

## **Governance And Personnel Committee Meeting**

Thursday, February 13, 2025

5:30 p.m. EST

2600 Park Tower Drive, Suite 601

Vienna, VA 22180

*This meeting will be held in person and accessible via YouTube.*

### **AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order**

Phyllis Randall, Chair

#### **Action Items**

**2. Approval of January 9, 2025, Meeting Summary Minutes** Phyllis Randall, Chair

*Recommended Action: Approval of January 9, 2025, Meeting Summary Minutes*

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

**3. 2025 General Assembly Update (Verbal)**

Ms. Baynard, Sr. Vice President, McGuire Woods Consulting, LLC

#### **Closed Session**

*(If necessary)*

**4. Adjournment**

Phyllis Randall, Chair

#### **Correspondence**

*(Presented as needed)*

#### **Next Meeting:**

Thursday, March 13, 2025

5:30 p.m. EST

2600 Park Tower Drive, Suite 601

Vienna, VA 22180

## GOVERNANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 9, 2025

6:00 p.m. EST

2600 Park Tower Drive, Suite 601

Vienna, VA 22180

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

2.

### SUMMARY MINUTES

#### 1. Call to Order

- ✓ Chair Randall called the Governance and Personnel Committee (GPC) meeting to order at 6:14 pm.
- ✓ Attendees:
  - Members: Chair Randall, Mayor Read, Delegate Sewell, Chair Jefferson
  - Staff: Monica Backmon (CEO), Michael Longhi (CFO), Quinn Haley (Executive Assistant to the CEO)
  - Other Attendees: Councilmember Snyder, Mr. Daniel Robinson (Council of Counsel), MinhChau Corr (Council of Counsel), Tracy Baynard (McGuire Woods, LLC)

#### Action Items

#### 2. Approval of November 14, 2024, Meeting Summary Minutes

- ✓ Chair Jefferson moved approval of November 14, 2024, GPC Meeting Summary Minutes seconded by Mayor Read. Motion passed unanimously.

#### 3. Adoption of 2025 Governance and Personnel Committee Meeting Schedule

- ✓ Chair Phyllis Randall asked the committee to review the proposed meeting schedule for calendar year 2025.
- ✓ Chair Jefferson noted a typo that in item 4: '2024' should be changed to '2025'.
- ✓ Chair Randall moved the GPC accept the calendar with the typo correction, seconded by Mayor Read. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Discussion Items

#### 4. Update on 2025 General Assembly Session

- ✓ Ms. Baynard stated that the pre-filing deadline for bills has been extended to Monday (1/13) at 10AM, while the final bill submission deadline remains January 17<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard Provided an update on the status of budget amendments, noting that Senate amendments should be available by Tuesday (1/14), while House

amendments may be delayed until Wednesday (1/15) or Thursday (1/16) due to the water issue.

- ✓ Ms. Baynard discussed Senate Bill 1007, introduced by Senator Surovell, which proposes a \$0.50 annual tax per private parking space. This tax would apply to commercial properties, including retail, apartment buildings, and other private properties with parking spaces. Single family housing spaces would be exempt. The tax would be levied on the property owner, not the individuals using the spaces. The bill is specifically aimed at Northern Virginia jurisdictions and would help fund bike and pedestrian infrastructure. Exemptions include parking associated with single-family residences, and there are questions regarding its impact on developments with federally funded park-and-ride lots, as federal funds have restrictions on taxing such properties. There was some discussion about the potential revenue stream and its impact on businesses and property owners, with some concerns raised about the feasibility and the tax burden it would create for larger parking facilities.
- ✓ Chair Randall expressed concerns about the feasibility of tracking the tax and enforcing it at the local level, noting that it would require additional staff and resources. She questioned whether NVTA, as the managing body for this tax, would be the most appropriate entity to oversee the distribution of funds for bike and pedestrian projects and raised concerns about whether the tax would generate sufficient revenue to justify the administrative efforts.
- ✓ Chair Jefferson supported the idea of more staff for implementation, emphasizing that localities need resources to manage the process. She also raised the issue of potential double dipping, where projects could qualify for both the new tax funding and existing 30% NVTA funds, which would need careful policy management.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard explained that the tax would go through NVTA, not NVTC, due to its regional scope. She highlighted that NVTA would oversee capital projects funded by the tax and establish a process for distributing the funds. She also pointed out that a lot of questions would arise regarding the implementation of the tax, particularly about how localities would manage it. Additionally, she mentioned that localities would need to track the number of parking spaces for tax purposes, which would require collaboration with real estate tax assessors.
- ✓ Ms. Backmon voiced concerns about the unknowns surrounding the bill's revenue generation, noting that VDOT had asked for estimates, but no concrete figures were available yet. She also highlighted NVTA's role in overseeing the regional transportation plan, which would ensure connectivity between localities.
- ✓ Mayor Read expressed concerns about parking requirements in her city, suggesting that the tax could encourage developers to reduce parking and increase building density instead. She acknowledged that the tax might face resistance from businesses, particularly in areas with high parking demand.
- ✓ Councilmember Snyder supported the idea of rethinking parking but raised concerns about whether the revenue would be worth the administrative effort. In conclusion, the group agreed that more information was needed before taking a



position on the bill, especially regarding its fiscal impact and practical implementation. The consensus was that the discussion should continue as more details emerge, with a focus on ensuring that the new tax does not overlap with existing funding sources.

- ✓ Ms. Baynard discussed House Bill 1982 that could reduce available funds in the Virginia Mass Transit Fund by allocating 2.5% to Hampton Roads Transit for its light rail system, taking 1% from the operating side and 1.5% from the capital side. This would decrease funding available to other localities. She compared this to the allocation process for VRE and WMATA, highlighting that VRE negotiated a specific allocation based on its unique needs as a commuter rail system. Ms. Baynard emphasized the need to understand the history of funding for the light rail system, as well as the support from DRPT and other stakeholders. She expressed uncertainty about the fairness of the 2.5% allocation and the impact on local funding, noting that the mass transit fund is already under strain. She suggested waiting for more information before forming a position on the bill.
- ✓ Chair Randall expressed concern about the potential decrease in funding for localities due to the proposed allocation to Hampton Roads Transit. While understanding the rationale behind the request, she questioned how to oppose the request given the Commonwealth's previous underfunding of Metro. She acknowledged that less funding for localities would limit their ability to apply for transit funding and highlighted the need for more clarity on the numbers before taking a position.
- ✓ Ms. Backmon noted that the funding would go to HRTAC, which is responsible for capital projects in Hampton Roads but does not engage in planning.
- ✓ Councilmember Snyder suggested that NVTC may not be fully aware of the bill's potential impact and proposed that it be confirmed with them.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard concluded, indicating that she had no further updates for the session. She mentioned that she would continue reading bills over the next few days as they are introduced.
- ✓ Chair Randall asked if there were any other concerns or items that needed attention. She noted that some legislators had not yet introduced their bills due to being newly elected, but they had extra time to do so. She also mentioned her efforts to ensure certain priorities were addressed and encouraged others to reach out if they hear anything related to NVTA.

## 5. Adjournment

- ✓ Chair Randall concluded the meeting at 6:50 pm.

