

Joint Transportation Review Committee

2010 Report of Candidate Qualifications

Date of Release of Names of Qualified Candidates: Friday, March 12, 2010

Date and Time of Final Report: Noon on Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Members of the General Assembly are PROHIBITED from pledging their votes until Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at noon.

Only members of the General Assembly who reside in a particular congressional/DOT district may vote.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	2
Election of Commission Members	3
Membership and Staff	4
Committee Findings	5-15
2nd District:	
Mr. John Craig Forrest (Qualified)	5
6th District:	
Mr. E. Al Adams (Qualified)	7
Mr. William K. Padgett (Qualified)	9
Mr. Harrison Rearden (Qualified)	11
Mr. Raleigh O. Ward, III (Qualified)	13
4th District	
Mr. Timothy A. Brett (Not Qualified)	15

INTRODUCTION

Act 114 of 2007 was enacted to restructure the South Carolina Department of Transportation and the Department of Transportation Commission. Reforms were designed to make the Department and Commission more accountable to the public, more transparent in their operations, and more equitable in their delivery of services.

A key part of Act 114 is the Joint Transportation Review Committee. The JTRC's responsibility includes screening each applicant for the Department of Transportation Commission by determining whether the applicant is qualified and meets the requirements required by law to serve.

About the Report

This report contains the committee's findings regarding the qualifications of applicants for the Commission from the 2nd, 4th, and 6th districts. Each member of the General Assembly residing in the 2nd, 4th and 6th Congressional District will be given a copy of this report for review and consideration. The Committee believes that this report will help members make an informed vote.

Committee Composition and Responsibilities

The JTRC is comprised of ten members, eight of whom are legislators and two of whom are appointed from the public at large. To fulfill its mandate, the Committee conducts an investigation of each applicant's professional and financial affairs, and holds a public hearing during which each applicant may be questioned on a wide variety of issues.

The Committee expects each applicant to have a level of formal education (and/or possess education commensurate with the duties and responsibilities of a commissioner) and to exhibit strong ethical standards. First, the Committee's investigation focuses on whether the applicant meets the qualifications for service as established in Section 57-1-310(C):

The qualifications that each commission member must possess, include, but are not limited to:

- (1) a baccalaureate or more advanced degree from:
 - (a) a recognized institution of higher learning requiring face-to-face contact between its students and instructors prior to completion of the academic program;
 - (b) an institution of higher learning that has been accredited by a regional or national accrediting body; or
 - (c) an institution of higher learning chartered before 1962; or
- (2) a background of at least five years in any combination of the following fields of expertise:
 - (a) transportation;
 - (b) construction;
 - (c) finance;
 - (d) law;
 - (e) environmental issues;
 - (f) management; or
 - (g) engineering.

In screening candidates and making its findings, the Committee also must give due consideration to:

- (a) ability, area of expertise, dedication, compassion, common sense, and integrity of each candidate; and
- (b) the impact that each candidate would have on the racial and gender composition of the commission, and each candidate's impact on other demographic factors represented on the commission, such as residence in rural or urban areas, to assure nondiscrimination to the greatest extent possible of all segments of the population of the State.

The JTRC's investigation includes (1) a State Law Enforcement Division background check; (2) a credit investigation; (3) a careful study of application materials, including a comprehensive personal data questionnaire; (4) a test of basic knowledge related to the Department of Transportation and the commission; (5) a personal interview with each candidate; and (6) further inquiry as the Committee considers appropriate.

ELECTION OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

A candidate may withdraw at any stage of the proceedings.

Resident members of the 2nd District and the 6th District may meet to elect a commissioner to represent their district at any time after noon on Tuesday, March 16, 2010.

Pursuant to Section 57-1-325 members residing within the respective congressional delegations must hold a duly called, public meeting to elect a Department of Transportation Commissioner.

Signing a 'pledge-sheet' does not constitute a vote in favor of a candidate nor does it replace the statutory requirement for a meeting.

For purposes of electing a commission member:

Legislators residing in the congressional district shall meet upon written call of a majority of the members of the delegation of each district, at a time and place to be designated in the call.

A majority present, either in person or by written proxy, of the delegation constitutes a quorum for purposes of electing a commissioner.

No person may be elected commissioner who fails to receive a majority of the vote of the members of the delegation.

When the election is completed, the chairman and secretary of the delegation shall immediately transmit the name of the elected person to the Secretary of State who will then issue a commission.

