

POTOMAC AND RAPPAHANNOCK  
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

OFFICIAL COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

DATE: February 7, 2007  
TIME: 7:00 p.m.  
LOCATION: PRTC Transit Center  
14700 Potomac Mills Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Woodbridge, VA 22192-6811

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gibbons called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

*Charles Badger	DRPT
*Hilda Barg, Immediate Past Chmn	Prince William County
*Maureen Caddigan	Prince William County
*Wally Covington	Prince William County (arrived at 7:25 p.m.)
*Bob Gibbons, Chairman	Stafford County
*John Jenkins	Prince William County
*Frank Jones, Vice Chairman	City of Manassas Park
*Matthew Kelly, Treasurer	City of Fredericksburg
*Paul Milde	Stafford County
*Martin Nohe	Prince William County
*Douglas Waldron, Secretary	City of Manassas

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Jean Benson	City of Fredericksburg
Marvin Dixon	City of Fredericksburg
George Schwartz	Stafford County
Bill Wren	City of Manassas Park

STAFF AND GENERAL PUBLIC

Gina Altis	PRTC Executive Assistant
Rick Canizales	PWC Dept. of Public Works

Joyce Embrey  
Althea Evans  
Anthony Foster  
Steve Grillo  
Al Harf  
Laurel Hammig  
Robb Howell  
Bill Leisen  
Bob Leibbrandt  
Steve MacIsaac  
Eric Marx  
Mary Marshall  
Betsy Massie  
Bernadette Peel  
Lloyd Robinson  
Carey Roessel  
Jennifer Straub  
Joe Swartz  
Dale Zehner

PRTC Dir., Finance & Administration  
PRTC Dir., Marketing & Communications  
PRTC Transportation Project Manager  
PRTC Intern  
PRTC Executive Director  
PRTC Transportation Apprentice  
FIRST TRANSIT Assistant General Mgr.  
PRTC Mgr., Contract Operations  
PWC Mgt. & Budget Analyst II  
VRE Legal Counsel  
PRTC Dir., Planning & Operations  
PRTC Accounting & Budget Manager  
PRTC Dir., Grant & Project Management  
PRTC Legal Counsel  
FAMPO Chief Transportation Planner  
FIRT TRANSIT General Manager  
VRE Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
PRTC Senior Transit Planner  
VRE Chief Executive Officer

MEMBERS ABSENT

Scott Lingamfelter  
Michele McQuigg  
Toddy Puller  
Corey Stewart

Virginia House of Delegates  
Virginia House of Delegates  
Virginia Senate  
Prince William County

ALTERNATES ABSENT

Mark Dudenhefer  
Kathleen Gammell  
Corey Hill  
Larry Hughes  
Peter LaMarca  
Lorraine Lasch  
Hal Parrish  
Sorine Preli  
Phillip Rodenberg  
Sharmila Samarasinghe  
John Stirrup

Stafford County  
City of Manassas Park  
DRPT  
City of Manassas  
City of Fredericksburg  
Prince William County  
City of Manassas  
Prince William County  
City of Fredericksburg  
DRPT  
Prince William County

\*Voting Member

3. INVOCATION Led by Commissioner Jenkins.
4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Led by Chairman Gibbons.
5. CITIZENS' TIME No citizens came forward.

6. RECOGNITION

A. First Transit General Manager Carey Roessel – Employee Recognition and Operations Report.

Mr. Roessel reported that a new operators' class is nearing completion. He noted that a new skills training class recently commenced and also noted that the operator shortage has improved significantly.

Mr. Roessel noted that 22 bus operators received compliments during the month of January. He went on to say that "modified" bus service was operative on Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> (Martin Luther King Jr. Day) and will occur again on Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> (President's Day). He also noted that a "bus bridge" will be operated for the VRE in the future during "cut-in work" related to the Quantico Bridge.

