

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

**Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, September 20, 2001**

8:00 p.m.

**COMMISSIONERS**

(The names of those present are highlighted)

Commissioner Hilda M. Barg	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Commissioner Charles J. Billand	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Commissioner Albert J. Boudreau	<i>Town of Vienna</i>
Commissioner Christopher K. Brown	<i>Town of Dumfries</i>
<b>Commissioner Sharon Bulova</b> (arrived 8:17 p.m.)	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
<b>Commissioner James C. Chesley</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
Commissioner William C. Cleveland	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Commissioner Gerald E. Connolly	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Anna F. Dixon	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Albert C. Eisenberg	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Commissioner Barbara A. Favola	<i>County of Arlington</i>
<b>Commissioner Jay Fisette</b> (arrived 8:09 p.m.)	<b>County of Arlington</b>
<b>Commissioner Brenda Z. Greene</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
<b>Commissioner Penelope A. Gross</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
<b>Commissioner Katherine K. Hanley, NVRC Chairman</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
Commissioner Mark R. Herring	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Commissioner John F. Herrity	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
<b>Commissioner Edgar B. Holley</b>	<b>County of Prince William</b>
Commissioner Catherine Hudgins	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
<b>Commissioner John D. Jenkins</b>	<b>County of Prince William</b>
<b>Commissioner Lyman Krekel</b>	<b>City of Falls Church</b>
<b>Commissioner Jesse Ludvigsen</b>	<b>City of Manassas Park</b>
Commissioner Elaine N. McConnell	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Stuart Mendelsohn	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Charles Monroe	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Commissioner Sally B. Ormsby	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Harry J. Parrish, II	<i>City of Manassas</i>
Commissioner Redella S. Pepper	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Commissioner J. Chapman Petersen	<i>City of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Alice Keane Putman	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
<b>Commissioner Robert Rapanut</b>	<b>City of Alexandria</b>
<b>Commissioner Lilla D. Richards</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
Commissioner Steven A. Rogers	<i>City of Falls Church</i>
<b>Commissioner Thomas Davis Rust</b> (arrived 8:22 p.m.)	<b>Town of Herndon</b>
<b>Commissioner Kristen C. Umstattd, NVRC Treasurer</b>	<b>Town of Leesburg</b>
<b>Commissioner Edgar S. Wilbourn, III</b>	<i>County of Prince William</i>
<b>Commissioner William R. Wren</b>	<b>City of Manassas Park</b>
<b>Commissioner Scott K. York, NVRC Vice Chairman</b>	<b>County of Loudoun</b>
Vacancy (1)	<i>City of Fairfax</i>
Vacancy (1)	<i>City of Manassas</i>
Vacancy (1)	<i>County of Prince William</i>

**STAFF PRESENT**

G. Mark Gibb	<i>Executive Director</i>
Linda Tenney	<i>Deputy Director</i>
Linda Summerall	<i>Executive Secretary</i>
Kenneth Billingsley	<i>Director, Demographics</i>
David L. Bulova	<i>Director, Environmental Services</i>
Normand Goulet	<i>Sr. Environmental Planner/Info. Systems Mgmt. Analyst</i>
Douglas Pickford	<i>Director, Economic Analysis and Heritage Resources</i>
Sue Rowland	<i>Director, Human Services</i>
Michelle Simmons	<i>Deputy Division Director, Human Services</i>
James Van Zee	<i>Director, Regional Planning Services</i>

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Dusty Smith  
Jim Stevens  
James Wilding

*Times Community Papers*  
*Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority*  
*President, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority*

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Hanley called the meeting to order at 7:58 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Hanley noted the special meaning the Pledge of Allegiance has taken on in the past few days. She added that the thoughts of the Commissioners and staff are for the victims of last week's terrorist attack and the rescue workers. 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 Richards moved approval of the minutes of the July 26, 2001, Commission meeting. The motion was seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairman Hanley announced that tonight's presentation would be changed to a report on National Airport that would be given later during the meeting to allow for late-arriving members.

CONSENT AGENDA Commissioner Richards moved the consent agenda, consisting of the items outlined below. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

- A. Financial Reports for July and August 2001
- B. Resolution No. P02-06: NVRC Selection of Appointee to the Board of Directors of the Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia
- C. Resolution No. P02-03: Authorization for the Executive Director to Submit a Proposal for Implementation of an Environmentally-Friendly Lawn Care Contractor Promotion Program

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Mr. Gibb reported that the Governor's Conference on Greenways was held earlier in the week in Crystal City. The conference was well attended by 600 people. NVRC staff member helped compile the Potomac River Water Trail map collection.
- B. Mr. Gibb announced that NVRC staff will assist the Town of Vienna with a charrette on November 1-3. Commissioners are invited to attend.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Hanley read a letter from the Verband Region Stuttgart offering condolence and support from the terrorist attack.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Richards moved election by acclamation of the slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2002. The motion was seconded.

