



# MINUTES

## VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING

September 16, 2022

14700 Potomac Mills Road, Woodbridge, VA 22192

### **Members Present**

\*Walter Alcorn (NVTC)  
\*Sarah Bagley (NVTC)  
\*Andrea Bailey (PRTC)  
\*Margaret Franklin (PRTC)  
\*Monica Gary (PRTC) \*\*  
\*Lori Hayes (PRTC)  
\*Matt Kelly (PRTC)  
\*Michael McLaughlin (VPRA) \*\*  
\*Ralph Smith (PRTC)  
\*Daniel G. Storck (NVTC) \*\*  
\*James Walkinshaw (NVTC)

### **Jurisdiction**

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

### **Members Absent**

Meg Bohmke (PRTC)  
Libby Garvey (NVTC)  
Jeanine Lawson (PRTC)

Stafford County  
Arlington County  
Prince William County

### **Alternates Present**

\*Alanna Mensing (PRTC)  
\*Pamela Yeung (PRTC)

City of Manassas Park  
Stafford County

### **Alternates Absent**

Canek Aguirre (NVTC)  
Victor Angry (PRTC)  
Pete Candland (PRTC)  
Katie Cristol (NVTC)  
Deborah Frazier (PRTC)  
Jason Graham (PRTC)  
Jeffrey C. McKay (NVTC)  
Pam Sebesky (PRTC)  
Emily Stock (DRPT)  
Ann Wheeler (PRTC)

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

\*Voting Member

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

### **Staff and General Public**

Khadra Abdulle – VRE  
Trinette Broussard – VRE  
Cindy Bullock – VRE  
Alex Buchanan - VRE  
Rich Dalton – VRE  
John Duque - VRE  
Karen Finucan-Clarkson – VRE  
Chris Henry – VRE  
Christine Hoeffner - VRE  
Carol Kristofik - VRE  
Lezlie Lamb – VRE

Steve MacIsaac – VRE Chief Counsel  
Kate Mattice – NVTC  
Charlotte Nourse - VRE  
Kristin Nutter – VRE  
Dallas Richards – VRE  
Mark Schofield – VRE  
Aimee Perron-Seibert – Commonwealth  
Strategy Group  
Joe Stainsby – PRTC  
Joe Swartz – VRE

Chair Franklin called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The roll call followed.

### **Safety Briefing – 3**

Rich Dalton briefed attendees on safety procedures and assigned specific tasks to qualified staff members in case of an emergency.

### **Approval of the Agenda - 4**

Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Ms. Gary, to approve the agenda as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Kelly, Mensing, Smith, Storck, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

### **Approval of the Minutes of the July 15, 2022 VRE Operations Board Meeting – 5**

Mr. Alcorn moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, to approve the Minutes from July 15, 2022. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Kelly, Mensing, Smith, Storck, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

### **Chair's Comments – 6**

- Chair Franklin welcomed Councilmember Alanna Mensing from Manassas Park; and informed Members that Preston Banks had recently resigned from elected office to pursue a new career opportunity out of state. The Chair stated PRTC will need to take action at their next Commission meeting to officially name a new Operations Board member from Manassas Park.
- Chair Franklin announced news of a tentative agreement between freight railroads and labor unions; averting the looming threat of a labor strike by railroad workers.
- The Chair directed Members' attention to an invitation placed at their respective seats to the Ribbon-Cutting for the Rolling Road Station platform extension, which will be held the morning of September 28<sup>th</sup>.

[Mr. McLaughlin arrived at 9:08 a.m.]

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

Mr. Dalton briefed the Operations Board on the following items of interest:

- Tentative railroad labor agreement

- Safety
- Performance
- Ridership
- Ridership Recovery
- Customer Service Survey
- New Staff Introductions

### **Public Comment Time – 8**

The Chair opened the floor for public comment time. There were no speakers; and no written comments had been submitted.

### **Action Items – 9**

#### **Authorization to Issue a Maintenance Services for Commuter Rail Operations Task Order for Track Infrastructure Maintenance for the Crossroads and Broad Run Maintenance and Storage Facilities – 9A**

Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Ms. Gary, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue a *Maintenance Services for Commuter Rail* task order for track infrastructure maintenance at the Crossroads and Broad Run maintenance and storage facilities. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Kelly, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

#### **Authorization to Issue an MEC VII Task Order for Engineering Oversight for New Passenger Railcars II – 9B**

Ms. Bailley moved, with a second by Ms. Bagley, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue an MEC VII task order for engineering oversight for the new passenger railcars. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Kelly, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

#### **Authorization to Amend Contract and a Task Order for Maintenance Services for VRE Facilities – 9C**

Mr. Alcorn moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to amend the contract and a task order for *Maintenance Services for VRE Facilities*. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Kelly, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

#### **Referral of the Preliminary FY 2024 VRE Operating and Capital Budget to the Commissions – 9D**

Mr. Alcorn moved, with a second by Ms. Bagley, to refer the Preliminary FY 2024 VRE Operating and Capital Budget to the Commissions. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bagley, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Kelly, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

[Ms. Bailey stepped out of the room at 10:25 a.m.]

[Ms. Gary left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.]

[Ms. Bailey returned at 10:31 a.m.]

### **Information Items – 10**

#### **Solar Power at VRE Stations – 10A**

VRE Staff reported the results of a solar power options investigation.

Preferred Alternative for L'Enfant Track and Station Improvements – 10B

VRE Staff presented the results of the L'Enfant Track and Station Improvements Alternatives Analysis.

Mr. Dalton pointed out Information items 10C and 10D were for Members' independent review.

Update on Recent and Planned Activities: System Plan 2050 Update – 10C

Spending Authority Report – 10D

Closed Session – 11

Mr. Walkinshaw moved, with a second by Alcorn, pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Section 2.2-3711.A (1) of the Code of Virginia, to convene a closed meeting for the purpose of discussing one personnel matter relating to the performance of the Chief Executive Officer. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Hayes, Kelly, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

[Mr. Storck left during the closed session]

Mr. Walkinshaw moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, that the VRE Operations Board certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge and with no individual member dissenting, at the just concluded closed session only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were discussed; and, only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Hayes, Kelly, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

Members Time - 12

Chair Franklin asked if Members had any other business or announcements: Ms. Bagley stated she was planning to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Tour De VRE" bike ride on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Alcorn moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, to adjourn the meeting. The vote in favor was cast by Members Alcorn, Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Kelly, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

Approved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October 2022

---

Margaret Franklin  
Chair

---

Sarah Bagley  
Secretary

CERTIFICATION

This certification hereby acknowledges the minutes for the September 16, 2022 Virginia Railway Express Operations Board Meeting have been recorded to the best of my ability.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leslie M. Lamb". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Leslie M. Lamb