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  County of Fairfax
Hon. Victor S. Angry  County of Prince William
Hon. Andrea O. Bailey  County of Prince William
Hon. Elizabeth Bennett-Parker  City of Alexandria
Hon. Kenny A. Boddy  County of Prince William
Hon. Kelly Burk  Town of Leesburg
Hon. John T. Chapman  City of Alexandria
Hon. Matt de Ferranti  County of Arlington
Hon. Laurie A. Dirocco  Town of Vienna
Hon. Libby Garvey  County of Arlington
Hon. Pat Herrity  County of Fairfax
Hon. Caleb A. Kershner  County of Loudoun
Hon. Rodney L. Lusk  County of Fairfax
Hon. Lisa Merkel  Town of Herndon
Hon. David Meyer  City of Fairfax
Hon. Cydny A. Neville, NVRC Vice Chairman  Town of Dumfries
Hon. Dalia A. Palchik  County of Fairfax
Hon. Jeanette Rishell  City of Manassas Park
Hon. Kathy L. Smith, NVRC Treasurer  County of Fairfax
Hon. David Tarter, NVRC Chairman  City of Falls Church
Hon. Kristen C. Umstattd  County of Loudoun
Hon. James R. Walkinshaw  County of Fairfax
Hon. Mark Wolfe  City of Manassas

STAFF PRESENT
Robert Lazaro  Executive Director
Linda M. Tenney  Deputy Director
Gina Kesselmann-Smith  Management Analyst
Allison Doerfler  Transportation Demand Management Outreach Coordinator
Normand Goulet  Director, Environmental Services
Dale Medearis  Senior Environmental Planner
Michelle Simmons  Human Services Director
Peggy Tadej  Director, Community and Military Partnerships

OTHERS PRESENT
Gaston Araoz  Office of U.S. Senator Kaine
Dushan Boroyevich  Virginia Tech
Tiziana Bottino  Greater Prince William Climate Action Network
Igor Cvetkovic  CPES – Virginia Tech
Christina Dimarino  Virginia Tech
Scott Emery  Baumann Consulting
Ann Hyslop  Go NoVA
John Payne  UHDA
Leo Randys  Microsoft
Steve Walz  MWCOCG
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.
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](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
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

APPROVED BY:

P. David Tarter
Chairman

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Summary Minutes of the Commission

• Internal Go Northern VA meetings
  - 2/11: Conferred with Fairfax Co. Public Schools Foundation staff to review GOVA funds and application process
  - 2/12: Conferred 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 Cyberjuijitsu, who has submitted an LOI

• 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.