Mr. Roessel recognized the January Operator-of-the-Month Bob Corbin, Operator-of-the-Year Delores Wetzel, and Service Technician-of-the-Quarter Matthew Amankwah. Chairman Gibbons recommended that the Commission consider providing individuals receiving such recognition some tangible award like a dinner gift certificate and that a "symbol" recognizing the Operator-of-the-Month be placed on the Operator's bus.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RES 07-02-01  
[PRTC\Minutes] Minutes of January 4, 2007. Commissioner Kelly moved, with a second by Commissioner Jones, to approve the Minutes as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. (KELLY\JONES; WITH MAJORITY VOTE; CADDIGAN, MILDE, AND WALDRON ABSTAINED)

8. AGENDA APPROVAL

RES 07-02-02  
[PRTC\Agenda] Agenda of February 7, 2007. Commissioner Caddigan moved, with a second by Commissioner Barg, to approve the Agenda as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. (CADDIGAN\BARG, UNANIMOUS)

9. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

RES 07-02-03  
[PRTC\Consent  
Agenda] Consent Agenda of February 7, 2007. Commissioner Waldron moved, with a second by Commissioner Barg, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.



period, after which there will be a second two week cut-in that will include a schedule change. Staff is scheduled to visit all the destination stations tomorrow to hand out small schedule cards and all pertinent information has been posted on the website.

Mr. Zehner reported that staff will meet with Kelly Hannon of The Free Lance-Star on Thursday about the bus bridge cut-in. A photographer will also be present at the bridge site and an article on the subject is scheduled to appear in the newspaper either this weekend or early next week.

Commissioner Jones noted that the Manassas Park City Council plans to submit a letter to PRTC and VRE requesting a “rename” of the Manassas Park VRE station to “Manassas Park/Park Center”. The City Council would like to have the new Park Center development recognized in this manner, because of the tie to transit-oriented development. Commissioner Jones expressed the City Council’s appreciation to the VRE staff for their commitment and hard work during the planning stages of the project, and noted that a recommendation for a “pedestrian overpass” will also be submitted at a future time.

Commissioner Caddigan reported that she, Chairman Gibbons, Commissioners Kelly, Milde, and Jenkins recently met with Speaker Bill Howell to discuss the VRE. She noted that the Speaker was gracious and interested. Also, the subject of the House Bill that would provide VRE with \$30 million/year was discussed and Speaker Howell was presented/accepted a list of requests regarding the needs of VRE.

Chairman Gibbons interjected that Secretary Pierce Homer spoke to Senator Chichester about the VRE locomotive needs and noted that Speaker Howell is committed to the addition of a third rail from Powell’s Creek to Arkendale.

Commissioner Kelly added that a Fredericksburg delegation also met with Speaker Howell and he disclosed that he “bumped” into the CSX lobbyist in Richmond. He went on to say that he communicated to the CSX lobbyist a desire to engage the CSX in a dialogue about the “third rail” project. Finally, he reported that he and two members of the Spotsylvania Board of County Supervisors visited Senator John Warner’s office on Friday about these same VRE and CSX matters. It also afforded an opportunity to broach the subject of Spotsylvania joining the PRTC/VRE. Commissioner Kelly noted that a meeting with DRPT Director Matthew Tucker is scheduled for Thursday, March 8, 2007, to continue discussion about the pursuit of the “third rail” project.

Commissioner Covington arrived at 7:25 p.m. during discussion of Item 10-B and was absent on the vote for Items 7, 8, 9, 9A, and 9B.

RES 07-02-06  
[VRE\Governance  
Proposal]

C. Governance Proposal. Commissioner Caddigan moved, with a second by Commissioner Barg, to refer the Governance proposal to the Commissions.

Commissioner Kelly offered a proposed amended resolution for consideration and an outline highlighting the City of Fredericksburg's and Stafford County's concerns regarding the Governance proposal, namely: 1) proposed changes to the VRE Master Agreement relating to the degree of autonomy the VRE Operations Board has; 2) weighted voting on the VRE Operations Board based on subsidies; and 3) consideration for those localities assuming a greater burden as a result of non-member jurisdictional riders. He said that further discussion about these issues needs to occur among the member jurisdictions to seek changes that all members can embrace.

Commissioner Kelly went on to say that some discussion has occurred about the possibility of FAMPO expanding to Caroline and King George Counties and noted that FAMPO's aim is to become its own, stand-alone urbanized area with more than 200,000 residents effective when the 2010 census results are published.

Commissioner Kelly noted that the proposed amended resolution will allow the budget process to proceed in parallel with further deliberations among VRE Operations Board members on "Governance" in light of the concerns being expressed by Stafford and Fredericksburg, leading to further action on Governance by PRTC and NVTC.

