



**MINUTES**  
**VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS**  
**OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING**

**November 19, 2021**

**14700 Potomac Mills Road, Woodbridge, VA 22192**

**Members Present**

\*Walter Alcorn (NVTC)  
\*Andrea Bailey (PRTC)  
\*Preston Banks (PRTC)  
\*Elizabeth Bennett-Parker (NVTC)  
\*Meg Bohmke (PRTC)  
\*Katie Cristol (NVTC)  
\*Margaret Franklin (PRTC)  
\*Cindy Lamb (PRTC)  
\*Jeanine Lawson (PRTC) \*\*  
\*Jennifer Mitchell (DRPT) \*\*  
\*Gary Skinner (PRTC) ‡ \*\*  
\*Ralph Smith (PRTC)  
\*Dan Storck (NVTC)  
\*James Walkinshaw (NVTC)

**Jurisdiction**

Fairfax County  
Prince William County  
City of Manassas Park  
City of Alexandria  
Stafford County  
Arlington County  
Prince William County  
Stafford County  
Prince William County  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
Spotsylvania County  
City of Manassas  
Fairfax County  
Fairfax County

**Members Absent**

Matt Kelly (PRTC)

City of Fredericksburg

**Alternates Present**

**Alternates Absent**

Canek Aguirre (NVTC)  
Victor Angry (PRTC)  
Pete Candland (PRTC)  
Hector Cendejas (PRTC)  
Dr. Deborah Frazier (PRTC)  
Libby Garvey (NVTC)  
Jason Graham (PRTC)  
Jeff McKay (NVTC)  
Michael McLaughlin (VPRA)  
Alanna Mensing (PRTC)  
Pam Sebesky (PRTC)

City of Alexandria  
Prince William County  
Prince William County  
City of Manassas Park  
Spotsylvania County  
Arlington County  
City of Fredericksburg  
Fairfax County  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
City of Manassas Park  
City of Manassas

\*Voting Member

\*\*Indicates arrival/departure following the commencement of the Operations Board Meeting. Notation of exact arrival/departure time is included in the body of the minutes.

‡ Indicates Member participated remotely

### **Staff and General Public**

Cindy Bullock – VRE  
JoAnne Carter – PFM  
Rich Dalton – VRE  
John Duque – VRE  
Robert Hostelka – VRE  
Lezlie Lamb – VRE  
Megan Landis - PWC

Steve MacIsaac – VRE  
Kate Mattice – NVTC  
Mark Schofield – VRE  
Joe Stainsby - PRTC  
Alex Sugatan – VRE  
Joe Swartz – VRE

Chair Bennett-Parker called the meeting to order at 9:01 A. M. The Pledge of Allegiance and roll call followed.

Chair Bennett-Parker announced that Member Gary Skinner had requested remote participation due being out of town, and in accordance with the newly adopted Electronic Participation Policy, a physical quorum must be present and a motion and a second was required to allow Mr. Skinner to do so.

Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Ms. Bohmke, to approve the remote participation by Mr. Skinner. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bailey, Banks, Bennett-Parker, Bohmke, Cristol, Franklin, Lamb, Smith, Storck and Walkinshaw.

### **Safety Moment – 3**

VRE Chief Executive Officer, Rich Dalton, opened the meeting with a Safety Briefing.

### **Approval of the Agenda – 4**

Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Mr. Alcorn , to approve the agenda. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bailey, Banks, Bennett-Parker, Bohmke, Cristol, Franklin, Lamb, Skinner, Smith, Storck and Walkinshaw.

[Ms. Lawson arrived at 9:05 a.m.]

### **Approval of the Minutes of the October 15, 2021, VRE Operations Board Meeting – 5**

Ms. Bohmke moved, with a second by Ms. Cristol, to approve the Minutes from the October 15, 2021, VRE Operations Board meeting. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bailey, Banks, Bennett-Parker, Bohmke, Cristol, Franklin, Lamb, Lawson, Skinner, Smith, Storck and Walkinshaw.

### **Chair's Comments – 6**

Chair Bennett-Parker welcomed everyone to the November VRE Operations Board meeting. She reminded Members that the meeting was being live-streamed and that keep side conversations should be kept to a minimum, and to also speak up when addressing the Board.

The Chair stated the Nominating Committee, whose members are Mr. Alcorn and Ms. Bohmke, had met just prior to the Operations Board meeting, and would bring a slate of nominees for the 2022 VRE Operations Board Officers to the December meeting for a vote. She also announced that the Finance Committee, chaired by Ms. Bohmke and whose members include Mr. Banks, Ms. Cristol, Mr. Kelly and

Mr. Storck, would be meeting after adjournment of the Operations Board meeting. An invitation was extended to all to attend the meeting if interested.

### **Chief Executive Officer's Report – 7**

VRE CEO briefed the Operations Board on the following topics:

- Safety Update
- Ridership
- Performance
- Project Spotlight: Equipment Asset Management
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Federal Infrastructure Bill

[Ms. Mitchell arrived at 9:19 a.m.]

### **Public Comment Time –8**

Chair Bennett-Parker stated the public was encouraged to use electronic means to submit public comments and stated that any written comments would be provided to the Board and attached to the minutes of this meeting. One written comment was submitted online, read at the meeting, and is attached. The Chair then inquired as to if there were any members of the public present who wanted to comment, of which there were none.

