

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

**Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, June 26, 2014**

**COMMISSIONERS**

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

**Hon. Sharon Bulova**  
**Hon. David S. Butler**  
Hon. Peter Candland  
**Hon. Janet Clarke**  
**Hon. John C. Cook**  
**Hon. Laurie DiRocco**  
Hon. Jay Fisette  
**Hon. Gerald M. Foreman II**  
**Hon. Libby Garvey**  
**Hon. Penelope A. Gross, NVRC Vice Chairman**  
Hon. Pat Herrity  
Hon. Catherine Hudgins  
**Hon. Frank Jones**  
Hon. Robert W. Lazaro, Jr., *NVRC Chairman*  
Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay  
**Hon. Lisa C. Merkel**  
Hon. Martin E. Nohe  
Hon. Harry J. Parrish II  
**Hon. Redella S. Pepper, NVRC Treasurer**  
Hon. Frank J. Principi  
Hon. R. Scott Silverthorne  
Hon. Paul C. Smedberg  
Hon. Linda Smyth  
Hon. David Tarter  
Hon. Scott K. York

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

**STAFF PRESENT**

G. Mark Gibb *Executive Director*  
Linda M. Tenney *Deputy Director*  
Ken Billingsley *Director, Demographics & Information Services*  
Dale Medearis *Sr. Environmental Planner*  
Michelle Simmons *Director, Human Services*  
David Schwengel *Director, Regional Business Planning*  
Peggy Tadej *No. Va. Regional BRAC Coordinator*  
Aimee Vosper *Director, Planning and Environmental Services*

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Bruce Bennett *Hunter Mill Traffic Calming Committee*  
Kate Boyle *Fairfax Co. legislative staff*  
Lynn Chapman *Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Board of Directors*  
Michael Cooper *Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Government Relations*  
Anthony H. Griffin *Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Board of Directors*  
Hon. Joan Lehr *Council Member, Town of Purcellville*  
David Mould *Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Government Relations*  
Sue Rowland *NVRC Legislative Liaison; SRConsulting, Inc.*

CALL TO ORDER In the absence of Chairman Lazaro, Vice Chairman Gross called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

**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**                                 Vice Chairman Gross directed attention to minutes placed on the table, and containing a typographical correction to the slate of officers recommended by the Nominating Committee. Commissioner Bulova moved approval of the minutes of the Commission meeting of May 22, 2014, as corrected. The motion was seconded by Commissioner DiRocco and carried unanimously.

**RECOGNITION**                         Vice Chairman Gross welcomed Purcellville Council member Joan Lehr, who will be the new representative to NVRC from the Town of Purcellville.

**FOLLOW UP TO JUNE 2, 2014 REGIONAL AIRPORTS MEETING**                         Vice Chairman Gross reported that the regional meeting on June 2 had been well attended and had a robust agenda. She welcomed Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) Board members Lynn Chapman and Anthony H. Griffin. She also recognized David Mould and Michael Cooper from the MWAA Government Relations staff.

Mr. Mould said that the June 2 Dulles summit was a great success and a good way to reach opinion leaders on issues Dulles airport is dealing with. He expressed appreciation for support from NVRC Chairman Bob Lazaro, Executive Director Mark Gibb, and key staff member David Schwengel, in organizing and holding the summit. The three main take-aways from the meeting were: 1) airports are a major driver for the area's economy; 2) the value in regional cooperation was demonstrated – as was also the case recently by the Commonwealth and the District of Columbia working together with the airports and the economic development agencies to bring Air China service to Dulles, a change that will bring more passengers to Dulles and that will have a positive economic impact; and 3) there is value in keeping the two airports in balance consistent with their original design.

He added that after the November election and before the FAA reauthorization comes up in Congress, all the networking being done by MWAA will be revisited to keep everyone up-to-date, and to let everyone know what they can do to advance this agenda for the airports and their contributions to the local economy.

Mr. Cooper said the forum on June 2 was an opportunity to reveal some of the inner workings of the airport, and some of the challenges it is facing right now. He referred to handouts: the agenda from the June 2 meeting, along with some details from the presentation made by MWAA's President and CEO, Jack Potter, at that meeting – with tabs labeled taxes, incomes and jobs – to provide information on the economic impact of the airport in individual jurisdictions. A third handout summarized Mr. Potter's presentation on MWAA's response to the Dulles situation.

Maintaining an optimum balance between Dulles and National airports is the most immediate of MWAA's challenges, especially since both have a tremendous impact on the surrounding areas. He provided an example of Congressional involvement in changing slot and perimeter rules, which effectively diverted passenger volumes from Dulles to National, increasing the debt load (costs per passenger) at Dulles as well as infringing on its ability to make domestic connections.

Some issues will be resolved between MWAA and the individual airlines through use and

lease agreement negotiations. Also, there are some interests that are being recognized nationally, such as how airports are financed globally, and passenger facility charges. Other “macro” issues are still emerging and coalitions are building. So, this is the time for leaders of the region to come together and organize to meet the upcoming challenges.

There will be changes in Congress after the elections that will need to be taken into account as the FAA reauthorization approaches in 2015. This is all about preparing the regional community for the discussions ahead. MWAA is cooperating with national efforts underway with sectors (e.g., hospitality, car rental, construction businesses) that are affected by airport changes.

Mr. Cooper invited Commissioners to contact MWAA’s Government Relations staff member, Debbie Lipman, whose business card was distributed. She will be the point of contact who will be coordinating messaging and working with national trade association groups, including the airline industry, If and when NVRC decides to pass a resolution, Ms. Lipman will help create one with an impact that has the maximum effect for the time it is delivered, at whatever level it goes out.

