



MINUTES

VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING

June 21, 2024

14700 Potomac Mills Road, Woodbridge, VA 22192

Members Present

*Sarah Bagley (NVTC)
*Andrea O. Bailey (PRTC)
*Meg Boehmke (PRTC)
*Margaret Franklin (PRTC)
*Monica Gary (PRTC)
*Takis Karantonis (NVTC) **
*Alanna Mensing (PRTC)
*Ralph Smith (PRTC)
*Daniel G. Storck (NVTC)

Members Absent

Jannan W. Holmes (PRTC)
Tom Gordy (PRTC)
Lori Hayes (PRTC)
Zach Trogdon (DPRT)
James Walkinshaw (NVTC)

Alternates Present

*Michael McLaughlin (VPRA)

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
Prince William County
Stafford County
Arlington County
City of Manassas Park
City of Manassas
Fairfax County

City of Fredericksburg
Prince William County
Spotsylvania County
Commonwealth of Virginia
Fairfax County

Commonwealth of Virginia

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

Trinette Broussard – VRE
Alexander Buchanan - VRE
Holly Cockrell – VRE
Rich Dalton – VRE
John Duque – VRE
Karen Finucan Clarkson – VRE
John Kerins - Keolis

Lezlie Lamb – VRE
Steve MacIsaac – VRE Chief Counsel
Kristin Nutter – VRE
Bob Schneider - PRTC
Mark Schofield – VRE
Alex Sugatan – VRE
Joe Swartz – VRE

Chair Bohmke called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.; the roll call followed.

Chair Bohmke informed the Board that Member Gordy requested to participate remotely from Gainesville for a medical reason. Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Ms. Bagley, to approve Mr. Gordy’s remote participation. The vote in favor was cast by Members Bagley, Bailey, Bohmke, Franklin, Gary, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, and Storck.

[Mr. Gordy was not logged in and did not respond to roll call.]

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, Bohmke, Franklin, Gary, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, and Storck.

Approval of the Minutes of the May 17, 2024 VRE Operations Board Meeting and the June 7, 2024 Special All-Virtual VRE Operations Board Meeting – 5

Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Ms. Bagley, to approve the Minutes from May 21, 2024 and June 7, 2024. The vote in favor was cast by Members Bagley, Bailey, Bohmke, Gary, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, and Storck. Ms. Franklin abstained.

Chair’s Comments – 6

Chief Executive Officer’s Report – 7

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

- Safety Awards
- Performance
- Ridership
- LOU Facility Operations
- New Mobile App and Website

[Mr. Karantonis arrived at 9:14 a.m.]

[Ms. Franklin stepped out of the room at 9:19 a.m. and returned at 9:22 a.m.]

Public Comment Time – 8

The Chair opened the floor for public comments. No speakers were present, and no written comments were submitted.

Closed Session – 9

Vice Chair Bagley moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, Pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Sections 2.2-3711.A(3) of the Code of Virginia), that the VRE Operations Board convene a closed meeting for the purposes of discussion of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose related to VRE operations on the Norfolk Southern rail line where discussion in public would adversely affect the negotiating strategy and bargaining position of the Operations Board and the Commissions.

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

The Closed Session convened at 9:31 a.m.

Vice Chair Bagley moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, that the VRE Operations Board certifies that, 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, Bohmke, Franklin, Gary, Karantonis, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, and Storck.

The open session reconvened at 10:52 a.m.

Authorization to Execute a Sole Source Contract for New Locomotive Fuel Injectors – 10A

Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Ms. Bagley, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a sole source contract with Progressive Rail Locomotive Inc. for the purchase of new locomotive fuel injectors.

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

Authorization to Execute an Enterprise Services Sales Order to Upgrade VRE's Communications Infrastructure – 10B

Ms. Bailey moved, with a second by Ms. Bagley, to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute an Enterprise Services Sales Order with Comcast Corporation to upgrade VRE's communications infrastructure. The vote in favor was cast by Members Bagley, Bailey, Bohmke, Franklin, Gary, Karantonis, McLaughlin, Mensing, Smith, and Storck.

Authorization to Execute an Agreement with the Maryland Transit Administration and to Amend the VRE Tariff for the Reinstatement of the MARC/VRE Cross Honor Agreement – 10C

Ms. Bagley moved, with a second by Ms. Bailey, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute an agreement with the Maryland Transit Administration and amend the VRE Tariff for the reinstatement of the MARC/VRE Cross Honor Agreement.

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

Information Items – 11

Spending Authority Report – 11A

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

FY26 Budget Discussion – 11B

VRE Chief Financial Officer Mark Schofield solicited feedback from the Board on potential key issues heading into the FY 2026 budget cycle.

Members Time – 12

Mr. Smith stated the Manassas Rail Festival was very well attended and noted that the VRE staff managed crowd control very well.

Mr. Storck asked if the Finance Committee could schedule a meeting in July.


Ms. Franklin stated she would like to serve on the Finance Committee.

Without objection, Chair Bohmke adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

Approved this 19th day of 2024.



Meg Bohmke
Chair



Ralph Smith
Secretary

CERTIFICATION

This certification hereby acknowledges the minutes for the June 21, 2024, Virginia Railway Express Operations Board Meeting have been recorded to the best of my ability.



Leslie M. Lamb