

**GREATER MIAMI EXPRESSWAY AGENCY (GMX)
Minutes of July 5, 2023 Board Meeting**

The Greater Miami Expressway Agency held a public meeting at 9 a.m. on July 5, 2023, at the Florida Department of Transportation, District Six Auditorium, 1000 NW 111th Avenue, Miami, FL 33172. The following were present:

Board:

- Richard Blanco, Board Member (Secretary)
- Mariana “Marili” Cancio, Board Member (Chair)
- Stacy L. Miller, P.E., Board Member & FDOT District Six Secretary
- Rodolfo Pages, Board Member (Treasurer)
- Fatima Perez, Board Member (Vice-Chair)

Staff:

- Torey Alston, GMX Interim Executive Director
- Rafael Garcia, FDOT District Counsel and Temporary GMX Counsel

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by Chair Cancio. The Chair then led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Alston conducted the roll call of Board members. Two Board Members were physically present and three Board Members participated by phone. A quorum was present with 5 governing Board Members attending.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no consent agenda items for action.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

V. REPORTS

First, Jason Gonzalez provided a report from outside counsel to the board. He shared updates from the 2023 Florida Legislative Session and general legal developments. At the conclusion of the report, the Interim Executive Director provided a recommendation for board consideration. Mr. Alston requested Authorization for Lawson Huck Gonzalez, PLLC to represent GMX in on-going litigation and any other actions following with state law and Authorization for FDOT General Counsel’s Office to serve as temporary “in house” counsel. The

motion was made by Vice-Chair Perez and seconded by Board Member Blanco. The motion passed 5-0.

The next report was a virtual presentation by Ben Watkins, Executive Director of the Florida Division of Bond Finance. He provided a general update for the public and shared his recent collaboration and engagement with key stakeholders. The report did not have any action items.

VI. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

a. Election of Officers

- Mr. Garcia opened the floor for nominations to elect a Board Chair. Board Member Pages nominated Board Member Cancio. The nomination was accepted, the nominations were formally closed and approved without objection.
- The Chair nominated Board Member Perez for Vice-Chair. The nomination was accepted, the nominations were formally closed and approved without objection.
- The Chair nominated Board Member Blanco for Secretary. The nomination was accepted, the nominations were formally closed and approved without objection.
- The Chair nominated Board Member Pages for Treasurer. The nomination was accepted, the nominations were formally closed and approved without objection.

b. Approval of GMX Organizational Bylaws

- i. Mr. Alston requested approval of the organizational bylaws. Board Members suggested adding the role of Vice-Chair to the bylaws. A motion was made by the Chair and seconded by Board Member Miller. The motion passed 5-0. Next, Board Member Miller made a motion to approve the bylaws with direction to the Interim Executive Director to amend with the Vice-Chair addition, then posting to the website. The motion was seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

After approval of the Bylaws, the Interim Executive Director suggested two recommendations for board consideration. The recommendation was Ratification of GMX Interim Executive Director; Authorization of Chair to Negotiate a Contract and Bring Back Contract to Next Meeting for Approval; Authorization for Interim Executive Director to Utilize FDOT Human Resources and/or a Search Firm to Initiate a National Search for a Permanent Executive Director; Authorization for the GMX Interim Executive Director to outline process and framework at next regular meeting.

A motion was made by Board Member Pages on the Interim Executive Director's recommendation and seconded by Board Member Blanco. The motion passed 5-0.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Interim Executive Director's Report

Mr. Alston provided a formal report to the board and viewing public. The report included details on the "compassionate transition", day one needs, next steps and recommendations for consideration. After the report, there was a series of requests from the Interim Executive Director for board action:

The first requested action was:

1. Authorization for Interim Executive Director to seek a Federal Identification Number, open a bank account and perform all actions needed for a fully functional operating bank account; Direct the Interim Executive Director to notify all depository banks presently used by the dissolved MDX or to be used by GMX via formal resolution.
2. Authorization to assume all agency policies of the now dissolved MDX that don't conflict with board action; Direct the Interim Executive Director to review prior policies and recommend changes.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Perez and seconded by Board Member Blanco. The motion passed 5-0.

The second requested action was:

- Authorization for Interim Executive Director to send a letter to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Florida Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) Designating GMX as Proper Party to all Existing/Future Agreements and Requesting Acknowledgement from FDOT/FTE.
- Authorization for Interim Executive Director to work with our legal team to Amend/Transition all FDOT/FTE Agreements; And Acceptance of Responsibilities from the dissolved MDX to GMX.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Perez and seconded by Board Member Perez. The motion passed 5-0.

The third requested action was:

- Authorization for Interim Executive Director to initiate an audit of the now dissolved MDX finances and operations.

A motion was made by Board Member/Treasurer Pages and seconded by Vice-Chair Perez. The motion passed 5-0.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Chair Cancio recognized Interim Executive Director Alston to advise on speakers who signed up for public comments. There were no prior speakers who signed up in advance of the meeting.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chair Cancio announced the tentative next meeting. The Chair requested the Interim Executive Director work with Board members on logistics and meeting notices.
- Chair Cancio also requested the Interim Executive Director continue reaching out to members of the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners and Miami-Dade County Transportation Planning Organization (TPO).

X. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Cancio adjourned the meeting at 9:41 a.m.