

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, September 27, 2012

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Nader Baroukh	City of Falls Church
Hon. Sharon Bulova	County of Fairfax
Hon. Peter Candland	County of Prince William
Hon. Janet Clarke	County of Loudoun
Hon. John C. Cook	County of Fairfax
Hon. Jay Fisette	County of Arlington
Hon. Gerald M. Foreman II	Town of Dumfries
Hon. Libby Garvey	County of Arlington
Hon. Penelope A. Gross	County of Fairfax
Hon. Pat Herrity	County of Fairfax
Hon. Catherine Hudgins	County of Fairfax
Hon. Robert W. Lazaro, Jr., NVRC Vice Chairman	Town of Purcellville
Hon. Katie Sheldon Hammler for Hon. Fernando "Marty" Martinez	Town of Leesburg
Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay	County of Fairfax
Hon. Lisa C. Merkel	Town of Herndon
Hon. Suhas Naddoni	City of Manassas Park
Hon. Martin E. Nohe, NVRC Chairman	County of Prince William
Hon. Harry J. Parrish II	City of Manassas
Hon. Redella S. Pepper, <i>NVRC Treasurer</i>	City of Alexandria
Hon. Frank J. Principi	County of Prince William
Hon. M. Jane Seeman	Town of Vienna
Hon. R. Scott Silverthorne	City of Fairfax
Hon. Paul C. Smedberg	City of Alexandria
Hon. Linda Smyth	County of Fairfax
Hon. Scott K. York	County of Loudoun

STAFF PRESENT

G. Mark Gibb	Executive Director
Linda M. Tenney	Deputy Director
Linda Summerall	Executive Secretary
Normand Goulet	Sr. Environmental Planner
David Schwengel	Director, Regional Business Planning
Michelle Simmons	Director, Human Services
Peggy Tadej	No. Va. Regional BRAC Coordinator
Aimee Vosper	Director, Environmental & Planning Services
Stephen Walz	Director, Regional Energy Planning

OTHERS PRESENT

Hon. Terrie Suit	Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security
Hon. Tom Davis	Chairman, Virginia's 2005 BRAC Commission
Hon. Cord Sterling	Vice President-Legislative Affairs, Aerospace Industries Association
Hon. Richard Black	Virginia Senate
Col. Greg Gadson	Garrison Commander, Fort Belvoir
Chris Landgraf	Fort Belvoir
John Wells	Leesburg Town Manager
Gene Swearingen	Haymarket Town Manager
Kate Boyle	Fairfax County legislative staff
Mark Brunner	Office of Senator Mark Warner
Will Rowe	Booz Allen Hamilton
John Rosewarne	MCB Quantico
Patrick Durany	Office of Prince William Co. Supervisor John Jenkins
Noelle Dominguez	Fairfax Co. Dept. of Transportation
Laura Miller	Fairfax Co. BRAC

Cyrena Eitler
Dr. Rosemarie Pelletier
Ray Pelletier
Bruce Bennett
Douglas Koelemay
Matt McQueen
Don Carr
Suzanne Curtis
Sue Rowland

*DoD, Office of Economic Adjustment
Public Private Solutions Consulting
Public Private Solutions Consulting
resident, Fairfax Co.
SAIC
Northrup Grumman
Fort Belvoir
DoD
NVRC Legislative Liaison; SR Consulting, Inc.*

- CALL TO ORDER Chairman Nohe called the meeting to order at 7:36 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.
- MINUTES Commissioner York moved the minutes of the July 19, 2012, Commission meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- BRAC ISSUES, NON-DOD FEDERAL AGENCY BUDGET CUTS, SEQUESTRATION Chairman Nohe asked Commissioner McKay, Chairman of the BRAC Committee, to introduce the speakers.

Commissioner McKay noted the BRAC Committee has been meeting regularly. He introduced Terrie Suit, Virginia's Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security; Col. Gregory Gadson, Garrison Commander, Fort Belvoir; former Congressman Tom Davis, Co-chair of Virginia's Commission on Military and National Security Facilities; and Cord Sterling, Vice President-Legislative Affairs for the Aerospace Industries Association, and former staffer to Sen. John Warner and the Senate Armed Services Committee and current member of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors.
- Hon. Cord Sterling* Mr. Sterling addressed the economic impact of sequestration. The 2011 Budget Control Act includes \$917 billion of discretionary cuts, with \$487 billion from defense (with military personnel exempt). The impact of those cuts is starting to be felt throughout the economy.