MEMBERSHIP AND STAFF

Senate Appointees:

Senator Lawrence K. Grooms, Ch. (2007)
Suite 203, Gressette Building
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, S.C. 29202
803-212-6400

Senator Hugh K. Leatherman, Jr. (2007)
Suite 111, Gressette Building
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, S.C. 29202
803-212-6640

Senator Glenn F. McConnell (2007)
Suite 101, Gressette Building
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, S.C. 29202
803-212-6610

Senator Harvey S. Peeler, Jr. (2009)
Suite 213, Gressette Building
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, S.C. 29202
803-212-6430

Senator Gerald Malloy (2007)
512 Gressette Building
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, S.C. 29202
803-212-6148

Chief of Staff: David J. Owens
803-212-6400

Senate Counsel: Kenneth M. Moffitt
803-212-6203

House Counsel: Rick Fulmer
803-734-4799

Executive Assistant: Lily Cogdill
803-212-6400

House Appointees:

Representative Jay Lucas, Vice Ch. (2007)
420-A Blatt Building
Columbia, S.C. 29201
803-734-2961

Representative Annette Young (2007)
308-C Blatt Building
Columbia, S.C. 29201
803-734-2953

Representative Phillip D. Owens (2009)
429 Blatt Building
Columbia, S.C. 29201
803-734-3053

Mr. Patterson Smith (2009)
51 John Street
Charleston, S.C. 29403
843-577-7406

Mr. Reid Banks (2007)
Post Office Box 71505
Charleston, S.C. 29415
843-744-8261

MR. JOHN CRAIG FORREST
CANDIDATE FOR COMMISSIONER
OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
2ND DISTRICT

BACKGROUND

Mr. Forrest is 66 and lives in Bluffton. He has extensive experience in the field of transportation, beginning in 1962 with the Maryland State Roads Commission, where he served for 12 years. He was Manager of Transportation Planning for Baltimore County, Maryland from 1988 until 2005, where he served as the County Executive's Regional Transportation Coordinator. He was Chairman of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board, the area's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

Mr. Forrest moved to Bluffton in 2005 and is retired. He is Chairman of the Lowcountry Regional Transportation Authority.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education: Associate of Arts, General Studies, Catonsville Community College, Catonsville, Maryland, 1974; B.S., Geography and M.A., Geography, Towson University, Towson, Maryland.

Areas of Expertise: Mr. Forrest claims qualifying experience in the following.

Transportation: Maryland Department of Transportation, 1962-1988, monitored capital programs of State Highway Administration and Maryland Transportation Authority, represented MDOT at planning meetings, and prepared data for MDOT's annual legislative package. Baltimore County Manager of Transportation Planning, 1988-2005, served as County Executive's Regional Transportation Coordinator.

OTHER

Geographical Honor Society; County Engineers Association of Maryland; Institute of Transportation Engineers; ITS Maryland; Boy Scouts of America, Order of the Arrow; Gamma Theta Epsilon; other organizations.

During his screening, Mr. Forrest indicated he knew of no conflicts of interest with either the SCDOT or the Commission, and stated that he would recuse himself from voting on matters where a conflict might arise. Nothing that arose during the staff investigation or in screening called that statement into question. He stated he was aware of the prohibition on members of the General Assembly pledging votes until after the JTRC's final report is issued.

Mr. Forrest stated that if elected to the Commission he would resign his position as Chairman of the Lowcountry Regional Transportation Authority.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Richard Lacjak -- Sun City Community, Bluffton
Mr. David J. Krauser -- GBAC of Sun City Hilton Head, Bluffton
Ms. Rochelle Ferguson -- Palmetto Breeze, Bluffton
Mr. Emery J. Hines -- Bureau of Traffic Engineering and Transportation Planning, Towson, MD
Mr. George E. Simpson -- SCHH Government & Business Affairs Committee, Bluffton

FINDINGS

On February 10, 2010 the Joint Transportation Review Committee met to screen Mr. Forrest. The Committee met again on March 3, 2010.

Mr. Forrest was found **QUALIFIED** on March 3, 2010.

In screening Mr. Forrest and making its findings, the Committee gave due consideration to his ability, area of expertise, dedication, compassion, common sense, and integrity and the impact that Mr. Forrest would have on the racial and gender composition of the commission, and his impact on other demographic factors represented on the commission, such as residence in rural or urban areas.