Vice Chairman Gross commented on a couple of articles provided by MWAA and published during the past week, as an indication of the type of media coverage that could be generated. The articles failed to recognize the tremendous amount of work the communities have done over the years to mitigate the issues mentioned.

Commissioner Bulova thanked MWAA for attending and said the June 2 forum was very helpful, especially in recalling that Dulles was built where it is with the amount of space that it has, in order to serve as an expansion airport for international and long distance flights, since National was smaller (800 acres vs 12,000 acres at Dulles). The contrast also is present in how land was developed (no residential communities in Dulles flight paths), and the effect of changing the use of the airports is evident in the communities around National, in terms of noise, traffic and activity. The destabilization also increases costs to passengers and the airlines. This is something we all should care about and weigh in on.

Commissioner Merkel said the Town of Herndon will be a vocal advocate.

Commissioner Gross said NVRC should coordinate its actions with MWAA, and hoped that MWAA representatives would provide periodic briefings to keep the Commission informed.

Mr. Cooper concluded that the outlook is not all “doom and gloom”: taking into account all the airports on the east coast, Dulles has unparalleled opportunity for growth, which makes the region well-positioned to maximize the potential of that airport.

Mr. Gibb pointed out that many Commissioners have links to Capitol Hill and connections to other parts of the country. These should not be overlooked as we move ahead.

Mr. Mould said MWAA would be glad to come back from time to time, to keep everyone updated.

EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR'S  
REPORT

Printed copies of the report were distributed, reporting on the following:

- Ferry Market Assessment Study: Complete
- FTA Grant Award
- Fair Housing
- Charrette Update
- Four Mile Run Restoration Update
- White's Ford – part of NVRC Sponsored Earmark
- White's Ford Park Dedication, June 9, 2014
- Residential Stormwater Best Management Practices Workshop
- Demographics National Rankings Report
- International Learning
- VAPDC Update
- Office Move

Mr. Gibb recognized Ken Billingsley to provide an introduction to the newest edition of the National Rankings Report.

CHAIRMAN'S  
REPORT

Vice Chairman Gross said she did not have a report.

AUTHORIZATION  
TO PURSUE  
INCORPORATION  
AND RELATED  
ACTIVITIES FOR  
NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
ASSOCIATED WITH  
NVRC

Commissioner Jones introduced Resolution No. P14-33, which would provide the authorization to file with the State Corporation Commission for incorporation of the NovaRegion Foundation and subsequently for not-for-profit status with the IRS. Once established, the Foundation should be able to qualify for funding that is not available to NVRC itself. The Foundation would function as an aligned "sister organization," with a majority of Board appointments made by the Commission. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve Resolution No. P14-33. Commissioner Bulova seconded the motion.

Commissioner Bulova commented that NVRC has been working on this goal for a long time and thanked everyone who contributed to it. The Foundation will provide a new ability to raise much-needed funds for NVRC's work.

The vote was taken and the Resolution was adopted unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION  
TO CREATE AN  
INTERNATIONAL  
COMMITTEE

Due to Commissioner York's absence, Vice Chairman Gross called on Mr. Gibb to introduce Resolution No. P14-34. He explained that Commissioner York and Chairman Lazaro had been discussing this opportunity, and have worked with staff to develop the idea of having a committee to focus on the types of international learning activities we have been involved in for several years. Mr. Gibb directed attention to two items on the table: a letter from Chairman Lazaro to the Governor, dated April 25, 2014, written just after NVRC organized an event that brought the Virginia Governor to the French Embassy. The second item was a list of top ten foreign investors in Virginia. It shows who Virginia's business partners really are – but it doesn't "drill down" to the regional level. Establishing the new committee would help define what we should be doing, where we should focus.

Commissioner Gross clarified that the Resolution calls for formation of the committee, but is not specifying a specific membership, which would be determined later.

Commissioner Bulova commented that this is a truly unique niche that NVRC has gravitated toward. It has been extraordinarily valuable and has opened doors in ways that were not expected. She noted that sponsors have covered travel expenses.

Vice Chairman Gross added that a Kentucky regional council was the only other one of which she was aware that has an established relationship with another country, the Czech Republic.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Bulova, seconded by Commissioner Foreman, the vote was taken and passed unanimously.

COMMITMENT TO  
NORTHERN  
VIRGINIA'S  
WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT

Commissioner Clarke introduced Resolution No. P14-35, explaining the community is looking for some expression of commitment from the Commission for serving as a convener and for supporting the community's efforts in workforce development. One example of the latter would be for the Commission to establish a portal that would be a single point of access to workforce-related resources throughout all the jurisdictions of the region. Right now, this type of information is isolated, distributed, and in silos. Other areas in the country are taking similar actions and are stronger for it.

Upon Commissioner Clarke's motion, seconded by Commissioner Garvey, the vote was taken and Resolution No. P14-35 was approved unanimously.

MONTHLY  
REPORTS

Reporting for the Legislative Committee, Commissioner Cook said the General Assembly approved a budget and is in recess.

ELECTION OF  
OFFICERS

Vice Chairman said the Nominating Committee recommended the following slate of officers at the last meeting:

Chairman: Current Vice Chairman PePenelope A. Gross (Fairfax County)

Vice Chairman: Lisa C. Merkel (Town of Herndon)

Treasurer: Current Treasurer Redella S. Pepper (Alexandria)

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Butler, seconded by Commissioner DiRocco, the slate of officers was elected with a unanimous vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Gross adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

G. Mark Gibb  
Executive Director

Approved by:

Penelope A. Gross  
Vice Chairman