, thank you and I couldn't agree more; the folks that are out there in the Divisions know their job very, very well, and they respond without hesitation to whatever the needs are.

Information Only: No Commission action required.

ITEM PRESENTED BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

91. Adjournment Motion

ACTION: Dyson moved and Freymiller seconded that the Meeting be adjourned.
MOTION: Carried by the following vote:
AYES: Coburn, Grimsley, Shannon, Freymiller, McKown, Dyson, Alexander, LaForge and Peterson
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes of the Transportation Commission Meeting June 3, 2019.

Gene McKown - Chairman

Bob Peterson - Vice Chairman