

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, January 28, 2021 – via Zoom

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Walter L. Alcorn	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Victor S. Angry	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Andrea O. Bailey	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Elizabeth Bennett-Parker	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Kenny A. Boddye	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Juli E. Briskman	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Hon. Kelly Burk	<i>Town of Leesburg</i>
Hon. John T. Chapman	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Linda J. Colbert	<i>Town of Vienna</i>
Hon. Matt de Ferranti	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Hon. Libby Garvey	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Hon. Penelope A. Gross	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Pat Herrity	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Rodney L. Lusk	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. David Meyer	<i>City of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Cydney A. Neville, NVRC Vice Chairman	<i>Town of Dumfries</i>
Hon. Sheila A. Olem	<i>Town of Herndon</i>
Hon. Dalia A. Palchik	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Jeanette Rishell	<i>City of Manassas Park</i>
Hon. Koran T. Saines	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Hon. Kathy L. Smith, NVRC Treasurer	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. David Tarter, NVRC Chairman	<i>City of Falls Church</i>
Hon. James R. Walkinshaw	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Mark Wolfe	<i>City of Manassas</i>

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Lazaro	<i>Executive Director</i>
Linda M. Tenney	<i>Deputy Director</i>
Gina Kesselmann-Smith	<i>Management Analyst</i>
Jill Kaneff	<i>Regional Demographer</i>
Dale Medearis	<i>Senior Environmental Planner</i>
Corey Miles	<i>Senior Environmental Planner</i>
Michelle Simmons	<i>Human Services Director</i>
Peggy Tadej	<i>Director, Community and Military Partnerships</i>
Allie Wagner	<i>Water Resources Planner / GIS Analyst</i>

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael Cooper	<i>Metro Washington Airport Authority</i>
Bob Kuhns	<i>Mead & Hunt</i>
Scott MacDonnald	<i>Prince William County</i>
John Morrill	<i>Fairfax County</i>
Jack Potter	<i>Metro Washington Airport Authority</i>
Christina Saull	<i>Metro Washington Airport Authority</i>

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Tarter called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL The roll was called and all members present or absent were noted for the record.

PRESENTATION **Report from the President/CEO of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority**

Mr. Potter will provide an update on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Airports Authority operations and the travel industry more broadly, as well as how those impacts, and the recovery from them, are inescapably linked to the region's own economic recovery. He will discuss steps the airports have taken to improve the health, safety, and confidence of passengers; major initiatives the Airports Authority has been able to accomplish despite the pandemic, including advancement of major construction programs and strides in improving the organization's long-term sustainability; the Airports Authority's positioning for recovering from the pandemic, both financially and operationally; and the key factors, such as vaccines, federal CARES Act funding, and long-term changes in customer behaviors, that may affect that recovery this year and beyond.

Climate Resilience Dashboard

Corey Miles and Allie Wagner of NVRC's Environment and Resilience Planning team will provide a presentation on the Commission's recently released climate resilience dashboard. The dashboard outlines the impact of climate change in our region and the various programs and projects we offer at NVRC that address such issues..

ACTION ITEMS Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P21-11 – Executive Director Pay Adjustment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Neville and carried unanimously.

Background:

A recommendation of the Chairman of the Commission to adjust the pay of the Executive Director by 2% commensurate with the compensation increase granted to NVRC employees.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P21-12 – Authorization to Sign Agreement with DEQ regarding Chesapeake Bay Phase III WIP. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bailey and carried unanimously.

Background:

The Commission, through Resolution 20-16, authorized the Executive Director to execute a contract with DEQ, which expired in December 2020, for participation in the Phase III WIP project at the allocated funding of \$52,000. DEQ desires to continue to work with the PDCs on portions of the Phase III WIP and has made additional funds available to the Chesapeake Bay PDC's to convene locality and regional officials, staff and stakeholders; to provide input and recommendations for meeting Local Area Planning Goals established by DEQ.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P21-13 – Resolution Expressing Support for Coordinating US Federal

Government and NVRC Climate Initiatives. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bailey and carried unanimously.

Background:

With the new Administration in Washington there is a renewed emphasis on climate change and related initiatives. The resolution outlines the kind of efforts and programs that NVRC and our local government partners have supported in the past and as such could apply for and implement in their localities for the benefit of the region. The resolution will be shared with Northern Virginia's Congressional delegation, Administration officials and other key leaders.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P21-14 – Education and Promotion of Integrated Solid Waste Management and Product Stewardship. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bailey and carried unanimously.

Background:

NVRC has staffed and coordinated the Northern Virginia Waste Management Board since its inception, working on special projects, producing the biennial waste report for the Washington Metropolitan Region, and tracking state legislation and policy. The resolution permits NVRC staff to distribute adopted Waste Board fact sheets to members of the General Assembly, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and other staff.

Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for December 2020 and the following:

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

- Sharing Our Expertise
 - Pleased to report that working with the City of Charlottesville we were able to assist them in constructing their own solar rooftop potential interactive tool like our NoVA Solar Map. Staff Recognition
- NVRC Communications Metrics
 - NVRC increasingly seen as a reliable go to source of information and data for the region. Meeting with Governor Northam
- Data Dashboard Metrics
- Other Communications – Environmental
 - OnlyRain.org
 - Unique Website Visitors – 7255
 - TV Impressions – 2,242,343
 - Digital Impressions – 544,812
 - Social Media Impressions – 169,821
 - PlantNoVANatives.org
 - Unique Website Visitors – 49,000
 - Facebook Followers – 3587

- Coordinating with Members of Congress
 - NVRC Mayors, Chairs and key staff participated in Zoom calls with Congressman Connolly and Congressman Beyer on information related to COVID19 relief legislation, needed aid to state and local governments, vaccination planning and other related information.

- Solarize NoVA Update
 - Solarize NoVA has achieved another milestone – 4MW of solar.
 - Through the end of December, we have achieved 470 contracts with a construction value of more than \$11.3 million. Will be operating a short term Solarize campaign paired with Dominion Energy's time of use rate program in February with a more robust program in the Spring.
 - Many thanks to all our local government partners and our colleagues at LEAP.

- NVRC Wins Second Community Partnership Award.
 - NVRC was pleased to virtually accept a Community Partnership Award from the US Army along with our partners at Joint Base Myer Henderson Hall for our autonomous vehicle project.
 - Many partners to thank including Local Motors, Arlington County, the United States Marine Corps and others.
 - The Committee is chaired by Supervisor Penny Gross of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. This is the second consecutive partnership award won by the Commission.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Tarter provided a Covid19 Vaccination Update.

COMMUNITY & MILITARY
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE
REPORT

Commissioner Gross provided an update on the recent activities of the Community & Military Partnership Committee.

- Results from the Partnership on Two Projects:
 - The Intergovernmental Support Agreement (IGSA) signed last year resulted in NVRC ordering 600 tons of sand delivered to Marine Base Quantico by 19 January. The fiduciary role NVRC plays resulted in savings for the military and an 8% fee to NVRC.
 - Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall received an Army Community Partnership award on January 13, 2021 for executing a research and demonstration study on the use of connected and autonomous vehicles (i.e., the autonomous shuttle). COL Kimberly Peeples, Base Commander, noted that the award demonstrated how regional, local, state, and federal governments, along with

private industry and the military, can work together to achieve innovative solutions. An article appeared in the ADC newsletter and the video is on TEAMS to watch the Army Partnership Award Ceremony.

- Highlights from the FY21 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA):
 - The Defense Community Infrastructure Program allows DoD to provide matching grants for off-base infrastructure that support military communities. DCIP received \$60 million this year, an increase from \$50 million awarded last year.
 - The Office of Economic Adjustment was codified into law and renamed to the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation.
 - The Land Exchange Authority program expanded and now encompasses a greater number of purposes, including installation maintenance and installation upgrades.
 - Congress authorized that 25% of money saved from IGSA's will be returned to the installation for maintenance.
 - When making basing decisions, military leaders must consider quality of life, such as quality of public schools and barriers to spousal employment.

- One Military, One Community (OMOC) DEI Survey
 - Thank you Commissioner Angry for sharing his story to the Partnership
 - OMOC DEI Survey resulted in nearly 2,000 people from 46 states taking survey from December 3, 2020 to January 8, 2021.
 - ADC will release a national report with a complete analysis of the results in February 2021.
 - Booz Allen Hamilton provided an overview of preliminary survey results for the Northern Virginia area (NoVA).
 - 157 individuals from NoVA took the survey, and the majority of respondents were 41-60 years old and lived in their community for more than two years.
 - Over half of the respondents were Veterans, and the most represented branch of the military was the Army.
 - Half of the respondents were white, and the other half were Black, Hispanic, Asian, and multiracial.
 - Top five areas that need to be addressed to eliminate inequality are K-12 education, criminal justice, housing, healthcare, and employment.
 - More Black, Indigenous, and People of Color respondents agreed or strongly agreed that there are structural barriers preventing equity in housing, youth education, law enforcement, employment, and healthcare
 - There would be more involvement with more information on opportunities to get involved

- Everymind – Community Military Partnership Workshop
 - Focus: Series of Listening Sessions with Military Members and Their Families to Share Stories and Experiences
 - Tentative Date – March 4, 2021 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM
 - Looking for up to 12 participants
 - Session to be facilitated by EveryMind with a Chaplin or Social Worker on hand for support
 - For more information contact:
 - Peggy Tadej peggy.tadej@novaregion.org
 - Aimee Stoddard astoddard@every-mind.org,
Program Manager ServingTogether, a program of EveryMind

- Workhouse Arts Center
 - Announced a Workhouse Military and the Arts Initiative (WMAI) in partnership with the NVRC and underscored their call for artwork submissions
 - Submissions Jan 20 - March 21, 2021
 - The call is open to all branches, veterans, active duty, retired, reserves, and military caregivers, spouses and dependents
 - Support OMOC initiative to impact change in defense communities and help create a better place for all service members and their families to call home
 - The exhibition: May 12 - August 1, 2021

Commissioner Gross also invited Commissioners to attend the upcoming Community and Military Partnership Meeting scheduled to be held virtually on March 11 at 10 am.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of December 10, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Olem and carried. Commissioner Saines and Commissioner Briskman abstained.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Tarter adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

Approved by:

P. David Tarter
Chairman