The 2011 Budget Control Act also created the joint "Super Committee" tasked with finding \$1.2 trillion in cuts; its failure will result in sequestration — across the board cuts — in January. OMB released its report last week: DoD expects 9.4% cuts from its non-exempt programs while the civilian agencies will have 8.2% cuts. Obligated funds for defense programs will continue until spent; the cuts will come from unobligated funds, with the greatest impact on the civilian workforce. Mr. Sterling pointed out that the civilian agencies are personnel-heavy and largely clustered in the D.C. metropolitan area. These cuts will hit Northern Virginia extensively. Since the cuts are scheduled to begin in January — three months into the federal fiscal year — the impact will be compounded.

Dr. Stephen Fuller (economist, George Mason Univ.) estimates 2.14 million American jobs will be lost and employment will rise 1.5% under sequestration. Congressional Budget Office predicts "sequestration will help push the U.S. back into recession next year." In Virginia, it is predicted 207,571 jobs will be lost, with the gross state product declining by \$20.86 billion and income dropping by \$10.63 billion. This has serious ramifications for state and local taxes and funding for programs and services.
- Hon. Tom Davis* Mr. Davis explained the Virginia Commission on Military and National Security Facilities was established when JFCOM was slated for elimination. He advised the local elected officials to prepare for the next BRAC by coordinating regionally, including representatives

from the defense community.

Mr. Davis noted the federal government's borrowing is not sustainable. The intent is to delay until at least March; he does not expect the budget will be taken up in the lame duck Congressional session. In light of the budget situation, Mr. Davis feels a future BRAC is inevitable.

questions & answers Commissioner McKay asked Mr. Davis how he thinks Virginia is positioned in terms of BRAC compared to the other states. Mr. Davis noted that several congressmen from Virginia sit on Armed Services but BRAC can add bases and facilities to the list.

Mr. Davis said he did not believe BRAC will end – it is an ongoing procedure. Mark Brunner (office of Sen. Warner) added that as the military pulls back from the overseas conflicts forces will be drawn down, leaving excess facilities. DoD spends \$55 billion/year in Virginia, more than any other state.

Turning to the budget, Mr. Brunner reported a small group of senators are working on solutions and have sent a letter to the two leaders, Reid and McConnell. While the budget presents challenges the problems are not unsolvable.

Hon. Terri Suit Secretary Suit explained the services can make changes and cuts that are under the trigger of BRAC, adding there will be defense cuts since the two wars are ending. She emphasized the need to make sure other states do not “poach” some of the defense activities in Virginia. Secretary Suite stressed the need for regional coordination in Northern Virginia among the military, public and private sectors, and cited the Hampton Roads defense alliance, the volunteer group in Fredericksburg and Crater PDC as examples. She reiterated that defense cuts are coming regardless of whether or not sequestration takes place.

questions & answers Col. Gadson noted Virginia is unique in that all four services have facilities here, presenting regional challenges. Mr. Brunner urged the group to think offensively for a BRAC strategy.

Matt McQueen (Northrup Grumman) discussed the ripple effects from the uncertainty of budget cuts and/or sequestration. He endorsed the formation of a local government/defense alliance. Doug Koelemay reported SAIC is restructuring into two pieces because it sees a fundamental change in how government contracting is working – there is uncertainty and working with the government presents a risk. Will Rowe (Booz Allen Hamilton) reported he has been through five BRAC rounds – the company follows its clients. He agreed there is no such thing as BRAC proofing but BRAC planning is doable. The Association of Defense Communities recently held a workshop sharing lessons learned from the 2005 round; this forum will be repeated Oct. 30 in D.C. He encouraged the formation of a regional alliance in Northern Virginia.

