

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, February 27, 2020

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Walter L. Alcorn
Hon. Victor S. Angry
Hon. Andrea O. Bailey
Hon. Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Hon. Kenny A. Boddye
Hon. Kelly Burk
Hon. John T. Chapman
Hon. Matt de Ferranti
Hon. Laurie A. Dirocco
Hon. Libby Garvey
Hon. Penelope A. Gross
Hon. Pat Herrity
Hon. Caleb A. Kershner
Hon. Rodney L. Lusk
Hon. Lisa Merkel
Hon. David Meyer
Hon. Cydney A. Neville, NVRC Vice Chairman
Hon. Dalia A. Palchik
Hon. Jeanette Rishell
Hon. Kathy L. Smith, NVRC Treasurer
Hon. David Tarter, NVRC Chairman
Hon. Kristen C. Umstatt
Hon. James R. Walkinshaw
Hon. Mark Wolfe

County of Fairfax
County of Prince William
County of Prince William
City of Alexandria
County of Prince William
Town of Leesburg
City of Alexandria
County of Arlington
Town of Vienna
County of Arlington
County of Fairfax
County of Fairfax
County of Loudoun
County of Fairfax
Town of Herndon
City of Fairfax
Town of Dumfries
County of Fairfax
City of Manassas Park
County of Fairfax
City of Falls Church
County of Loudoun
County of Fairfax
City of Manassas

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Lazaro
Linda M. Tenney
Gina Kesselmann-Smith
Allison Doerfler
Normand Goulet
Dale Medearis
Michelle Simmons
Peggy Tadej

Executive Director
Deputy Director
Management Analyst
Transportation Demand Management Outreach Coordinator
Director, Environmental Services
Senior Environmental Planner
Human Services Director
Director, Community and Military Partnerships

OTHERS PRESENT

Gaston Araoz
Dushan Boroyevich
Tiziana Bottino
Igor Cvetkovic
Christina Dimarino
Scott Emery
Ann Hyslop
John Payne
Leo Randys
Steve Walz

Office of U.S. Senator Kaine
Virginia Tech
Greater Prince William Climate Action Network
CPES – Virginia Tech
Virginia Tech
Baumann Consulting
Go NoVA
UHDA
Microsoft
MWCOG

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Tarter called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

ROLL CALL

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

DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATIONS

The Commission received the following presentation:

Data Centers

Commissioners received a briefing by a panel of experts related to the current state of policy and technical developments concerning sustainable energy management of the region's data centers (renewable energy, energy efficiency, building commissioning, heat conveyance, energy storage).

The discussion included policy, regulatory and technological trends affecting short- and long-term sustainable energy management of data centers for the region; and, potential collaborative efforts for 2020 and beyond, that would enhance the sustainable energy management and preserve the economic vitality of this region's data center community – especially in light of Governor Northam's recent declaration to make the Commonwealth's electricity generation carbon-neutral by 2050.

The speakers were:

- Phil Sandino (formerly with Dominion Energy and Raging Wire Data Centers)
- Oliver Baumann (Baumann Consulting)
- Blair Anderson (Amazon)

ACTION ITEMS

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P20-20 – A resolution to support continued full Federal funding of the Chesapeake Bay Program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Neville and carried unanimously.

Background:

The proposed Federal budget proposes to cut funding to the Chesapeake Bay program by 91% from \$85 million to \$7.3 million. The Federal funds from Chesapeake Bay program provides important resources for watershed restoration, protection and monitoring. The resolution expresses support for full Federal funding for the program and that a copy of said resolution be shared with the Northern Virginia Congressional delegation and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

Commissioner DiRocco moved approval of the Resolution No. P20-21 – Amendment to the FY2020 Annual Budget and Programs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Neville and carried unanimously.

Background:

The proposed resolution adjusts the FY2020 Annual Budget to reflect a reduction in expenditures and increase in revenues based upon the receipt of additional grant funds and rent revenue.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for January 2020, a follow up on the Commission's January meeting presentation and the following:

- Transportation Demand Management
 - Our TDM Military Coordinator has been hard at work meeting with base officials, employees and key personnel.
 - **December Outreach Efforts**
 - **Events**
 - Quantico (3) and Belvoir (1)
 - **Meetings/Contacts**
 - DEA, FBI, Arlington Transportation Partners, Vanpool Alliance, OmniRide, Waze, Fairfax DOT
 - **January Outreach Efforts**
 - **Events**
 - Quantico (4) and Belvoir (2)
 - **Meetings/Contacts**
 - DEA, NGA, FBI, Office of Army Administration, OmniRide
- Plant NoVA Natives
 - NVRC was pleased to host a meeting of all of our Plant NoVA Natives partner organizations as they plan their 2020 efforts to promote native plants in the landscape.
 - NVRC was informed that Meadows Farms reported a 33% increase in sales of native plants when you compare 2017 to 2019. We are pleased to support local nurseries who help educate the public about the benefits of native plants to the landscape.
- Green Building in Northern Virginia
 - More than 73% of the square footage of LEED designated non-residential space is located in Northern Virginia – that is more than 110 million square feet.
 - We have updated our interactive dashboard of all the publicly listed space located in Virginia
- PDC Funding from Richmond
 - NVRC participated in the VML, VACO, Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions Day in Richmond.
 - Met with key legislative leaders relative to increasing the funding to PDCs statewide. Proposed increase would provide \$14,000 more in state funding to NVRC. Has been frozen since 2012
- Sharing with other US Regions and our Partners at Region Stuttgart

- NVRC was pleased to participate in discussion hosted by the EU in the US and the Global Covenant of Mayors with other regions in US (including COG) and our partners from the Stuttgart Region regarding climate planning measures.
- Always good to have conversation, share best practices, etc. regarding this important topic. Was great to showcase our partnership with the Stuttgart Region which now has been in place for more than 20 years.
- Upcoming Meeting Schedule
 - **March**
 - Salt Management
 - Economic Impact of Immigrants Report
 - **April**
 - Institutional Solar
 - **May**
 - Dr. Anne Kress – New NVCC President
 - **June**
 - NOVA EDA Update
 - **Other NVRC Events**
 - February 29 – Educators STEM Open House
 - March 12 – Shape of the Region – The Economic Case for Inclusivity
 - April 24 –25: Copenhagenize Bike/Ped Safety Seminar

Mr. Lazaro also added that due to the spread of the Coronavirus NVRC staff has updated the NVRC website to include links to our local Health Departments, the CDC and to the Johns Hopkins University case tracking map/dashboard. Information can be found at the following link: <https://www.novaregion.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=717>.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Tarter reported that the annual Executive Director review is coming up in March and that all the Commissioners will receive an email from the Chairman regarding this review that will include a survey.

GO VIRGINIA REPORT

- **Go Virginia program overview discussions with potential applicants**
 - 2/5: Attended First Chesapeake Scholarship Awards for Outstanding Girls in Robotics for the region
 - 2/6: Met in-person with Fairfax County Gov't to discuss GOVA funds and application process
 - 2/6: Met with NoVA Chamber to provide overview of GoVA program

- 2/11: Conferenced with Fairfax Co. Public Schools Foundation staff to review GOVA funds and application process
- 2/12: Conferenced with potential applicant Bob Mazer of Smart Cities and Terry Clower to observe how he starts ROI process (LOI already submitted)
- 2/14: Met in-person with Cyberjuitzu, who has submitted an LOI

• **Internal Go Northern VA meetings**

- 1/31: Attended Regional Collaboration - Match Requirements stakeholder meeting in Richmond
- 2/7: Conferenced with DHCD, LEF and Sue Rowland to review MOU and contract revisions for LEF project
- 2/7: Attended via conference call Regional Collaboration Traded Sectors and High Wage Jobs stakeholder meeting
- 2/10: Conferenced with Sue Rowland to review Finance committee roles and responsibilities, next steps on Centurion project and general GoVa application process
- 2/13: Facilitated first Finance Committee meeting

• **Looking ahead activities beginning 2/18**

- 2/18: NVTC's Veteran Employment Initiative Meeting
- 2/19: Conference with Sid Banerjee and Prince William County Life Sciences (wet lab)
- 2/19: Pitch call with Centurion
- 2/20: Meeting with Training Futures
- 2/20: Dinner to network with Mitre, George Washington University, and elected officials to discuss Cybersecurity workforce strategy for the region
- 2/21: Attend regional collaboration Project Evaluation – Return on Investment stakeholder meeting in Richmond

MINUTES

Commissioner DiRocco moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of January 23, 2020. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Gross invited Commissioners to attend the next Community and Military Partnership meeting on March 12, 2020 from 10 am to Noon at the NVRC office location.

Commissioner Boddye asked to add the subject of Mental Health to the list of future discussions at the monthly NVRC meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Tarter adjourned the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

Approved by:

P. David Tarter
Chairman