



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

DJ Stadtler
Executive Director

919 East Main Street, Suite 2400
Richmond, Virginia 23219

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Jennifer DeBruhl
Chairperson

MINUTES

Meeting of the Board of the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

Wednesday, December 8, 2023 · 10:30 am

Truist Place · 919 East Main Street · Richmond, Virginia 23219

The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Board held a regular, in-person meeting (with certain members participating remotely) on December 8, 2023, at Truist Place, 919 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219.

MEMBERS PRESENT IN-PERSON

Jennifer DeBruhl (Chair), Sharon Bulova, Sandy Bushue, Victor Cardwell, Rich Dalton, John Delandro, Patricia Doersch, Thelma Drake, Rod Hall, Cynthia Moses-Nedd, James Spore, John Watkins

Victor Cardwell joined virtually at 10:33 and arrived in person at 10:40 a.m.

Cynthia Moses-Nedd arrived at 10:45 a.m.

John Watkins arrived at 12:14 p.m.

Sharon Bulova departed at 1:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING ELECTRONICALLY

Bruno Maestri and Beth Rhinehart (see the attached approval forms noting the reasons for remote participation and the location from which each participated)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Charles Payne

VIRGINIA PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY STAFF

DJ Stadtler, Michael McLaughlin, Steve Pittard, Joan Panik, Michael Westermann, Jeremy Latimer, John Kostyniuk, Geoff Pelletier, Matt Jett, Fyiad Constantine, Courtney Baytop, Karina Romero, Christian Pedersen, Joe Jagdmann, Jason Cheeks, and Mary Estelle Douglas.

GUESTS/OTHERS PRESENT

None

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairperson DeBruhl presided and called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. Ms. Douglas called Roll and confirmed an in-person quorum was physically present.

BOARD CHAIR WELCOME

Presented by: Jennifer DeBruhl, Board Chairperson

Ms. DeBruhl welcomed all in attendance in person and virtually.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MOTION TO APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Patricia Doersch and seconded by Sharon Bulova to approve the previous board meeting minutes from August 30, 2023. The motion was carried unanimously, with the vote in favor cast by Sharon Bulova, Sandy Bushue, Victor Cardwell, John Delandro, Patricia Doersch, Thelma Drake, Rod Hall, Beth Rhinehart, and James Spore.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Presented by: DJ Stadtler, Executive Director, Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

Mr. Stadtler presented the Executive Director's report to brief the board about administrative updates, Amtrak performance data, capital project updates, and financial updates for the previous month.

He reviewed progress on Northern Virginia VPRA facilities.

FY24 Annual Incentive Plan (AIP) goals reviewed. There was some lag in revenue; however, VPRA is working with Amtrak to balance ridership and revenue.

Mr. Stadtler noted that the Federal/State partnership results were unavailable.

MANAGEMENT RESERVE

Presented by Steve Pittard, Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

Mr. Pittard reviewed the Management Reserve balance and noted that we are not asking to use any of the funds. We will update the Board in January 2024.

A motion was made by James Spore and seconded by Patricia Doersch to approve the adoption of the Management Reserve Balance. The motion was carried unanimously, with the vote in favor cast by Sharon Bulova, Sandy Bushue, Victor Cardwell, John Delandro, Patricia Doersch, Thelma Drake, Rod Hall, Cynthia Moses-Nedd, Beth Rhinehart, and James Spore.

LONG BRIDGE NORTH PROCUREMENT

Presented by: John Kostyniuk and Fyiad Constantine, Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

Mr. Constantine reviewed a Long Bridge overview. The build agreement was reviewed, and ways to mitigate risks were noted. Mr. Hall asked about the inclusion of SWaM vendors, and Mr. Kostyniuk indicated that the contractor had to submit a SWaM plan and that VPRA monitors the use of SWaM vendors.

A motion was made by Sharon Bulova and seconded by Victor Cardwell to approve the awarding of the Progressive Design Build agreement for the Long Bridge North Package. The motion was carried unanimously, with the vote in favor cast by Sharon Bulova, Sandy Bushue, Victor Cardwell, John Delandro, Patricia Doersch, Thelma Drake, Rod Hall, Cynthia Moses-Nedd, Beth Rhinehart, and James Spore.

FRANCONIA SPRINGFIELD BYPASS PROCUREMENT

Presented by: John Kostyniuk and Geoff Pelletier, Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

Mr. Pelletier reviewed key scope items of the Franconia Springfield Bypass procurement and ongoing requirements. The bridge structure has an almost two-mile footprint. Mr. Kostyniuk notes that the Bypass CM/GC contract includes SWaM businesses, and VPRA will monitor the use of SWaM vendors on this project.

A motion was made by Rod Hall and seconded by Sharon Bulova to approve the awarding of the agreement for the Franconio-Springfield Bypass. The motion was carried unanimously, with the vote in favor cast by Sharon Bulova, Sandy Bushue, Victor Cardwell, John Delandro, Patricia Doersch, Thelma Drake, Rod Hall, Cynthia Moses-Nedd, Beth Rhinehart, and James Spore.

