

# **New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority**

## **Minutes**

January 22, 2026

11:30 a.m.

Pulaski County Innovation Center

Attendees: Angie Hill, Mary Biggs, Montgomery County; Mike Barber, Scot Shippee, and Kim Eagle, Town of Christiansburg; C.B. Andrews and Ricky McCoy, Giles County; Jonathan Sweet, Pulaski County; David Horton and Melissa Skelton, City of Radford; Larry Spencer, Town of Blacksburg; Shannon Collins, Town of Pulaski; Nichole Hair and Chris Stafford, Radford University; Dwyn Taylor, Virginia Tech; Kevin Byrd and Chris Owens, New River Valley Regional Commission; and Reid Broughton, Sands Anderson PC.

Others Present: Colin Burch and Jenna Friedberg, Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (via Zoom); Ann Cassell, NRV Passenger Rail; Robert Natale and Alyson Gregorowicz, Wendel; and Chris Robinson, Wendel (via Zoom).

Absent: Dirk Compton, Pulaski County; Steve Fijalkowski, Montgomery County; Jerry Ford, Town of Blacksburg; Todd Day, Town of Pulaski; Angela Joyner, Radford University; Lynsay Belshe, Virginia Tech; Todd Meredith, City of Radford; and John Neel, Foresight Design Services.

### **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—New appointees, Dr. Kim Eagle, Scot Shippee and Nichole Hair were sworn in just prior to the meeting being called to order.

### **II. Minutes from October 23, 2025**

Motion: Ms. Biggs moved for approval of the October 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes.

Mr. Horton seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

### **III. Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Update—Colin Burch and Jenna Friedberg, VPRA**

- a. Site construction update: Mr. Burch reported that construction by Norfolk Southern contractors at both the Cambria station and the overnight location in Radford is progressing on schedule. The turnout has been installed in Radford, and the switch has been installed in Cambria. Mr. Burch then shared a video of the switch track being installed at the Cambria location.
- b. Historical marker/sign content—Mr. Burch reported that the VPRA had been working with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources to develop the narrative for the historical marker signage. A draft was distributed for review by the board. Mr. Byrd shared feedback received by board members on the draft and VPRA has incorporated the edits.

- IV. Architecture/Engineering Building Update—Chris Robinson, Robert Natale, Alyson Gregorowicz, and John Neel (Wendel and Foresight Design)
  - a. Architecture Committee activity synopsis: Mr. Taylor reported the committee met in December and January. He also reported the discussions included reviewing the color pallet (interior and exterior), flooring materials, roofing materials and window options which were shared at the board meeting by the architecture/engineering team.
  - b. Chris Robinson, Robert Natale, Alyson Gregorowicz presented the 60% design drawings of the station building for review and discussion. The selections identified by the Architecture Committee were confirmed by the board. It was noted that the 60% design drawings were submitted to Amtrak for review to ensure the building addresses Amtrak requirements before proceeding toward final design.
  
- V. Grants Update
  - a. ARC for preliminary Architecture/Engineering costs—Grant funds and matching funds are being drawn as the consultant team provides invoices as benchmarks are met. The next quarterly report and remittance for ARC is in progress.
  - b. CRISI grant for construction—A statement of work is required to establish the subgrantee agreement. It will include the required Amtrak digital technology, environmental remediation, and construction. A draft was submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for its review in the fall. As the construction scope becomes more definitive, the statement of work will be updated and reviewed by the FRA.
  
- VI. NRV Passenger Rail Organization Update (Ann Cassell)—  
Ms. Cassell reported that NRV Passenger Rail Organization attended an event hosted by David Bailey in Richmond held each year on the first day of the General Assembly session in 2026.
  
- VII. Next Meeting Date—February 22, 2026
  
- VIII. Adjourn