

**SUMMARY MINUTES
NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

March 8, 2013

Northern Virginia Regional Commission
3060 Williams Drive, Ste. 510
Fairfax, VA 22031

NVTA Members Present:

Voting Members:

Martin Nohe, Chairman	Prince William County
William Euille, Vice Chairman	City of Alexandria*
Board Member Chris Zimmerman	Arlington County
Chairman Sharon Bulova	Fairfax County
Chairman Scott York	Loudoun County
Mayor Hal Parrish	City of Manassas**
Council Member Peppe	City of Falls Church
Senator Ebbin	Virginia General Assembly
Delegate Rust	Virginia General Assembly
Ms. Bushue	Governor's Appointee

*Arriving at 9:04 a.m.

**Arriving at 9:06 a.m.

Non-voting Members:

Rene'e Hamilton	VDOT
Joe Swartz	DRPT
Jerry Foreman	Town Representative

Staff:

Monica Backmon	Chair, Jurisdiction and Agency Coordinating Committee
Pam Martin	Clerk
Various jurisdictional staff	

Item I: Call to Order

Chairman Nohe called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Item II: Roll Call

The roll was called and members present were as noted above.

Item III: Approval of the Minutes of November 8, 2012, Meeting and January 31, 2013

Approval of the minutes for the November 8, 2012 were approved with Senator Ebbin and Delegate Rust abstaining. Approval of the minutes for the January 31, 2013 were approved with Senator Ebbin and Delegate Rust abstaining.

Item IV: Action Items

(A) Approval of the Nominating Committee's Recommendations of Officers

Chairman Bulova presented the slate of officers as follows:

Chairman	Martin Nohe
Vice Chairman	William Euille
Past Chairman	Christopher Zimmerman

The motion carried unanimously.

(B) Approval of Town Appointee

Chairman Nohe introduced the new Town Representative from Dumphries, Mayor Jerry Foreman. A motion by Chairman York and seconded by Chairman Bulova and passed unanimously to confirm Mayor Foreman to the NVTA committee.

(C) Approval of City of Fairfax RSTP Transfer Request

Ms. Backmon presented the request for transfer of funds from the City of Fairfax. A motion by Chairman Bulova and seconded by Chairman York was approved.

Item V: Discussion Items

(A) Update on the Legislative Session

Ms. Backmon introduced Noelle Dominguez (Fairfax County) who gave an update on the 2013 General Assembly.

(B) Transportation Funding Package

The following is an update on the transportation package.

Transportation Funding Package

After the House and Senate passed different transportation funding proposals, the bills were negotiated in a conference committee. The Conference Report, which was adopted by the House (60-40) and by the Senate (25-15), provides approximately \$880 million for maintenance, construction, and transit by the year 2018, by:

- Eliminating the 17.5 cents per gallon gas tax.
- Imposing a 3.5% wholesale gas tax and a 6% wholesale diesel tax.
- Increasing the automobile sales tax from 3% to 4.3%.
- Increasing the state sales tax from 5% to 5.3%.
- Transferring an additional .175% (from .5% to .675%) of the state's portion of existing sales tax from the General Fund to transportation, phased in over five years.
- Increasing the fee for alternative fuel vehicles to \$100, including electric and hybrid vehicles, but excluding natural gas-powered vehicles.
- Dedicating potential federal revenues that would become available if Congress enacts the Marketplace Equity Act, which grants states legal authority to collect out-of-state sales taxes. These funds would be allocated to transportation, public education, and to localities. If the Act is not adopted by Congress by January 1, 2015, the wholesale gas tax (not diesel) would increase to 5.1%.
- Prohibiting tolling on I-95 south of Fredericksburg without prior General Assembly approval.
- Allocating \$300 million from the state maintenance funding to Dulles Rail Phase II.

The Conference Report also includes regional components for Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads. The Northern Virginia plan is expected to provide an additional \$300-350 million per year by:

- Imposing a .7% sales tax, to a total of 6% for Northern Virginia.
- Imposing a 3% Transient Occupancy Tax (hotel tax).
- Imposing a grantors tax of \$0.25 per \$100 valuation.
- Of the revenues collected, 70% will be provided to NVRTA to be used on regional projects that are included within the regional transportation plan that have been evaluated by VDOT for reducing congestion, as well as mass transit capital projects that increase capacity.
- 30% of funds will be distributed to localities to be spent on urban or secondary road construction, capital improvements that reduce congestion, other projects that have been improved by TransAction 2040 or its updates, or for public transportation purposes.
 - Localities must enact the local Commercial and Industrial Property at \$.125 per \$100 valuation or dedicate an equivalent amount into a special amount into a special fund that can be used solely for transportation. This amount must be at least equal to the amount expended or disbursed for FY 2012. Should the locality not do this or do so at a lower rate, the amount of the revenue the locality receives will be reduced by the difference between the amount they would have received if they were imposing the maximum amount and the amount of revenue deposited into this special fund.
- Requiring the NVRTA and its counties and cities to work cooperatively with the towns when implementing these provisions.
- Repealing the local option to enact a 1% income tax by referendum.

- Including language requiring that should the General Assembly, NVTA, or any of the localities use these funds for non-transportation-related projects or those projects outside the boundaries provided in the act, these additional regional revenues would expire.

B.1) Technical Amendment Recommendations

Following the summary of the funding package, Council Member Zimmerman provided comments on the proposal. He explained the history of the NVTA starting with HB 3202. He noted the region's transportation needs and that the \$300-\$350 million per year provided by HB 2313 is not sufficient to solve all the region's problems and should be seen as the beginning. The role of the NVTA, which was created by the Virginia General Assembly, needs a full range of responsibilities to make this new transportation bill work. He requested that the letter to the Governor should express these concerns. Mayor Euille applauded Council Member Zimmerman on his comments. After much discussion, it was agreed that the tone of the letter was to be appreciative and remindful of present and future transportation concerns for Northern Virginia. It was to include the principles of NVTA. Chairman Nohe expressed that NVTA would be the "bank account" for the money coming from HB 2313. He also stated that the letter to the Governor would state the recognition of NVTA efforts in Northern Virginia.

The members then discussed the proposed amendment suggestions. Discussions were held regarding the need for some flexibility with funds in the first year, the impact of the bill's requirements on transit systems, the maintenance of effort provisions, and the language pertaining to the misappropriation of the new transportation funding.

A motion made by Chairman Bulova and seconded by Chairman York to send the letter passed with Delegate Rust abstaining.

Council Member Zimmerman also expressed concerns on the transient occupancy tax (hotel tax) included in HB 2313. At the present time, there are about 10,000 rooms in Arlington County. The potential impact of this tax could cause competitive pricing across the river for conventions.

B.2) Implementation/Working Groups

Chairman Nohe requested for the next NVTA meeting the following: (1) revised the calendar; (2) revised workplan and calendar; (3) consider a better public venue with calendar; (3) people's availability for next meeting; (4) time of day most convenient for the committee members.

Chairman Bulova introduced the new Executive Director of NVTC, Kelley Coyner.

Delegate Rust discussed a letter on hybrid fuel vehicles. Chairman Bulova requested a copy.

Item VI: Adjournment

The NVTA meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.