Chairman Hanley asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, Commissioner Jenkins moved that the slate be closed. The motion was seconded. The following members were elected unanimously:

Chairman Katherine Hanley

Vice Chairman Scott York  
Treasurer Kristen Umstattd

RESOLUTION  
NO. P02-07

**TRANSMITTAL OF THE FY 2003 PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND PROGRAMS TO MEMBER GOVERNORS**

Commissioner Umstattd reported that the preliminary FY 2003 budget does not increase dues from FY 2002. The Operations Committee recommends adoption of the FY 2003 Preliminary Budget and Programs.

Commissioner Umstattd moved adoption of Resolution No. P02-07. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

COMMITTEE  
REPORTS  
*Operations*

Commissioner Umstattd reported that the Operations Committee recommends two resolutions to the Commission; the second resolution will be introduced after the presentation.

Resolution No. P02-09, offering support of public employees following the September 11 terrorist attack, was reviewed by the members. Commissioner Umstattd moved approval of Resolution No. P02-09. The motion was seconded. Commissioner Richards suggested that "private aircraft" be changed to "commercial aircraft." Resolution No. P02-09 was unanimously adopted as amended.

PRESENTATION

*National Airport*

*James Wilding*

Chairman Hanley introduced James Wilding, President of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, and thanked him for coming this evening.

Mr. Wilding remarked on the extraordinarily critical situation at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, noting that approximately 430 out of 450 commercial airports in the United States came back into operation last Thursday, September 13, two days after the terrorist attacks. The airspace left the operational control of the Federal Aviation Administration and went under the control of the North American Air Defense Command for 48 hours. Presently, the airlines are not flying at full capacity, and that is expected to be the case for the near future.

The National Security Council moved in to effectively command and control the aviation sector. Aircraft were flown out of National Airport this past weekend under special arrangements. Mr. Wilding expressed confidence that security measures can be put in place that will permit National Airport to be operational. He noted that the Air Line Pilots Association favors reopening National Airport.

National Airport handles about 45,000 passengers daily, and the D.C. area can meet its air transportation needs only through the operation of its three airports (National, Dulles, and BWI).

Mr. Wilding noted the precarious situation for the businesses at National Airport, which employ 10,000 people, including the flight crews. National Airport contributes \$5.5 billion per year to the local communities.

*Katherine Hanley*

Chairman Hanley asked about flights using only the southern route. Mr. Wilding said it would be limited, as flights are dependent on the direction of the wind; airplanes operate into the wind.

Chairman Hanley asked about the bonds for the expansion at National and Dulles. Mr. Wilding replied that several billion dollars remain outstanding. The \$3.4 billion

expansion program at Dulles is based on the operation of both Dulles and National. Closing National Airport would leave the federal government with \$1 billion in debt to repay, and it would take another \$2-3 billion to replace the capacity lost if National remains closed.

*Lilla Richards* In reply to Commissioner Richards' inquiry, Mr. Wilding said it is not a viable option to switch the operations of National Airport with Andrews Air Force Base.

*Jesse Ludvigsen* Mr. Wilding confirmed that National Airport has been a long-term but low-level security issue for the federal government, but it had not been in the forefront.

In reply to Commissioner Ludvigsen's second question, Mr. Wilding said he is not aware that any study or agency has looked at the viability of turning National Airport into a mall or a trucking/shipping facility.

*Robert Rapanut* Mr. Wilding stated that if the northern flight path was "tweaked" a little more over Virginia, the White House would be only 22 seconds away versus the current 20 seconds.

*Jay Fiset* Commissioner Fiset thanked Mr. Wilding, Governor Gilmore, the Northern Virginia Delegation, and the Greater Washington Board of Trade for their support for reopening National Airport.

Mr. Wilding confirmed that the flight paths from Dulles and BWI bring planes within 60 seconds from the White House.

Commissioner Fiset announced that the chief elected officials from the jurisdictions in the greater D.C. area will meet September 21 at 11:00 a.m. at MWCOG to discuss National Airport. Commissioner Fiset urged the members to be sure their mayors and chairs are aware of this meeting.

*E. Bruce Holley* Mr. Wilding said he does not know if air marshals will ride every flight but expects that will be the case when National Airport reopens.

*Resolution  
No. P02-10*

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RONALD REAGAN WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT**

Commissioner Umstadd reported that the Operations Committee had discussed and approved this resolution at its meeting immediately prior to the Commission meeting. She moved adoption of Resolution No. P02-10. The motion was seconded. Commissioner Fiset moved amendment by adding the phrase "in Arlington, Virginia, ..." after "the Pentagon." The motion was seconded.

Resolution No. P02-10 was adopted as amended with one opposed.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

*Western  
Transportation  
Corridor*

Commissioner Wilbourn agreed to Chairman Hanley's suggestion that this item be deferred to the Commission's October meeting. Chairman Hanley pointed out that the Commission does not have authority to make transportation decisions.

**ADJOURNMENT** There being no further business Chairman Hanley adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

G. Mark Gibb  
Executive Director

Katherine K. Hanley  
Chairman