



**Northern Virginia Transportation Authority**  
*The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia*

**GOVERNANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, October 8, 2020**

**5:30 PM**

**NVTA Offices**

**Meeting Held via WebEx and Live Streamed on YouTube**

**SUMMARY MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Randall

- ✓ Chair Randall called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM.
- ✓ Attendees:
  - Members: Chair Randall; Chair Wheeler, Mayor Wilson, Board Member Cristol
  - Authority Members: Council Member Snyder;
  - Staff: Monica Backmon (Executive Director); Michael Longhi (CFO); Peggy Teal (Assistant Finance Officer), Dev Priya Sen (Financial Analyst);
  - Other Attendees: Tracy Baynard (McGuireWoods Consulting LLC); Daniel Robinson (Council of Counsels – Fairfax County); Joanna Anderson (Council of Counsels – City of Alexandria); Rob Dickerson (Council of Counsels – Prince William County);
  - Other Attendees: Jurisdictional and agency staff attended the meeting via the Authority’s YouTube channel

**II. Approval of Meeting Summary**

- ✓ Chair Wheeler moved approval of the minutes of the October 8, 2020 meeting; seconded by Mayor Wilson. Motion carried unanimously.

**Action Items**

**III. Resolution Finding the Need to Conduct the October 8, 2020 Governance and Personnel Committee Meeting Electronically NVTA Council of Counsels**

Chair Randall

*Recommended Action: Adoption of Resolution*

Board Member Cristol made the motion to adopt Resolution to Find the Need to Conduct Meeting by Electronic Communication Means during the Governor’s declared State of Emergency during COVID-19 Pandemic; seconded by Chair Wheeler. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **IV. Governance and Personnel Meeting Schedule**

Ms. Sen, Financial Analyst

- ✓ Chair Randall noted the Governance and Personnel (GPC) meeting schedule for the next 12 months was included in the packet.
- ✓ As per the meeting schedule, GPC meetings may be convened between May and October 2021 if needed.
- ✓ Meetings without Action Items, or time sensitive Discussion Items are typically cancelled.

Mayor Wilson made the motion to adopt the proposed meeting schedule ; seconded by Board Member Cristol.

#### **Discussion / Information Items**

#### **V. Recap of 2020 General Assembly Special Session (Verbal Report)**

Ms. Baynard, MWC, LLC

- ✓ Chair Randall requested Ms. Baynard highlight anything from the General Assembly's 2020 Special Session which might interest the Authority.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard noted that the main discussion at the ongoing Special Session has been the budget.
- ✓ She also noted that the House and Senate have adopted language for the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) to keep projects moving forward.
- ✓ The 2020 Special Session issues have also focused on COVID-19 impacts on the economy, criminal justice reform, racial equality and healthcare reform.
- ✓ Chair Randall discussed protective language that could be adopted by the Authority as well as member jurisdictions safeguarding the Authority's revenue sources and not diverting much needed funding towards other needs.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard noted the Authority and stakeholders succeeded in restoring \$50 million in dedicated revenue for Northern Virginia transportation needs;
  - \$20 million each year in state revenues from the Commonwealth Transportation Fund via the Northern Virginia Transportation District Fund
  - \$.10/\$100 regional grantors tax
  - 1% increase in the regional transient occupancy tax (TOT) for the Metro Capital Fund, Prince William County, Manassas and Manassas Park to make up for a \$.05/\$100 reduction in their regional grantors tax.

#### **VI. Preparation for the 2021 General Assembly Session**

Ms. Backmon, Executive Director

Ms. Baynard, MWC, LLC

- ✓ Ms. Baynard noted that the 2021 Regular Session will be a short session and will begin January 13, 2021.
- ✓ COVID-19 will continue to dominate matters
  - Revenue impact for state and local governments
  - Assistance needed for individuals and companies
  - Healthcare response

- ✓ Economic Recovery
  - Reluctance to increase taxes
  - Government assistance to keep people working
  - Replenish the unemployment fund
- ✓ Criminal Justice Reforms, and Racial and Economic Equality Initiatives.
- ✓ 2021 is an election year for the House of Delegates and statewide offices.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard proposed 2021 focus area for the Authority by noting:
  - Protect dedicated revenues including gains achieved in 2019 and 2020.
  - State of the economy may make delaying the TOT increase attractive and make any additional tax increases less feasible.
  - Determine if 2019 interstate highway revenue sources have stabilized and become predictable within context of the pandemic.
    - Protect Authority’s ability to meet its mission.
    - Conflicts from local projects is prompting citizens to attack the Authority’s powers and constitutionality.
    - Citizen outreach to state legislators complaining about actions the Authority has taken to fund local projects.
    - Support Authority members if needed regarding implementation of Six Year Program funding allocation and flexibility.
- ✓ Chair Randall informed the Committee that as part of their 2021 Legislative Program, the Loudoun County Board adopted protective language which seeks to safeguard the Authority’s funding and encouraged other jurisdictions to do likewise .
- ✓ She explained that with the ongoing COVID-19 crises, diverting the Authority’s revenue could be seen as an easy solution.

**VII. Adjournment: 6:00 PM**

**Next Scheduled Meeting: November 12, 2020 at 5:30 PM  
NVTA Offices**