

New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority

Minutes

May 25, 2023

11:30 a.m.

Pulaski County Innovation Center – New River Room

Attendees: Jonathan Sweet, Pulaski County; Sherri Blevins and Craig Meadows, Montgomery County; Jerry Ford and Larry Spencer, Town of Blacksburg; Randy Wingfield, Christiansburg; Darlene Burcham, Town of Pulaski; David Horton and David Ridpath, City of Radford; C.B. Andrews, Giles County; Angela Joyner and Laura Quesenberry, Radford University; Lynsay Belshe, Virginia Tech; Kevin Byrd and Chris Owens, New River Valley Regional Commission; and Reid Broughton, Sands Anderson PC.

Absent: Dirk Compton, Pulaski County; Mike Barber, Christiansburg; Shannon Collins, Town of Pulaski; Ricky McCoy, Giles County; and Chris Kiwus, Virginia Tech.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Craig Meadows, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 11:45 am.

a. Oath of office for any new appointees—No new appointees present.

II. Minutes from February 23, 2023

Motion: Mr. Ridpath moved for approval of the February 23rd minutes.

Ms. Horton seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. Update on the Status of the Request for Qualifications Process

Mr. Byrd reported six (6) proposals were received and they had been reviewed by the RFQ Review Team. A discussion followed about the submittals and the interviewing process. Board members volunteered for the Interview Committee, and it was agreed the top four (4) firms would be invited for an interview. Interview Committee members include: Darlene Burcham, Randy Wingfield, Craig Meadows, Kevin Byrd, and Christina Owens.

IV. Station Authority Logo/Branding

a. Discuss and consider selecting logo/brand for the Authority—three different logos were presented to the board. There was a discussion about the logos and their potential uses. The feedback and suggestions will be used to make a few minor changes. Revised versions will be presented at the next meeting.

- V. Roles of NRV Passenger Rail Station Authority and NRV Passenger Rail
 - a. Discuss the roles of the Station Authority and the NRV Passenger Rail regional collaborative. Consensus among the board is the NRV Passenger Rail can serve an important advocacy role for the project while the Authority will remain focused on the development and operations of the station facility. The role of NRV Passenger Rail is anticipated to be needed through service starting in Christiansburg. The two entities will continue to work closely together, attending meetings of both organizations and will coordinate any external aspects of the project when warranted.
- VI. Project Update
 - a. Opportunity for any clarifying questions from the virtual meeting held by the Virginia Passenger Rail Station Authority last month. No updates at this time; still awaiting findings from additional engineering/environmental studies being conducted by VPRA.
- VII. Next Meeting Date—June 22, 2023 at 11:30