



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

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Jennifer DeBruhl  
Chairperson

### MINUTES

#### Meeting of the Board of the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority

Thursday, May 23, 2024 · 9:00 am

Virtual Meeting

The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Board held a virtual meeting on May 23, 2024.

#### MEMBERS PARTICIPATING ELECTRONICALLY

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

#### MEMBERS ABSENT

Cynthia Moses-Nedd, Beth Rhinehart, Bruno Maestri

#### VIRGINIA PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY STAFF

DJ Stadtler, Michael McLaughlin, Steve Pittard, Joan Verbonitz, Matt Jett, Jason Cheeks, and Mary Estelle Douglas.

#### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairperson DeBruhl presided and called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Ms. Douglas called Roll and confirmed a quorum was virtually present.

#### BOARD CHAIR WELCOME

*Presented by: Jennifer DeBruhl, Board Chairperson*

Ms. DeBruhl welcomed everyone.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments received in the VPRA Contact Us email.

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## **MOTION TO APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A request to modify the January 23, 2024, minutes was received, and their approval will be deferred to June 4, 2024.

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## **MOTION FOR CLOSED SESSION**

Sharon Bulova made the following motion:

- *"I move that the Board convene in a Closed Session:*
  - *(i) pursuant to Va. Code Sec. 2.2-3711(A)(29) for the discussion of the award of one or more public contracts involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of VPRA; and*
  - *(ii) pursuant to Va. Code Sec. 2.2-3711(A)(3) for the discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.*

The motion was seconded by Jim Spore and carried unanimously, with Sharon Bulova, Sandy Bushue, Victor Cardwell, Patricia Doersch, Thelma Drake, Charlie Payne, James Spore, and John Watkins voting in favor.

The Board suspended the open session at 9:06 a.m. on May 23, 2024 to move into a closed session.

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## **RECONVENE IN AN OPEN SESSION**

The Chairperson reconvened the open session meeting at 10:06 a.m. on May 23, 2024. Upon reconvening the meeting, the Chairperson made the following statement:

*"We are now going to take a roll call vote, and I ask that each member indicate their agreement with the following:*

*To the best of my knowledge, during the Closed Meeting, the only matters heard, discussed, or considered were those matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and only those public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened."*

The roll was then called, and all members indicated their agreement with the statement. Sharon Bulova, Sandy Bushue, Victor Cardwell, John Delandro, Patricia Doersch, Thelma Drake, Rod Hall, Charlie Payne, James Spore, and John Watkins indicated agreement.

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Debruhl, the Chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 10:08 a.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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