



MINUTES

VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING

April 19, 2024

14700 Potomac Mills Road, Woodbridge, VA 22192

Members Present

*Sarah Bagley (NVTC)
*Andrea O. Bailey (PRTC)
*Margaret Franklin (PRTC)
*Monica Gary (PRTC)
*Lori Hayes (PRTC)
*Jannan W. Holmes (PRTC)
*Takis Karantonis (NVTC)
*Michael McLaughlin (VPRA) ‡
*Alanna Mensing (PRTC)
*Ralph Smith (PRTC)
*Daniel G. Storck (NVTC)
*James Walkinshaw (NVTC) ‡

Jurisdiction

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

Members Absent

Meg Bohmke (PRTC)
Tom Gordy (PRTC)

Stafford County
Prince William County

Alternates Present

*Pamela Yeung (PRTC)

Stafford County

Alternates Absent

Canek Aguirre (NVTC)
Tinesha Allen (PRTC)
Victor Angry (PRTC)
Kenny Boddy (PRTC)
Deborah Frazier (PRTC)
Libby Garvey (NVTC)
Will Mackintosh (PRTC)
Darryl Moore (PRTC)
Pam Sebesky (PRTC)
Emily Stock (DRPT)

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

*Voting Member

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

‡ Participated remotely via Webex in accordance with the Electronic Participation Policy

Staff and General Public

Trinette Broussard – VRE
Rich Dalton – VRE
John Duque – VRE
Anaya Farah – VRE
Karen Finucan Clarkson - VRE
Chris Henry – VRE
John Kerins - Keolis
Lezlie Lamb – VRE

Steve MacIsaac – VRE Chief Counsel
Dagmawie Shikurye- VRE
Dallas Richards – VRE
Bob Schneider - PRTC
Mark Schofield – VRE
Alex Sugatan - VRE
Joe Swartz – VRE

Vice Chair Bagley called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.; the roll call followed.

Vice Chair Bagley informed the Board that Members McLaughlin and Walkinshaw requested to participate remotely. Mr. McLaughlin is participating from North Carolina on personal travel and Mr. Walkinshaw is participating from Fairfax County due to attending another event. Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Ms. Gary, to approve Mr. McLaughlin’s and Mr. Walkinshaw’s remote participation. The vote in favor was cast by Members Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Holmes, Karantonis, Mensing, Smith, Storck, and Yeung.

Safety Moment – 3

CEO, 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 Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Holmes, Karantonis, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, and Yeung.

Approval of the Minutes of the March 15, 2024 VRE Operations Board Meeting – 5

Mr. Storck moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, to approve the Minutes from March 15, 2024. The vote in favor was cast by Members Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Holmes, Karantonis, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, and Storck. Dr. Yeung abstained.

Vice Chair’s Comments – 6

Vice Chair Bagley welcomed members, staff and the public to the April VRE Operations Board meeting and conveyed Chair Bohmke’s apologies for being unable to attend the meeting. The Vice Chair announced plans for a ribbon-cutting for the VRE Fredericksburg Station improvements on May 21, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Vice Chair Bagley also reminded Board members of VRE annual Meet the Management events being held over the course of the next five weeks.

Chief Executive Officer’s Report – 7

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

- Safety
- Performance
- Ridership
- Events

Public Comment Time – 8

The Chair opened the floor for public comments. There were no speakers. Two written comments were submitted, forwarded to Board members, and are attached.

Consent Items – 9

Authorization to Issue a Request for Proposals for Locomotive Exterior Painting Services –9A

Authorization to Issue a Request for Proposals for Construction Management Services for the Crystal City Station Improvements Project – 9B

Authorization to Issue a Request for Proposals for Construction Management Services for the Franconia-Springfield Station Improvements Project – 9C

Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Ms. Gary, to approve the Consent Agenda. The vote in favor was cast by Members Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Holmes, Karantonis, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, and Yeung.

Closed Session – 10

Pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Sections 2.2-3711.A(7) and (8) of the Code of Virginia), Vice Chair Bagley moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey that the VRE Operations Board convene a closed meeting for the purpose of consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff concerning probable litigation where discussion in public could adversely affect the negotiating and litigating posture of the Commissions, and for consultation with legal counsel concerning a specific legal matter requiring the provision of legal advice.

