

**OKLAHOMA ADVANCED MOBILITY
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
July 20, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER: Sec. Gatz called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm

ROLL CALL: **Present:** Tim Gatz
 Jamey Jacob
 Grayson Ardies
 Amy Loftis-Walton
 Jennifer McGrail
 James Grimsley

Absent: Steve Findley
 Jim Roth
 Tyler Moore
 Garry Ambrose
 Hopper Smith

ITEM PRESENTED BY SECRETARY GATZ

Approval of Minutes from the May 18, 2023, meeting

ACTION: Ardies moved, and Walton seconded that the Minutes be approved as presented.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Gatz, Jacob, Ardies, Walton, Grimsley, and McGrail

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Fendley, Roth, Moore, Ambrose, and Smith

Approval of Minutes from the June 15, 2023, meeting

ACTION: Ardies moved, and Walton seconded that the Minutes be approved as presented.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Jacob, Ardies, Walton, Grimsley, and McGrail

ABSTAIN: Gatz

ABSENT: Fendley, Roth, Moore, Ambrose, and Smith

UAS/AAM MOBILITY STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE – Ms. Thea Ewing

Ms. Ewing said not much to report; they are continuing with interviews and that Phase II starts in August.

Mr. Ardies asked if the interviews were positive or negative.

Ms. Ewing stated that most of them are very positive.

Ms. Walton asked if we are still having issues getting electronic vehicles.

Mr. Robins said the largest electric Truck Company told him they have not been ignoring us; they couldn't keep up with the demand because of California. However, they feel they are close to being caught up in production and should be able to help out other states now.

AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE WORKING GROUP UPDATE – Mr. Jared Schwennesen

Mr. Schwennesen said our next Autonomous Vehicle Working Group will meet on August 24th from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

We participated in the Texas Connected and Autonomous Vehicle (CAV) Task Force, which was very interesting. Texas wants to get traffic fatalities down, and Oklahoma wants that too.

Secretary Gatz said yes, traffic fatalities are up, but many of these include pedestrian fatalities, not just from vehicle accidents. This includes pedestrians walking on highways and interstates, walking in crosswalks, and some are from vehicles broken down on the side of the road, and these people are just outside their cars trying to do flat repairs or fill their tanks with gas.

Mr. Schwennesen gave an update on the NEVI Plan; we are still in Phase 1 but hope to be in Phase 2 around September/October.

EMERGING AVIATION SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE – Mr. Doug Wood

Mr. Wood said their next meeting will be in person in August or September; no date has been set yet. But we are considering having it at the Aerospace Complex in Burns Flat, Oklahoma.

The 3rd annual Thunderbird Drone Festival is scheduled for August 25th & 26th in Woodward. It might be something everyone would want to attend.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Secretary Gatz informed everyone that Jim Roth is stepping down, so we really need to be thinking of a replacement for him.

Mr. Ardies updated everyone about SB 773; it adjusted the language of the Advanced Mobility Pilot Program (focusing on developing and improving transportation technologies), setting up a grant program offering two matching grants of up to \$500,000 to support the adoption of advanced mobility technologies, and establishing a revolving fund. This bill was signed by the Governor on April 28, 2023.

He updated everyone on the federal funding side:

- General Appropriation – The Aeronautics Commission received an \$11 million general appropriation: \$4 million for agency operations and infrastructure investment; \$5 million for airport growth-related infrastructure; \$2 million for Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) & Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) infrastructure.
- FAA Reauthorization – The current FAA Reauthorization expires at the end of this year. The U.S. House of Representatives has passed their bill off the Committee level. The U.S. Senate has released its version, but it is still in Committee. The new FAA Reauthorization bills are not transformational and so are less likely to result in continuing resolutions to extend the current Reauthorization. The House bill increases General Aviation funding from 3% to 5%, while the Senate bill proposes a second Air Traffic Control training facility in Texas, which may be in competition with the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.

Mr. Grimsley said everyone needs to check out the webpage on the “Charging Forward” toolkit at <https://www.transportation.gov/urban-e-mobility-toolkit>. It is a toolkit for planning and funding urban electric mobility infrastructure.

Mr. Ardies asked if they had fixed the problem of battery fires.

Ms. Walton said as of now, they encourage charging your car outside of the garage due to battery packs overheating and exploding. They are still working on solutions.

Mr. Robins talked a little about the autonomous KODIAK trucks. He said Cox Automotive could bring us some good information about EV digital and software solutions. I think it would be good to have a round table discussion with them.

Secretary Gatz agreed that we need to extend an invitation to Cox Automotive for them to speak at one of our council meetings.

CLOSING REMARKS

Secretary Gatz thanked everyone for attending and said the next meeting will be held on August 17th, 2023, @ 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION

ACTION: Ardies moved, and Walton seconded that the Meeting be adjourned.

MOTION: Carried by the following vote:

AYES: Gatz, Jacob, Grimsley, Ardies, Walton, and McGrail

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Fendley, Moore, Roth, Ambrose, and Smith

The meeting adjourned at 3:01 pm

Approval of Minutes:

Tim J. Gatz - Chairman