###

MR. EDWARD ALTON “AL” ADAMS
CANDIDATE FOR COMMISSIONER
OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
6TH DISTRICT

BACKGROUND

Mr. Adams is 48, is married, and lives in Sumter. He is President of Adams Investments, Inc., and Vice President of Adams Moving and Storage, LLC. His business provides residential and commercial moving, storage, and relocation, as well as shipping, logistics and freight forwarding services.

The company is a U.S. Department of Defense-approved carrier, serving customers in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and nine foreign countries. Mr. Adams has a commercial driver’s license, and advises that he has worked in the transportation industry since 1981.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education: Accounting and Computer Science studies, Montgomery College, Rockville and Germantown, Maryland, 1979-1981; no degree. (Mr. Adams left to join his family in South Carolina and go into the trucking business.)

Areas of Expertise: Mr. Adams claims qualifying experience in the following.

Transportation: Has worked as a commercial long-haul driver, dispatcher, operations supervisor, terminal manager, and district manager. Started a relocation company in 1999, which he sold in 2004. Is President of Adams Investments and VP of Adams Moving and Storage.

Finance: Is responsible for the company’s overall financial analysis, determining debt-to-equity levels, current ratios, ROI, cash flow, capital investment, and profitability.

Management: Manages 4 direct and 22 indirect employees who handle operations, sales, administration, IT, marketing and government relations. Works daily with other transportation and shipping company representatives on administrative, legal, financial, and related matters.

OTHER

Past President, S.C. Movers Conference; member, S.C. Trucking Association, American Moving and Storage Association, other organizations.

During screening, Mr. Adams indicated he knew of no conflicts of interest with either the SCDOT or the Commission, and stated that he would recuse himself in matters where a conflict might arise. Nothing that arose during the staff investigation or in screening called that statement into question. He stated he was aware of the prohibition on members of the General Assembly pledging votes until after the JTRC's final report is issued.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Pastor Clay Smith -- Alice Drive Baptist Church, Sumter
Ms. Melissa L. Hallbick, CPA -- Columbia
Mr. Bill Turrentine, III, -- Smith Dray Line, Greenville
David Popowski, Esq. -- Popowski Law Firm, LLC, Charleston
Mr. Grey B. Murray -- United Brokerage Co., Inc., Augusta
H. Wesley Kirkland, Jr., Esq. -- Kirkland & Rush, Columbia

FINDINGS

On February 10, 2010 the Joint Transportation Review Committee met to screen Mr. Adams. The Committee met again on March 3, 2010.

Mr. Adams was found **QUALIFIED** on March 3, 2010.

In screening Mr. Adams and making its findings, the review committee gave due consideration to his ability, area of expertise, dedication, compassion, common sense, and integrity and the impact that Mr. Adams would have on the racial and gender composition of the commission, and his impact on other demographic factors represented on the commission, such as residence in rural or urban areas.

###

MR. WILLIAM K. "BILLY" PADGETT
CANDIDATE FOR COMMISSIONER
OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
6TH DISTRICT

BACKGROUND

Mr. Padgett is 76, is married, and lives in Walterboro. He is owner of BP Motor Sales, a full-service automobile sales, service, rentals and finance company. He is a member of the Colleton County Transportation Committee and the Carolinas Independent Automobile Dealers Association.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education: Associate of Arts, Mars Hill Junior College, 1958; B.S., Business Administration, University of South Carolina, 1960; United States Army, 1954 -1956, Corporal, honorable discharge. Mr. Padgett attended college on the G.I. Bill and worked his way through school.

Areas of Expertise: Mr. Padgett claims qualifying experience in the following.

Transportation: Member, Colleton Transportation Committee, 2001 to present.

Construction: Construction, including job bidding, bookkeeping, and construction labor, 1960-1963.

Finance: Owner of BP Finance Corp., 1990 to present.

Management: Owner/operator, BP Motor Sales Inc., 1970 to present. The dealership offers sales, service, rentals, and financing. Mr. Padgett reports having employed up to 16 people at one time.

OTHER

Member, Carolinas Independent Auto Dealers Association (Chairman of Legislative Committee, 1993-2005), other organizations; Mason, 26 years; various community and business awards.

Mr. Padgett has had an auto dealer's license in South Carolina since 1970.