Commissioner York asked what preparations are being made to assist those who lose their jobs. Secretary Suit said Hampton Roads put a lot of effort into transition assistance, including a transition center. Mr. Davis pointed out the standard unemployment benefits will be available.

Col. Gadson noted the Army is not offering early retirement and is closing the window on re-enlistment.

Commissioner Bulova suggested the BRAC Committee report to the Commission next month on the type of regional structure to be formed.

REPORT: NO. VA.
EFFICIENCY AND
CONSOLIDATION
TASK FORCE

Chairman Nohe noted the report will be recommended at the task force's next meeting on October 25 and the Commission will be asked to approve or reject the report that evening. The final draft report will be included in the Commission's meeting package.

Although there are obstacles to every scenario, the task force identified one scenario that seemed most attainable: some type of consolidation between NVRC and NVTA. Chairman Nohe noted the two share the same cities and counties as members. If a merger happens challenges will need to be overcome. He added the General Assembly may ask about NVTC and PRTC.

Chairman Nohe announced that NVTA and NVRC will begin meeting on the same night at NVRC starting in January.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner York moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of the items outlined below. The motion was seconded and carried with Commissioner Lazaro abstaining.

A. June Financial Reports

B. Resolution No. P13-02: Authorization to Apply For, Accept, and Subcontract Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) 2012-2013 Funds in Suburban Virginia

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Printed copies of the report were distributed:

- Review of PDC Boundaries – decennial review following 2010 census.
- Northern Virginia Training Center – accessible housing in No. Va. doesn't meet needs of the training center population. Medicaid doesn't pay for housing – state policy work group to consider funding mechanisms.
- 911 Outages-Studies – Secure Virginia 911 Sub Panel report due in January will recommend policy, legislation, actions to ensure security & public safety. State Corporation Commission's preliminary findings were issued Sept. 14: numerous & compounding errors, failures & deficiencies; derecho storm highlighted needs without significant negative harm to the public; inherent weakness in Verizon's 911 network design & maintenance, which Verizon recognizes and has initiated corrective actions.
- Commuter Ferry Market Analysis timeline reviewed.
- Real Time Ridesharing beta testing completed; full program kick-off on October 3.
- EPA Stormwater Funding & MS4 Permits – EPA withholding \$1.2M to Virginia out of \$2.4M grant, claiming lack of action on 11 Phase I local government stormwater permits; EPA expects nutrient reductions to be in permits. Arlington's draft permit submitted for review & expected to serve as template for other jurisdictions. Phase II permits under development.
- Potomac Heritage National Trail – Oct. 17-18 workshop In Occoquan for tourism, park & property managers; transportation planners & local government staff; elected officials.
- Otter Award – Virginia Resource Education Council issues award every 4 years. The Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program and partner agencies received the 2012 award – NVRC is a partner.
- No. Va. Clean Water Partners 2012 report summary
- No. Va. Home Energy Makeover – online contest Aug. 1-Sept. 30 includes 3 grand prizes of home energy makeovers; over 1,400 participants.
- International Learning – delegation of 11 federal and provincial officials from Gyeonggi Province, South Korea, met at NVRC regarding the study of human resource development and public personnel systems. Delegation of state and local officials will go to Taipei, Taiwan, in early October to address transportation, education, energy & technology issues.
- No. Va. Demographics – immigration a driving force in the demographic & economic dynamics of the region, with 1 in 4 residents an immigrant.

**CHAIRMAN'S
REPORT**

Chairman Nohe serves on the state executive council for the Comprehensive Services Act. The council is discussing implementation of state-wide continuum of service to make sure at-risk youth have the needed services available throughout the state. He noted that while this is a good program it is expensive, with a good deal of the cost being shifted to the localities over the years. Chairman Nohe wants to be sure that the strategic plan does not shift funding from Northern Virginia to other parts of the state.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Legislative Committee will meet Nov. 8 at noon. All Commissioners are welcome to attend.

Commissioner Foreman raised concern that Quantico Bay is silted in and has hydrilla. The developer of the acreage next to the Bay has offered to pay half the cost of dredging. The town needs help from elected officials in identifying potential grant sources.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Nohe adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director

Approved by:

Martin E. Nohe
Chairman