

GOVERNANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 14, 2026

6:15 p.m. ET

This meeting was held in-person and accessible via YouTube.

SUMMARY MINUTES

1. Call to Order

- ✓ Chair Randall called the Governance and Personnel Committee (GPC) meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.
- ✓ Attendees:
 - Members: Chari Randall, Chair Jefferson, Delegate Sewell
 - Staff: Monica Backmon (CEO), Michael Longhi (CFO), Gary Armstrong (Senior Accountant), Amila Tola (EA)
 - Council of Counsels Attendees: Christina Brown (City of Alexandria) and Daniel Robinson (Fairfax County)
 - Other Attendees: Tracy Baynard (McGuire Woods Consulting, LLC)

Action Items

2. Approval of March 12, 2026, Meeting Summary Minutes

Chair Randall

- ✓ On a motion by Chair Randall, seconded by Chair Jefferson, the Summary Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2026, were unanimously approved.

Discussion Items

3. General Assembly Discussion

Ms. Baynard

- ✓ Chair Randall asked Ms. Baynard for an update on bills/activity before the General Assembly that affect NVTA.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard stated that the regular legislative session has concluded, but the General Assembly remains in a special session focused on the state budget.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard also highlighted that veto session has occurred, and some gubernatorial amendments were accepted while others were rejected.
- ✓ The Governor has until **11:59 p.m. on May 23, 2026**, to sign legislation, veto legislation, or allow bills to become law without a signature.
- ✓ Budget negotiations on House Bill 30 are ongoing; many provisions have been resolved, but key issues remain, including: Data center sales and use tax exemption, new revenue options from the data center industry, funding for legislation awaiting gubernatorial action, and overall General Fund spending levels.
- ✓ Chair Randall noted that Senate leadership has emphasized generating additional

revenue from the data center industry and that current discussions appear focused on identifying alternative revenue mechanisms that would avoid impacts associated with repealing the sales and use tax exemption.

- ✓ Ms. Baynard indicated there appears to be a pathway toward a compromise that provides new revenue while avoiding unintended impacts on economic development and state commitments.
- ✓ Chair Jefferson asked what would happen if a state budget were not adopted before July 1 and Ms. Baynard responded reaffirmed that leadership in both chambers and the Governor have publicly stated their expectation that a budget will be adopted by **July 1, 2026**.
- ✓ Chair Randall addressed how the delayed state budget affects local jurisdictions, including: uncertainty regarding final state education funding, local revenue-sharing agreements with school divisions, and the possibility that local governments may need to amend budgets once state funding is finalized.
- ✓ Chair Randall asked whether the ongoing discussions regarding data center taxation could affect NVTAs revenues and Ms. Baynard stated if negotiations result in alternatives that do not involve changes to the sales and use tax, NVTAs funding would not be adversely affected.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard also confirmed that the current proposals being discussed would avoid impacts on NVTAs existing sales tax revenues.
- ✓ Regarding the differences between House & Senate budget transit funding proposals, Ms. Baynard stated that the Senate proposal places greater emphasis on capital funding for transit while the House proposal provides General Fund support for operating needs, including the WMATA funding gap.
- ✓ In conclusion, Ms. Baynard reiterated that House leadership, Senate leadership, the Governor, and the budget committee leadership have all publicly stated that they expect a state budget to be enacted by **July 1, 2026**.

4. Adjournment

- ✓ There being no further business for the Committee, Chair Randall adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.