

**MIAMI-DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY (MDX)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021
9:00 AM**

**WILLIAM M. LEHMAN MDX BUILDING
3790 NW 21ST STREET
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33142**

SUMMARY MINUTES

Members Present

Jose “Pepe” Diaz, Chairman
Dennis C. Moss, Vice Chair
Luz Weinberg Treasurer
Darlene M. Fernandez, P.E.
Jean Monestime
Shelly Smith Fano – in attendance via phone

Members Absent

Stacy L. Miller, P. E., District VI Secretary
Rafael Rodon, P.E.

Staff

Javier Rodriguez, P.E., Executive Director
Carlos Zaldivar, General Counsel
Marie T. Schafer, Director of Finance/CFO
Steve Andriuk, Director of Toll Operations
Juan C. Toledo, P.E., Director of Engineering
María Luisa Navia Lobo, Board Secretary

Consultants

Kevin Brown, HNTB (GEC-A)
Rick Crooks, EAC Consultants (GEC-B)
David Aron, CDM Smith

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Diaz called the meeting to order.

Mr. Rodriguez informed Members that MDX lost a family member, Michael Killiany. Michael was the Public Records Custodian and Assistant Secretary, he had just had his 15 year anniversary at MDX, please keep him in your prayers, he will be dearly missed. Board Member Monestime stated that Michael was a constituent of his District and he knew Michael from the meetings at the Chamber of Commerce.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Navia Lobo called the roll and announced that a quorum of the MDX Board was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board Member Moss moved to approve the Agenda. Board Member Weinberg seconded the motion, the Agenda was unanimously approved.

DECLARATIONS OF VOTING CONFLICTS

No Conflicts declared

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No comments

APPROVAL OF SUMMARY MINUTES – Board Meeting of May 28, 2021

Board Member Weinberg moved to approve the summary minutes of the May 28, 2021 Board Meeting. Board Member Moss seconded the motion. The summary minutes were unanimously approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Ms. Schafer presented the Treasurer’s report. She presented the operating budget summary through May 2021, advising that there was one more month remaining in this fiscal year. Revenues were \$197 Million and expenses of \$34.8 Million. She stated that overall, it is believed that by the last half of this fiscal year, the Authority had recovered from COVID. It is expected that the budget that was put forth, last year, in April of 2020, should be able to exceed that budget from a revenue perspective.

Board Member Weinberg informed members that a Financial Overview Presentation will be part of the Treasurer’s report this month. Board Member Weinberg presented the history of

MDX, programs, partnership and projects portion of the presentation and Ms. Schafer presented the summary of outstanding debt, refunding and restructuring opportunities as well as the credit rating changes since 2017.

[The Presentation is filed with the Board Secretary]

Board Member Moss thanked Ms. Weinberg for the presentation, and stated that he had a couple of questions:

Board Member Moss asked, “It was stated that MDX paid \$92 million to buy the system. What does that really mean?”

Mr. Rodriguez informed members that what it really means is that MDX purchased full control over the operations, maintenance finances of the System in perpetuity and irrevocable, MDX entered into a contract to operate the system. Think of it as almost a perpetual easement in real estate terms. This community paid for the right to operate the system and determine its own outcome.

Board Member Moss asked, “What is the projected value of what the System is worth today, based on the investments that have been made?”

Ms. Schafer informed members that a couple of years ago, a valuation of the System was conducted and at that time the range was anywhere from \$2.5 billion to \$4 billion was the value of the system at that point in time.

Board Members Moss stated that he has always held MDX out as basically the leader as it relates to creating an aesthetically pleasing, well maintained roadway facility. He added that he wanted to make sure that people understand that we take pride in making sure that we (MDX) have some of the best roadways anywhere in this country.

Board Member Fernandez stated the importance of the Cash Rewards Program that was scaled back due to the pandemic. Ms. Schafer replied that actually since 2019, the Program didn't pay out due to legislation. The payouts were anywhere from \$2.5 million to over \$5 million approximately per year.

Board Member Fernandez stated that she wanted to highlight it's not just projects, it's also the importance of those reward programs for the average person, that's where they feel it most probably.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that Staff ran the numbers over the period of time and the average toll payer was getting back \$120 that qualify for the program. The average check was about \$120. The largest check that was given over this period of time was for a business, a local business, who was in the transportation world, and it was over \$20,000, and they actually look forward to it every year because it was part of their business model.

