

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, May 28, 2020 – via Zoom

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. Boddy
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. Cydny 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. Umstattd
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
Tim Agar
Normand Goulet
Jill Kaneff
Dale Medearis
Michelle Simmons
Peggy Tadej
Allie Wagner

Executive Director
Deputy Director
Management Analyst
Federal Grants Quality Manager
Director, Environmental Services
Demographer
Senior Environmental Planner
Human Services Director
Director, Community and Military Partnerships
Environmental Planner

OTHERS PRESENT

Terance Rephann
Joseph Simonelli
Allegra Joffe

Weldon Cooper Center

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

PRESENTATION

COVID-19 Economic and Tax Revenue Impacts: Estimates for the Commonwealth of Virginia and Localities

The purpose of this presentation was to hear from Terance Rephann, Ph.D., a Regional Economist from the University of Virginia's (UVA) Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service. UVA released a study on April 10th that was authored by Mr. Rephann and titled, *COVID-19 Economic and Tax Revenue Impacts: Estimates for the Commonwealth of Virginia and Localities*. The study examined the potential economic and fiscal impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Commonwealth of Virginia and its localities. The commission presentation included background on the methodological approaches and the findings of the study. The presentation also specifically highlighted the findings for Northern Virginia localities. Key things for localities to consider for assessing impacts going forward were also included.

ACTION ITEMS

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P20-24 – Resolution authorizing the retention of the auditor to conduct the annual audit of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Neville and carried unanimously.

Background:

The recommendation is to retain our existing auditor – Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P20-25 – Resolution authorizing Executive Director to enter into a regional Intergovernmental Service Agreement (IGSA) with the U.S. Military to provide access to cost savings for the military for purchases from VDOT. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Neville and carried unanimously.

Background:

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) has had a long-standing working relationship with the major military facilities in the region. This agreement would allow the military to gain access to lower cost road salt and other transportation related materials from the Virginia Department of Transportation. Federal procurement rules do not allow the military to contract directly with VDOT. NVRC would receive an 8% administrative fee based on the value of the purchase.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P20-26 – Resolution authorizing the acceptance of various Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Funding. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Neville and carried unanimously.

Background:

Authorizes the Executive Director or his designee is authorized to enter into intergovernmental agreements or contracts to accept CARES Act funding, to execute such agreements or amendments with funders as may become necessary over the course of the contract period to implement the CARES Act activities in suburban Virginia, and to amend the Commission's Budget and Work Plan accordingly.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P20-27 – Resolution to receive funds from the Virginia Department of Health to perform various technical assistance activities in support of HIV/Aids care and prevention. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Neville and carried unanimously.

Background:

NVRC authorizes the Executive Director to execute such agreements and amendments with VDH as may be necessary to accomplish NVRC Part B related activities for the 2020-2021 grant year.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING
COMMITTEE

Commissioner Gross reported that the following slate of officers has been nominated for July 2020 – June 2021:

Honorable David Tarter (City of Falls Church) – Chairman
Honorable Cydney A. Neville (Town of Dumfries) – Vice Chairman
Honorable Kathy L. Smith (Fairfax County) – Treasurer

The vote to confirm the nominees will take place at the Commission's June meeting.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

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

- Working with our Local and State Government Partners
 - Twice a week conference calls with Mayors and Chairs with CAOs since March 16
 - Three conference calls with Governor and key Secretariats; commitment from Governor to have key officials on Mayors/Chairs phone calls
 - Daily updates to Mayors, Chairs, Commissioners and CAOs related to regional activities
 - Multiple conference calls with key Secretariats from CARES Act flexibility to Trade and Commerce related issues
- Sharing Regional Information
 - NVRC has created a dedicated web site to sharing regional Coronavirus information:
 - <https://www.coronavirus-novaregion.org/>
- Unprecedented Collaboration and Coordination
 - The region has pulled together significantly with key local leaders meeting/talking virtually sometimes more than twice a week. Including attending a press conference with the Governor with respect to NoVA remaining in Phase 0.
- Tracking the Virus in the Region
 - NVRC has created a dashboard tracking the virus's impact with respect to number of new cases, deaths and

- hospitalizations. Data can be looked at by Health District or the region.
- Major addition to the dashboard is the inclusion of testing data and demographic analysis.
- Communicating with a variety of youtube videos
- Continuing Our Work
 - NVRC was pleased to work with our Military partners at Joint Base Meyer Henderson Hall to assist them with working with VDOT to have highway name and directional signage changed to reflect correct name of facility and to direct traffic to main gate.
- Solarize NoVA
 - Our 2020 Campaign will run from June 15 through August 31. Visit solarizenova.org for details.
 - In-house Home Energy Checkups on hiatus for moment due to temporary suspension of program due to pandemic.
 - We expect that they will be permitted later this year.
- Reopening Our Offices
 - Been in contact with Management Company that operates the building re: their plans with respect to opening.
 - Purchased the necessary supplies (sanitizer, etc.) to clean as needed and appropriate signage.
 - Developing guidelines with respect to operations (no eating in the kitchen, must wear mask in common areas).
 - Looking at possible June 22 limited reopening with reduced staffing. No walk-ins.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of April 23, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Neville and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Tarter adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

Approved by:

P. David Tarter
Chairman