

**Logistics Task Force - Commerce Subcommittee**  
**September 21, 2010**

Chairman Larry Wooten called the Commerce Subcommittee meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. on Monday, September 21, 2010 in Raleigh.

The following were participants of the meeting: Nelson Cole, Michael Walters, Charlie Diehl, Seth Palmer, Roberto Canales, George List and Jed McMillan.

Mr. McMillan discussed the possibility of holding one Task Force meeting with only agriculture related presentations. Chairman Wooten stated several groups that would be interested in presenting information. CSX would also be invited to participate to discuss the hauling of grain. The meeting attendees agreed to do this in Rocky Mount in 2011. Invitees from pork/poultry, tobacco, bio mass and grain.

It was discussed that based on the demographics of the United States, North Carolina does not have enough people or land to get the attention of the large companies. North Carolina has the infrastructure and we need to take advantage of that. Chairman Wooten asked what can North Carolina do to help companies stay in business. 97% of jobs come from existing business.

Representative Cole stated that North Carolina is one of very few states that do not tax diesel fuel for railroads. This is an issue that should be looked into and changed. He also stated the importance of moving people also. He suggested that we look beyond freight lines. Magnetic levitation was a recommendation. Chairman Wooten agreed that we have to think broader and bigger.

The subcommittee would like to interview companies in North Carolina with the assistance of Dr. List as part of the 7 Portals Study. Recommended companies to be interviewed are: Family Dollar, Lowe's, Variety Wholesalers, Caterpillar and Rexham.

The subcommittee discussed the importance of short line railroad, especially east of I-95. A quote from CSX Railroad from the Port of Wilmington to Charlotte was two times the truck rate.

Subcommittee member Rick Sholtes is transferring out of the state; therefore he will be removed from the subcommittee. Chairman Wooten recommended that Stephanie McGarrah be added to the subcommittee.

The meeting was adjourned.