POTOMAC SHORES LAND ACQUISITION UPDATE

Presented by: DJ Stadtler and Joe Jagdmann, Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

Mr. Stadtler reviewed information regarding Potomac Shores development and passenger rail station and noted that these benefit passenger rail but are not our projects. VPRA, the Potomac Shores developer, and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) are working together to mitigate risks associated with VPRA's potential acquisition of a small parcel of land adjacent to the rail corridor to facilitate the passenger station construction.

PREVIEW OF LONG BRIDGE SOUTH PACKAGE PROCUREMENT RELEASE

Presented by: *Mike McLaughlin and Fyiad Constantine, Virginia Passenger Rail Authority*

Different procurement methodologies were reviewed, as well as the procurement process around the Long Bridge South Package. The Long Bridge South package includes the Ped-Bike bridge. More information will be given in future meetings.

AMTRAK AND VRE PARTNERSHIP

Presented by: *Jeremy Latimer, Virginia Passenger Rail Authority*

Capital projects and service growth reviewed. Daily round trips have increased, and the programs have grown due to increases in ridership. VPRA is part of the State Amtrak Intercity Passenger Rail Committee (SAIPRC). Mr. Latimer noted that the new train sets would be coming to Virginia in 2027.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Debruhl, the Chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 1:42 p.m. All presentations to the Board and meeting videos can be found at <http://vpra.virginia.gov/about/board-meetings> and on the VPRA YouTube site.

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VPRA BOARD MEMBER REQUEST TO CHAIRPERSON FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION

I, Beth Rhinehart hereby notify the chairperson of my intent to, and do hereby
(Name)

request to, participate remotely from Bristol, Tennessee using electronic communication
(Remote Location)
means during the public meeting of VPRA Board meeting scheduled on
(VPRA Board, or name of VPRA committee)

December 6th, 2023 for the following reason:
(Date)

- I have a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents my physical attendance; or
- a medical condition of a member of my family requires me to provide care that prevents my physical attendance; or
- my principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location; or
- I am unable to attend the meeting due to a personal matter, which is

(Identify with specificity the nature of the personal matter)

This request is (for the chairperson to select):

- APPROVED
- DENIED

This form constitutes the record of notice, request, and approval or disapproval required for remote participation pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3708.3, and shall be recorded in the minutes of the corresponding VPRA public body.

Beth D. Rhinehart

¹ Remote participation based on a “personal matter” may not exceed the greater between two times and 25% of meetings, in each case, during a specific calendar year with respect to a specific public body. Meetings of the full VPRA Board and meetings of each committee will be measured independently.

VPRA BOARD MEMBER REQUEST TO CHAIRPERSON FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION

I, Bruno Maestri hereby notify the chairperson of my intent to, and do hereby
(Name)

request to, participate remotely from Washington, DC using electronic communication
(Remote Location)

means during the public meeting of VPRA Board Meeting scheduled on
(VPRA Board, or name of VPRA committee)

12/6/2023 for the following reason:
(Date)

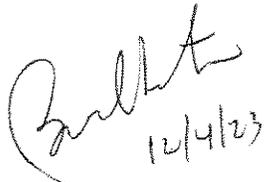
- I have a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents my physical attendance; or
- a medical condition of a member of my family requires me to provide care that prevents my physical attendance; or
- my principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location; or
- I am unable to attend the meeting due to a personal matter, which is

(Identify with specificity the nature of the personal matter)

This request is (for the chairperson to select):

- APPROVED
- DENIED

This form constitutes the record of notice, request, and approval or disapproval required for remote participation pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3708.3, and shall be recorded in the minutes of the corresponding VPRA public body.


12/4/23

¹ Remote participation based on a "personal matter" may not exceed the greater between two times and 25% of meetings, in each case, during a specific calendar year with respect to a specific public body. Meetings of the full VPRA Board and meetings of each committee will be measured independently.

From: [Debruhl, Jennifer \(DRPT\)](#)
To: [Mary Estelle Douglas](#)
Subject: [External Sender] Fwd: I will attend remotely on Wednesday.
Date: Thursday, December 7, 2023 2:09:35 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[20231204120741229.pdf](#)

MaryEstelle - I forgot to send this to you earlier, but concur with the request.

Jennifer B. DeBruhl, AICP, PMP
Director
Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation
(804) 398-0788

From: Maestri, Bruno <Bruno.Maestri@amtrak.com>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 12:57:02 PM
To: Debruhl, Jennifer (DRPT) <jennifer.debruhl@drpt.virginia.gov>
Subject: I will attend remotely on Wednesday.

Looks like my day is full and won't allow the travel time. Bruno

Bruno Maestri

Vice President – Government Affairs & Corporate Communications
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