Commissioner Kelly made a substitute motion, with a second by Commissioner Milde, to consider the proposed amended resolution. There was no discussion on the motion. (KELLY\MILDE, UNANIMOUS)

At this time, Commissioner Caddigan moved, with a second by Commissioner Barg, to approve the proposed amended resolution. There was no discussion on the motion. (CADDIGAN\BARG, UNANIMOUS)

Chairman Gibbons clarified that the original motion/second is superseded by Commissioners Kelly and Milde's substitute motion/second which was passed unanimously for consideration.

RES 07-02-07  
[VRE\Governance]

At Chairman Gibbons' suggestion, Commissioner Jones moved, with a second by Commissioner Barg, to appoint a Committee to work on possible changes to the VRE governance recommendations. There was no discussion on the motion. (JONES\BARG, UNANIMOUS)

Chairman Gibbons appointed Commissioners Caddigan, Kelly, Jones, Waldron, and himself to represent their respective jurisdictions on the Committee.

Mr. Harf added that there are discussions currently underway in the VRE arena about ensuring that the follow-up deliberations about governance is inclusionary, with all of the member jurisdictions participating in the process.

11. CHAIRMAN'S TIME

Chairman Gibbons had nothing to report at this time.

12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S TIME

[PRTC\Info] A. Executive Director's Report.

Reporting on legislative developments, Mr. Harf reported that the House passed a continuing resolution (CR) through the end of FY2007. He explained that the CR is at the SAFETEA-LU level for FY2007 rather than at the FY2006 appropriated level, as PRTC, APTA, and others had hoped and advocated, noting that this is 5% higher. He also noted that the Senate is scheduled this week to address the same issue and that the PRTC sent a letter to Senators Warner and Webb encouraging the Senate to do as the House did.

Mr. Harf noted that there will be no earmarks in FY2007, which means funds (about \$2M) that PRTC was seeking is uncertain at best. These discretionary funds will now be appropriated through FTA to award as it sees fit, providing PRTC a second opportunity to seek the discretionary funds for the western maintenance facility.

Turning to the state side, Mr. Harf reported that the only "transportation funding" bill still standing is the House bill, which is still a "moving target". He went on to say that the Senate introduced a counterproposal that relied more heavily on new

taxes instead of general funds for transportation, but the counterproposal has been nixed. He noted that the House bill relies on \$250M of general funds annually. Also, the House bill is still wanting in terms of its transit accommodations, which is among the amendments that some are seeking. Finally, he observed that one-time funding for VRE varies among the proposals, and noted that the House bill designates \$30M/year for VRE that VRE is seeking to ensure can be used for capital or operating purposes.

Regarding HOT Lanes, Mr. Harf noted that Secretary Homer has established a Transit Advisory Committee (TAC) to ready a “transit service plan” for the I-95 corridor that will be implemented in conjunction with the HOT lanes. He explained that the aim of the transit service plan is to define what can and needs to be accomplished from a transit perspective, and to set the stage for funding (at least in part) by net toll revenue. He went on to say that the Committee is chaired by VDRPT’s Corey Hill and noted that a HOT lanes meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, at the PRTC offices, at which time the scope of work will be discussed as will the choice of an on-call consultant.

Mr. Harf noted that the board package contains three significant letters regarding HOT lanes: 1) a letter dated January 11, 2007, sent by Mr. Chris Zimmerman, as the Chair of NVTA, expressing concerns about the inclusion of the construction component of the I-95/395 HOT lanes project in the region’s FY2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and 2) two letters dated December 4, 2006 and January 23, 2007, sent by Matt Kelly, as the FAMPO Chair, regarding the “Use of HOT Lanes Revenues for Transportation Improvements” and “I-95 HOT Lanes and the Third Rail Project in the CSXT Corridor”, respectively.

Mr. Harf reported that commencing with the spring schedule change, the north Rt. 1 OmniRide route will be routed via Benita Fitzgerald Drive between Cardinal Drive and Dale Boulevard. He also noted that as a result of continued ridership gains, two new trips have recently been added on the Manassas OmniRide service to remedy overcrowding, and that a marketing campaign will be launched on the routing of the Linton Hall Road route to raise public awareness within the many newly developed residential areas in the Linton Hall corridor.