During screening, Mr. Padgett indicated he knew of no conflicts of interest with either the SCDOT or the Commission, and stated that he would recuse himself from voting on matters where a conflict might arise. Nothing that arose during the staff investigation or in screening called that statement into question. He stated he was aware of the prohibition on members of the General Assembly pledging votes until after the JTRC's final report is issued.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

The Honorable William T. Young, Jr. -- Mayor, City of Walterboro
The Honorable Joseph Flowers, M.D. -- Chairman, Colleton County Council, Walterboro
The Honorable W. Gene Whetsell -- Member, Colleton County Council, Walterboro
Mr. Bernard Warshaw -- Colleton County Transportation Committee, Walterboro
Mr. Douglas Burns -- Colleton County Administrator, Walterboro

FINDINGS

On February 10, 2010 the Joint Transportation Review Committee met to screen Mr. Padgett. The Committee met again on March 3, 2010.

Mr. Padgett was found **QUALIFIED** on March 3, 2010.

In screening Mr. Padgett and making its findings, the review committee gave due consideration to his ability, area of expertise, dedication, compassion, common sense, and integrity and the impact that Mr. Padgett would have on the racial and gender composition of the commission, and his impact on other demographic factors represented on the commission, such as residence in rural or urban areas.

###

MR. HARRISON REARDEN
CANDIDATE FOR COMMISSIONER
OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
6TH DISTRICT

BACKGROUND

Mr. Rearden is 73 years old, is married, and lives in Columbia. He retired from the S.C. Department of Social Services in 2001, having served as Executive Assistant to the State Director, Chief of Staff, Ombudsman, and Deputy State Director.

Mr. Rearden was also vehicle fleet manager for the department. He is a member of the Columbia Metropolitan Airport Commission.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education: B.S., Biology, S.C. State University, 1958; Sergeant, United States Army Reserve, 307th Chemical Unit, 1959-1969, honorable discharge.

Areas of Expertise: Mr. Rearden claims qualifying experience in the following.

Transportation: Columbia Metro Airport Commission, 1995-present; S.C. Department of Social Services, vehicle fleet manager.

Management: Pilgrim Health and Life, list manager, 1959-1974; DSS, Chief of Staff, Deputy State Director.

OTHER

First Nazareth Baptist Church, Board of Deacons, 2006-present; Meadowlake Subdivision Voting Precinct, President, 1984-present; Salvation Army of Columbia, Advisory Board, 2003-present; Babcock Center, Advisory Board Member, 2009-present; Columbia Luncheon Club, Chairman, 1995; other organizations.

NOTES

During screening, Mr. Rearden indicated he knew of no conflicts of interest with either the SCDOT or the Commission, and stated that he would recuse himself in matters where a conflict might arise. Nothing that arose during the staff investigator or in screening called that statement into question. He stated he was aware of the prohibition on members of the General Assembly pledging votes until after the JTRC's final report is issued.

Mr. Rearden stated that he understands that if elected to the DOT Commission that he would have to resign his seat on the Columbia Metropolitan Airport Commission.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

William L. Pyatt, Esq. -- Columbia
Mr. Joe Pinner -- Columbia
Mr. Jim Hamilton, Jim Hamilton--L.B. Owens Airport -- Columbia
Mr. Flynn T. Harrell -- West Columbia
Mr. R. Kennedy Holt, The LPA Group -- Columbia

FINDINGS

On February 10, 2010 the Joint Transportation Review Committee met to screen Mr. Rearden. The Committee met again on March 3, 2010.

Mr. Rearden was found **QUALIFIED** on March 3, 2010.

In screening Mr. Rearden and making its findings, the review committee gave due consideration to his ability, area of expertise, dedication, compassion, common sense, and integrity and the impact that Mr. Rearden would have on the racial and gender composition of the commission, and his impact on other demographic factors represented on the commission, such as residence in rural or urban areas.

###

MR. RALEIGH O. WARD III
CANDIDATE FOR COMMISSIONER
OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
6TH DISTRICT

BACKGROUND

Mr. Ward is 29, is married, and lives in Effingham. He is a planner and floodplain manager for Florence County Planning Commission.

Mr. Ward's work for Florence County includes work on the Florence Area Transportation Study Long Range Transportation Plan. He also reviews and inspects all new private road construction that is to become part of the county road system.

Mr. Ward helps manage Ward Farms, his family's farm partnership. He also is a private crop insurance adjuster.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education: Clemson University, B.S. in Agriculture and Applied Economics, 2003; MBA, Francis Marion University, 2005.

