

New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority

Minutes

May 22, 2025

11:30 a.m.

Pulaski County Innovation Center

Attendees: Angie Hill and Mary Biggs, Montgomery County; Randy Wingfield and Mike Barber, Town of Christiansburg; C.B. Andrews, Giles County; David Horton and Craig Meadows, City of Radford; Jerry Ford and Larry Spencer, Town of Blacksburg; Angela Joyner and Chris Stafford, Radford University; Lynsay Belshe and Dwyn Taylor, Virginia Tech; Jonathan Sweet, Pulaski County; Kevin Byrd and Chris Owens, New River Valley Regional Commission; and Reid Broughton, Sands Anderson PC.

Others Present: Ronald Reekes, Chris Robinson, and Robert Natale, Wendel.

Absent: Ricky McCoy, Giles County; Shannon Collins and Todd Day, Town of Pulaski; Melissa Skelton, City of Radford; and Dirk Compton, Pulaski County.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mike Barber, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 11:50 pm.

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

II. Minutes from April 24, 2025

Motion: Mary Biggs moved for approval of the April 24th minutes.

Lynsay Belshe seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. Development Agreement with VPRA (previously referred to as Term Sheet)—Reid Broughton, Legal Council

- a. One change to the agreement (pg. 6) was pointed out by Mr. Broughton. The NRV PRSA will be responsible for providing digital technology within the train station and Amtrak will provide all digital technology on the platform. Digital Technology includes message boards, displays, and security. There was a discussion about the costs, and it was pointed out that this was an eligible expense for the CRISI grant.

Motion: Jonathan Sweet moved to approve the Development Agreement with VPRA.

Mary Biggs seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

- IV. VPRA Update—Colin Burch, VPRA
The groundbreaking ceremony held on April 24, 2025 well attended by people from all over the state to include federal, state, and local government leadership along with Norfolk Southern and Amtrak. Mr. Burch also reported that they received the land disturbance permits and work on the layover facility in Radford was in progress.
- V. Grants Update
 - a. ARC for preliminary Architecture/Engineering costs—In progress, the next quarterly report/remittance is due in June.
 - b. CRISI grant for construction—The Federal Rail Administration (FRA) has assigned a new project manager to the project. VPRA will coordinate a meeting with FRA. When the time is appropriate, a subrecipient agreement will need to be executed between the NRVPRSA and VPRA.
- VI. NRV passenger Rail Organization Update—No report at this time.
- VII. Architecture/Engineering Building Layout Discussion—Chris Robinson and John Neel (Wendel and Foresight Design)—It was reported that the NEPA review was in progress and that they were working to get an approval from the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) at the Department of Historic Resources (DHR). Need SHPO direction before final plans can be prepared. It was also reported that there is approximately 1,200 sq.ft. in unassigned space known as the former baggage area. The board discussed potential uses and asked the design team to prepare alternatives for review at the next meeting to be held in August.
- VIII. Next Meeting Date—August 28, 2025
- IX. Adjourn