### **Action Items - 9**

#### **Authorization to Participate in a Joint Request for Proposals for Auditing Services -9A**

Mr. Alcorn moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, to authorize VRE to participate in a joint Request for Proposals for auditing services. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bailey, Banks, Bennett-Parker, Bohmke, Cristol, Franklin, Lamb, Lawson, Mitchell, Skinner, Smith, Storck and Walkinshaw.

#### **Authorization to Execute a Contract for Repair and Overhaul of Air Brake Equipment – 9B**

Ms. Bohmke moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, to authorize the CEO to execute a contract with Wabtec Global Services in an amount not to exceed \$1,422,968, for repair and overhaul of air brake equipment. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bailey, Banks, Bennett-Parker, Bohmke, Cristol, Franklin, Lamb, Lawson, Mitchell, Skinner, Smith, Storck and Walkinshaw.

#### **Recommend the Commissions Approve the 2022 VRE Legislative Agenda – 9C**

Ms. Franklin moved, with a second by Ms. Lamb, to recommend the Commissions approve the 2022 VRE Legislative Agenda and authorize the CEO to actively pursue the elements set forth within. Ms. Cristol suggested an amendment to the Legislative Agenda item for *Meetings Held By Electronic Communications Means* to read ***“Support, in coordination with VRE’s parent commissions and other stakeholders, on legislative proposals that would maximize the flexibility of VRE and other public bodies to make policies on the conduct of electronic **and/or hybrid** meetings, that allow greater access to the public and opportunities for members to participate remotely outside of a declared state of emergency, allowing the board to be more efficient, effective, and responsive while remaining open and transparent to the public.”***

The vote in favor was cast Members Alcorn, Bailey, Banks, Bennett-Parker, Bohmke, Cristol, Franklin, Lamb, Lawson, Mitchell, Skinner, Smith, Storck and Walkinshaw.

**Recommendation to Advance Public Bond Issuance Backed by the Commuter Rail Operating and Capital (C-ROC) Fund – 9D**

Ms. Lawson moved, with a second by Ms. Bohmke, to recommend the Commissions authorize VRE staff advance a public bond issuance backed by the Commuter Rail Operating and Capital (C-ROC) fund. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bailey, Banks, Bennett-Parker, Bohmke, Cristol, Franklin, Lamb, Lawson, Mitchell, Skinner, Smith, Storck and Walkinshaw.

**VRE Operations Board Resolution of Support for Prince William County Application for NVTA FY 2022-2027 Six-Year Program – 9E**

Ms. Franklin moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, to support Prince William County's application for the Route 1 at Route 123 Interchange project for funding consideration in the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Fiscal Year 2022-2027 Six-Year Program, subject to Prince William County ensuring the design for the project will enhance and not degrade or make unsafe current conditions for vehicles, pedestrians or bicyclists at the VRE Woodbridge Station and collaborating with VRE through the design and construction of the project. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bailey, Banks, Bennett-Parker, Bohmke, Cristol, Franklin, Lamb, Lawson, Mitchell, Smith, Storck and Walkinshaw.

[Mr. Skinner left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.]

**Information Items – 10**

**Update on FY 2023 Operating and Capital Budget – 10A**

VRE Chief Financial Officer, Mark Schofield, briefed the Board on the status of the FY 2023 Operating and Capital Budget.

**Spending Authority Report – 10B**

In October the following purchases greater than \$50,000 but less than \$200,000 were made:

- On October 4, 2021, VRE issued a Task Order in the amount of \$79,715 to Fresh Air Duct Cleaning, LLC under the Custodial & Seasonal Services for VRE Facilities Contract to prepare and paint the steel components at Franconia Springfield Station.
- On October 26, 2021, VRE issued a Task Order in the amount of \$64,499 to STV Incorporated under the Mechanical Engineering Consulting Services (MEC) Contract to prepare locomotive truck overhaul specifications and provide assistance during VRE's procurement process.

**Board Members' Time – 12**

Chair Bennett-Parker asked if Members had any additional business.

Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Ms. Lamb to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bailey, Banks, Bennett-Parker, Bohmke, Cristol, Franklin, Lamb, Lawson, Mitchell, Smith, Storck and Walkinshaw.

Approved this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021

*Elizabeth Bennett-Parker*

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Elizabeth Bennett-Parker  
Chair

*James R. Walkinshaw*

[James R. Walkinshaw \(Jan 4, 2022 10:30 EST\)](#)

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James Walkinshaw  
Secretary

#### CERTIFICATION

This certification hereby acknowledges the minutes for the November 19, 2021 Virginia Railway Express Operations Board Meeting have been recorded to the best of my ability.



Lezlie M. Lamb









# VRE Minutes - Nov2021- Approved

Final Audit Report

2022-01-04

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Created:        | 2021-12-28                                   |
| By:             | Lezlie Lamb (llamb@vre.org)                  |
| Status:         | Signed                                       |
| Transaction ID: | CBJCHBCAABAAM1A6eiW_YsN575AwcxJ3guOfCjm3qWao |

## "VRE Minutes - Nov2021- Approved" History

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