- RES 07-02-08            B.    Federal Legislative Agenda. Commissioner Kelly moved, with a second by Commissioner Barg, to endorse the FY2008 federal legislative agenda and authorizes the transmittal of the agenda and associated discretionary funding request forms to the Northern Virginia Congressional Delegation and others as might be appropriate in the furtherance of this agenda and authorizes the PRTC Executive Director to make use of the agenda in taking steps as may be required to promote it. There was no
- [PRTC\FY08 Federal Legislative Agenda]

discussion on the motion. (KELLY\BARG, UNANIMOUS)

RES 07-02-09  
[PRTC\FY07 Budget  
Revision #1]

C. Mid-Year Budget Revision. Commissioner Waldron moved, with a second by Commissioner Barg, to approve the revision of its FY2007 budget from \$31,217,581 to \$38,548,459 in the event the proposed amendment to the adopted fare and ticketing plan is approved or \$75,000 less in the event it is not. There was no discussion on the motion. (WALDRON\BARG, UNANIMOUS)

RES 07-02-10  
[PRTC\FY08 State  
Grant Applications]

D. State Grant Applications. Commissioner Kelly moved, with a second by Commissioner Milde, to authorize the Executive Director to execute and file an application to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, Commonwealth of Virginia (hereafter referred to as the Department) for grants of financial assistance in substantially the same form as outlined in management's memorandum accompanying this resolution, to defray eligible costs for public transportation purposes, and to accept from the Department grants in such amount as may be awarded and certifies that funds shall be used in accordance with the requirements of Section 58.1-638.A.4 of the Code of Virginia, that the Commission shall provide matching funds as required, that the records of receipts of expenditures of funds granted to the Commission may be subject to audit by the Department and by the State Auditor of Public Accounts, and that the funds shall be used for such purposes as authorized in the Code of Virginia. There was no discussion on the motion. (KELLY\MILDE, UNANIMOUS)

[PRTC\Legislative]

E. Legislative Report. There were no comments.

[GAO\Intercity  
Passenger Rail]

F. GAO Presentation re Intercity Passenger Rail: Highlights of GAO Report on Need for National Policy and Strategies to Maximize Public Benefits from Federal Expenditures. There were no comments.

G. The Future of Highway and Transit Finance. There were no comments.

- [PRTC\Info]                    H.     Other Information Items:
1.     PRTC Service Performance Reports. There were no comments.
  2.     PRTC Budget-to-Actual Comparison – Six Months Ended December 31, 2006. There were no comments.
  3.     VDOT/FHA Idea-66 (1/07). There were no comments.
  4.     Surface Transportation Innovation (1/07). There were no comments.
  5.     Communications:
    - a. Related to Funding. There were no comments.
    - b. Related to Jurisdiction. N/A.
    - c. General Interest. There were no comments.
- RES 07-02-11                    I.     Convene into Closed Meeting. Commissioner Milde moved, with a second by Commissioner Barg, to convene into Closed Meeting at 8:28 p.m. regarding specific legal matters pertaining to fuel tax collections and public funding for contractual work pursuant to Sections 2.2-3711.A.7 (legal) and 2-2.3711.A.6 (public funds) VA Code Ann. There was no discussion on the motion. (MILDE\BARG, UNANIMOUS)
- [PRTC\Convene Closed Meeting]
- RES 07-02-12                    J.     Certification of Closed Meeting. Commissioner Kelly moved, with a second by Commissioner Caddigan, to certify Closed Meeting at 9:30 p.m. There was no discussion on the motion. (KELLY\CADDIGAN, UNANIMOUS)
- [PRTC\Certify Closed Meeting]
- RES 07-02-13                    K.     Action Items Reported out of Closed Meeting
- [PRTC\Dept. of Taxation]
- Commissioner Kelly moved, with a second by Commissioner Milde, to endorse management’s recommended next steps to resolve motor fuels tax collection issues, namely that: a letter be sent by Stafford County to the Commissioner of Taxation asking for disclosure of audit findings and Taxation’s

plans for collection of the taxes due; and a letter be sent by PRTC Chairman Gibbons to the State Treasurer expressing concern about the Taxation's collection and enforcement practices. There was no discussion on the motion. (KELLY\MILDE, UNANIMOUS)

13. OTHER BUSINESS/COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Commissioner Barg recommended that member jurisdictions who wish to present proposed amendments to Agenda items ensure that copies of the amendments be made available to all Commissioners one to two days prior to the Board meeting. There were no objections.

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Gibbons adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 1, 2007, 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: PRTC Transit Center  
14700 Potomac Mills Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Woodbridge, VA 22192-6811  
Main #: (703) 583-7782  
Fax #: (703) 583-1377