Mr. Rodriguez explained that the Rewards Program, which is really a dividend, basically was a goal to incentivize MDX. He added, “let's put our money where our mouth is, if we perform better than we predict, if we are more efficient than what we predict, let's give a portion of that savings back to the user.” Every customer who qualifies for the cashback program has to have a valid account and the account must be in good standing. It's been wildly popular and we regret that we haven't been able to do it for the, for the last couple of years.

Board Member Smith Fano asked when can the Rewards Program be reinstated.

Chairman Diaz asked how many millions of dollars were lost in the last three years with the issue of the lawsuit

Ms. Schafer informed Members from the standpoint of just refinancing, it's about \$170 million dollars in opportunity cost.

Chairman Diaz directed the Executive Director to see how we could put this information out to our citizens that pay the tolls so they could understand what MDX does. It doesn't have to be elaborate, it just has to be correct and precise to our citizens, because they need to understand what's going on, because there is a lot of confusion. Chairman Diaz further stated that he would like the Cash Back Reward Program re- implemented as soon as possible.

Mr. Rodriguez informed reinstatement can be addressed at the next meeting with a Board Resolution reinstating the Cashback Rewards Program.

Board member Fernandez requested that a comparison of the amounts taking into consideration a refinance.

Board Member Moss stated that during these very stressful times when everybody's income is being really tested, it would be wonderful to be able to reinstate the rewards program,

Mr. Moss moved to reinstate the Cash Back Rewards Program. Ms. Weinberg seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA

- A) MDX Procurement/Contract No.: MDX-14-03-B, Automated/Manual Image Review System
- Approval of Open Roads Consulting, Inc., a Q-Free wholly owned subsidiary, Insight System ISS Performance-based Incentive Program Concepts for the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority (MDX)
- B) MDX Procurement/Contract No.: RFP-15-02; MDX Work Program No. 87410.030 Design-Build Services for SR 874 Ramp Connector to SW 128th Street (\$721,786.64)
- Approval of Supplemental Agreement No. 9

Mr. Zaldivar read the regular agenda items on the record.

Board Member Weinberg moved to approve the regular agenda items. Board Member Moss seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved

Board Member Moss requested a report on the SR 874 extension out to SW 137 Avenue Project.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

- A) Procurement Report

B) Small Business/Local Business Utilization Report

Mr. Rodriguez informed members that the Small Business/Local Business utilization report was added to the Agenda. He stated that MDX's utilization has exceeded 40% over the last 11 fiscal years. We look forward to expanding and reinitiating the program.

Board Member Monestime asked if the report could show the number of participants in the Small Business program.

Board Member Moss asked if the report could be broken down by race and ethnicity.

REPORTS:

A) Executive Director

Mr. Rodriguez reported on the following items.

- On Tuesday, June 15, the Governor and cabinet, sitting as their administration commission, ruled in favor of Miami Dade County and essentially rejected the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order on the SR836 extension litigation for the CDMP. Mr. Rodriguez was grateful to Miami-Dade County and Dennis Kerbell, lead attorney, and to the staff that supported him where he clarified the record the misconceptions and the misinformation.
- The MDX system, as well as the Turnpike and any toll systems in Florida, as of the day after our last Board Meeting, now accepts EZ Pass. EZ Pass is the toll transponder that's used in the Northeast, it's available in 18 states. So now, if a customer's driving on the MDX system, not only can we read the SunPass tag, but we can also read the six C or Georgia tag the PeachPass as well as the EZ Pass.

Mr. Rodriguez invited Members to participate in industry forums, industry panels and industry association meetings. there's an incredible amount of information, not only on mobility options, mobility as a service, but technology and advancements in technology and how they're blending in with the with transportation.

Mr. Rodriguez informed Members the General Counsel has an employment contract and it expires at the end of June. He requested that the Board, through the Executive Committee, engage with General Counsel to establish a new employment agreement.

Board Member Moss requested that Staff begin to look at the feasibility of linking the Kendall Parkway with SR 874 to create a beltway, where transit can be a big part of this as well.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Diaz agreed with Board Member Moss to look at the joining of highways not just south but also north. He further stated that everything that we have discussed today is extremely important for the good of this community and the toll payers that use the roads. He stated that he believes that the future is bright.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Board Meeting, 07/29/2021, 9:00 AM, William M. Lehman MDX Building – Board Room

ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairman Moss. Seconded by the Chairman.

Summary Minutes prepared by Maria Luisa Navia Lobo, Board Secretary.