Areas of Expertise: Mr. Ward claims qualifying experience in the following.

Transportation: Reviews and inspects all new private road construction that is to become part of the county system for Florence County Planning Commission; also works on the Florence Area Transportation Study Long Range Transportation Plan.

Construction: See above.

Finance: Wachovia Bank, 2005 - 2006; managed IRA accounts, checking accounts, and secured and unsecured loans.

Environmental: Florence County; ensures that all new road projects have a minimal environmental impact; reviews and inspects all development within the Federal Emergency Management Agency's flood plain in Florence County to ensure compliance with federal, state, and local regulations.

Management: Branch manager, Wachovia Bank, 2005 - 2006. Was in charge of day-to-day activities and sales goals.

OTHER

Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, former Treasurer and Scholarship chair; Clemson Block and Bridle Club; Agriculture Economics Club; Association of State Floodplain Managers;

International Society of Arboriculture; American Planning Association South Carolina Chapter; Tabernacle United Methodist Church.

Mr. Ward advises that he maintains a South Carolina Property Casualty Insurance License, a South Carolina Pesticide License, an Arborist Certification, and a Floodplain Manager Certification.

During screening, Mr. Ward indicated that he knew of no conflicts of interest with either the SCDOT or the Commission, and stated that he would recuse himself from voting on matters where a conflict might arise. Nothing that arose during the staff investigator or in screening called that statement into question. He stated he was aware of the prohibition on members of the General Assembly pledging votes until after the JTRC's final report is issued.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

The Honorable Hicks Harwell -- Finklea Law Firm, Florence
Mr. Gary Finklea -- Finklea Law Firm, Florence
Congressman Edward Young -- Young Brothers Properties, Inc., Florence
Dr. Johnny W. Jordan -- Clemson University
Larry Reddeck -- Nettles, Turbeville & Reddeck Law Offices, Lake City

FINDINGS

On February 10, 2010 the Joint Transportation Review Committee met to screen Mr. Ward. The Committee met again on March 3, 2010.

Mr. Ward was found **QUALIFIED** on March 3, 2010.

In screening Mr. Ward and making its findings, the review committee gave due consideration to his ability, area of expertise, dedication, compassion, common sense, and integrity and the impact that Mr. Ward would have on the racial and gender composition of the commission, and his impact on other demographic factors represented on the commission, such as residence in rural or urban areas.

###

MR. TIMOTHY A. BRETT
APPLICANT FOR COMMISSIONER
OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
4TH DISTRICT

FINDINGS

On February 10, 2010 the Joint Transportation Review Committee met to screen Mr. Brett. The review committee met again on March 3, 2010, but made no findings concerning Mr. Brett.

Mr. Brett was found **NOT QUALIFIED** on March 10, 2010.

In screening Mr. Brett and making its findings, the review committee gave due consideration to his ability, area of expertise, dedication, compassion, common sense, and integrity and the impact that Mr. Brett would have on the racial and gender composition of the commission, and his impact on other demographic factors represented on the commission, such as residence in rural or urban areas.

Mr. Brett was asked to disclose any occupation, business, or profession in which he has been engaged since completing his education. Mr. Brett's written responses and sworn testimony were less than forthcoming.

Mr. Brett was asked to disclose financial arrangements or business relationships that he has, or has had in the past, which could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest. Mr. Brett did not provide a written response to the question and his sworn testimony was less than forthcoming.

The review committee discovered through its investigation that despite Mr. Brett's failure to disclose, that he has numerous past and present business relationships that the committee finds could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest. As a result, the committee finds that this failure to disclose either calls into question Mr. Brett's integrity or demonstrates a failure to adequately comprehend potential conflicts of interest. Thus, the review committee determined that Mr. Brett is not qualified to serve on the Department of Transportation Commission.

4TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT REPRESENTATION ON THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Hugh Atkins continues to represent the 4th Congressional District on the Commission until a new commissioner is elected.

NEW APPLICATIONS FOR COMMISSIONER

The review committee is now accepting Letters of Intent from residents of the 4th Congressional District interested in applying to represent the district on the DOT Commission. To receive an application, prospective candidates living within South Carolina's 4th Congressional District

should notify the Joint Transportation Committee in writing of their intent to apply. The notice must include the person's county of residence, home address, and daytime phone number. Notice of intent will not be accepted after 12:00 noon on Friday, April 16.