



# MINUTES

## VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING

January 19, 2024

14700 Potomac Mills Road, Woodbridge, VA 22192

### **Members Present**

\*Sarah Bagley (NVTC)  
\*Andrea Bailey (PRTC)  
\*Meg Bohmke (PRTC)  
\*Monica Gary (PRTC)  
\*Tom Gordy (PRTC)  
\*Michael McLaughlin (VPRA)  
\*Daniel G. Storck (NVTC)  
\*James Walkinshaw (NVTC)

### **Members Absent**

Alanna Mensing (PRTC)  
Margaret Franklin (PRTC)  
Lori Hayes (PRTC)  
Jannan W. Holmes (PRTC)  
Takis Karantonis (NVTC)  
Ralph Smith (PRTC)

### **Alternates Present**

### **Alternates Absent**

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

### **Jurisdiction**

City of Alexandria  
Prince William County  
Stafford County  
Stafford County  
Prince William County  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
Fairfax County  
Fairfax County

City of Manassas Park  
Prince William County  
Spotsylvania County  
City of Fredericksburg  
Arlington County  
City of Manassas

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  
Stafford County

\*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**

Rich Dalton – VRE

John Duque – VRE

Anaya Farah – VRE

Karen Finucan Clarkson – VRE

Chris Henry – VRE

Christine Hoeffner - VRE

Lezlie Lamb – VRE

Steve MacIsaac – VRE Chief Counsel

Kristin Nutter - VRE

Dallas Richards – VRE

Nick Ruiz - VRE

Bob Schneider - PRTC

Mark Schofield – VRE

Joe Swartz – VRE

Chair Walkinshaw called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m.; the rollcall followed, determining that a quorum was not present.

Chair Walkinshaw announced that without a quorum present, the body cannot take any action.

### **Chair's Comments – 6**

Chair Walkinshaw welcomed two new members of the VRE Operations Board: Supervisor Tom Gordy of Prince William County and Councilor Jannan Holmes of the City of Fredericksburg. The Chair recognized Mr. Steve MacIsaac, VRE's Chief Legal Officer, who recommended there be a rollcall of the members physically present. Following the rollcall, Chair Walkinshaw highlighted the Board's 2023 accomplishments to include adopting a policy for the Board to conduct a 360 review of the VRE Chief Executive Officer and a set schedule for completing the review; the adoption of the FY2025 VRE Operating and Capital Budget, which will include VRE service on Saturdays; the opening of the Lifecycle Overhaul and Upgrade building at VRE's Crossroads Maintenance and Storage Facility; and the groundbreaking for construction of a new parking garage in Manassas Park. Finally, Immediate Past Chair Walkinshaw passed the gavel to 2024 VRE Operations Board Chair Meg Bohmke. Chair Bohmke accepted the gavel and thanked Mr. Walkinshaw for his leadership and presented him with a plaque commemorating his tenure as the 2023 VRE Operations Board Chair.

Chair Bohmke announced the 2024 VRE Operations Board Officers and reviewed current membership of standing committees. The Chair encouraged Board members to notify her if they're interested in serving on committee. Chair Bohmke noted the Finance Committee will meet following February's Operation Board meeting.

### **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. One written comment had been submitted, was forwarded to the members, and is attached.

## **Discussion Only – 9**

### **Authorization to Issue a GEC VIII Task Order for Final Design Services for Alexandria Station Improvements – 9A**

VRE CEO reviewed the background relating to planned agenda item which the VRE Operations Board will be asked to authorize at a future meeting.

### **Authorization to Amend the GEC VIII Task Order for Engineering Support for the Crossroads MSF Employee Parking Project – 9B**

VRE CEO reviewed the background relating to planned agenda item which the VRE Operations Board will be asked to authorize at a future meeting.

### **Authorization to Amend the Contract for Final Design Services for the VRE Crystal City Station Improvements Project – 9C**

VRE CEO reviewed the background relating to planned agenda item which the VRE Operations Board will be asked to authorize at a future meeting.

### **Adoption of the 2024 VRE Operations Board Meeting Schedule – 9D**

VRE CEO reviewed the background relating to planned agenda item which the VRE Operations Board will be asked to authorize at a future meeting.

### **Recommend Authorization to Submit USDOT FY2024 RAISE Grant Application – 9E**

VRE CEO reviewed the background relating to planned agenda item which the VRE Operations Board will be asked to authorize at future meeting.

## **Information Items – 10**

### **Spending Authority Report – 10A**

The January Spending Authority Report outlined purchases greater than \$50,000 but less than \$200,000 made in December 2023.

### **System Plan 2050 Update Status Report – 10B**

VRE's Project Development staff briefed the VRE Operations Board on the System Plan 2050 Update.

## **Members Time – 11**

Chair Bohmke recognized Mr. Dalton who pointed out a provision in Virginia's Freedom of Information Act, and the VRE Operations Board's Electronic Participation Policy, permitting the Board to hold an All-Virtual public meeting. Mr. Dalton advised members that staff will work to identify a potential date for such a meeting.

Mr. Gordy stated he looks forward to serving on the VRE Operations Board.

Ms. Gary welcomed new Mr. Gordy and Ms. Jannan to the VRE Operations Board and thanked Mr. Walkinshaw for his leadership throughout 2023.

Ms. Bailey welcomed Mr. Gordy and Ms. Jannan.

Chair Bohmke adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Approved this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024

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Meg Bohmke  
Chair

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Ralph Smith  
Secretary

**CERTIFICATION**

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



Lezlie M. Lamb