

New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority

Minutes

January 16, 2025

11:30 a.m.

Pulaski County Innovation Center

Attendees: Angie Hill, Mary Biggs and Steve Fijalkowski, Montgomery County; Randy Wingfield and Mike Barber, Town of Christiansburg; C.B. Andrews and Ricky McCoy, Giles County; David Horton, City of Radford; Shannon Collins, Town of Pulaski; Lynsay Belshe, Virginia Tech; Larry Spencer and Jerry Ford, Town of Blacksburg; Angela Joyner and Brandon Cohen, Radford University; Dirk Compton, Pulaski County; Kevin Byrd and Chris Owens, New River Valley Regional Commission; and Reid Broughton, Sands Anderson PC.

Others Present: Ann Cassell, NRV Passenger Rail; Christopher Robinson, Wendel; and John Neel, Foresight Design.

Absent: Jonathan Sweet, Pulaski County; Todd Day, Town of Pulaski; Dwyn Taylor, Virginia Tech.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mike Barber, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 11:45 am.

a. Oath of office for any new appointees—None present.

II. Minutes from November 21, 2024

Motion: Mary Biggs moved for approval of the November 21st minutes.

Jerry Ford seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. Second Review of Term Sheet—Reid Broughton, Legal Counsel

a. Roles and Responsibilities document between VPRA and Station Authority—Mr. Broughton presented VPRA's response for review. There was a discussion about the changes, and it was noted that the VPRA has been working with the engineers to determine the utility needs.

IV. Review Draft Participation Agreement—Reid Broughton, Legal Counsel

Discuss voting methodology in draft agreement—The Board reviewed and discussed the example voting scenario options. Board agreed to use a Majority Vote with weighted representation shown as Example 4 (using Option 3 for contribution amounts) on pages 4 and 5 of the Participation Agreement.

V. VPRA Update—Colin Burch, VPRA—Mr. Burch reported that the that the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been approved pending Department of Historic Resources (DHR) review. It was also noted that the VPRA is required to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with DHR. The environmental clearance allows for pre-construction activity to get underway at the site. Further

coordination with DHR is required for the station building; however, site construction can take place up to 20 feet from the building. Mr. Burch also reported a groundbreaking event has been scheduled for Thursday March 20, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

VI. Grants Update

- a. Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) for preliminary Architecture/Engineering costs—Mr. Byrd reported that we now have the ARC contract and that the New River Valley Regional Commission continues to work with the A/E firm to finalize the scope of work for the contract. It was also noted that invoices for the match commitments will be going out this week.
- b. CRISI grant for construction—Board agreed to use option 3 for the contribution structure.
- c. Miscellaneous — Mr. Byrd noted that reappointment documentation for all those initially appointed for a 2-year term is still needed for a few members. He also noted that the annual Statement of Economic Interest (SOEI)/Financial Disclosure Statements (FDS) are due by February 3rd.

VII. NRV Passenger Rail Organization Update—Ann Cassell

Ms. Cassell reported that calendars with the NRV Passenger Rail logo prominently positioned were sent out to all the General Assembly members by David Bailey and Associates. The 2025 invoices to support NRV Passenger Rail will be reduced by 50%. This enables NRV Passenger Rail to retain the services of David Bailey being engaged with the project in Richmond while recognizing project expenses are shifting from NRV Passenger Rail to the Station Authority efforts. She also shared NRV Passenger Rail is facilitating a meeting with Gubernatorial candidate Abigail Spanberger to brief her on the project on Saturday January 18th.

VIII. Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2025 Officers

- a. Vote on Officers for 2025—The Nominating Committee identified the following slate of officers:

Chair—Mike Barber, Town of Christiansburg

Vice Chair—Angie Hill, Montgomery County

Secretary—Lynsay Belshe, Virginia Tech

Treasurer—Dirk Compton, Pulaski County

Election of Officer Positions for 2025

Motion: C.B. Andrews moved to accept the Slate of Officers as presented.

Mary Biggs seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

IX. Next Meeting Date—February 27, 2025

X. Adjourn