The vote in favor was cast by Members Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Holmes, Karantonis, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, and Yeung.

The Board entered closed session at 9:28 a.m.

[Mr. Walkinshaw joined remotely during the closed session.]

At 10:38 the Board ended its closed session.

Vice Chair Bagley moved with a second by Mr. Karantonis, that The VRE Operations Board certifies to the best of each member's knowledge and with no individual member dissenting, at the just concluded Closed Session:

1. Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were discussed; and,
2. 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 Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Holmes, Karantonis, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

Ms. Bailey moved Resolution 10-04-2024, with a second by Mr. Smith, to Authorize the CEO to amend the current Task Order for Construction Administration Services for the Quantico Station

Improvements Project executed with STV Incorporated under the General Engineering Consulting Services Contract. The vote in favor was cast by Members Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Holmes, Karantonis, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, and Walkinshaw.

Action Items – 11

Authorization to Issue a GEC VIII Task Order for Engineering Design Services for Fredericksburg Parking Lot Improvements – 11A

Ms. Holmes moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, to authorize the CEO to issue a General Engineering Services task order to HDR Engineering, Inc for engineering design services for Fredericksburg Station Parking Lot Improvements. The vote in favor was cast by Members Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Holmes, Karantonis, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

Authorization to Issue a GEC VIII Task Order for Design Services for Repairs to the Franconia-Springfield Station – 11B

Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Ms. Mensing, to authorize the CEO to issue a General Engineering Services task order to HDR Engineering, Inc. for design services for repairs to the Franconia-Springfield station. The vote in favor was cast by Members Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Holmes, Karantonis, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

Authorization to Issue a Task Order under the Maintenance Services for VRE Facilities Contract for Quantico Station Parking Lot Milling and Resurfacing – 11C

Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Mr. Karantonis, to authorize the CEO to issue a task order to U.S. Facilities, Inc. for Quantico Station parking lot milling and resurfacing. The vote in favor was cast by Members Bagley, Bailey, Franklin, Gary, Hayes, Holmes, Karantonis, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, Storck, Walkinshaw, and Yeung.

Information Items – 12

Spending Authority Report – 12A

The April Spending Authority Report outlined purchases greater than \$50,000 but less than \$200,000 made in March 2024.

Update on VRE Mobile and VRE.org – 12B

Staff briefed the Board on the progress of VRE’s integration of up-to-date service information with the VRE Mobile application and readying a new VRE.org website.

Members Time – 13

Ms. Holmes shared her impressions of her VRE system tour.

Ms. Gary shared she’s had discussions with homeschool groups who are excited about free fare for those 18 years old and younger,

The meeting adjourned without objection at 11:01 a.m.

Approved this 17th day of May 2024

Meg Bohmke

Meg Bohmke
Chair

Ralph Smith

Ralph Smith
Secretary

CERTIFICATION

This certification hereby acknowledges the minutes for the April 19, 2024 Virginia Railway Express Operations Board Meeting have been recorded to the best of my ability.

Lezlie M. Lamb

Lezlie M. Lamb

From: opscommforms@gmail.com
To: [Lezlie Lamb](#); [Holly Cockrell](#)
Subject: Public Comments
Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 9:19:30 PM

Caution: This email originated outside of VRE. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

A response was submitted for the form "Public Comments"

(REQUIRED) First and Last Name: Julie Wiegandt

City or County of residence: Springfield VA

Comments: Have you considered/could you consider starting some trains at L'Enfant to avoid congestion and switch issues at Union Station?

Acknowledgement Yes

From: opscommforms@gmail.com
To: [Lezlie Lamb](#); [Holly Cockrell](#)
Subject: Public Comments
Date: Friday, April 19, 2024 7:15:08 AM

Caution: This email originated outside of VRE. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

A response was submitted for the form "Public Comments"

(REQUIRED) First and Last Name: Michael Matthews

City or County of residence: Lake Ridge (Prince William County)

Comments: There needs to be an increased emphasis on security at the stations. My car, along with a handful of others, have been stolen (or vandalized) from the Woodbridge station garage in recent weeks. At a minimum the garage/parking lots should have cameras by the entrances. The increase in criminal activity, combined with the proposed price increase, is making me reconsider the VRE as a safe and viable commute option.

Acknowledgement Yes