

New River Valley Passenger Rail Station Authority

Minutes

August 28, 2025

11:30 p.m.

Pulaski County Innovation Center

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

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

Absent: Angie Hill, Montgomery County; Todd Day, Town of Pulaski; Chris Stafford, Radford University; and Jonathan Sweet 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 May 22, 2025
Motion: Lynsay Belshe moved for approval of the May 22nd minutes.
Mary Biggs seconded the motion.
Discussion: None
Action: Motion carried unanimously.
- III. VPRA Update—Colin Burch, VPRA—Mr. Burch reported on the site development progress by Norfolk Southern contractors at the Cambria station location and the train overnight location in Radford. Trees have been removed, site grading along the tracks and parking area is complete, installation of stormwater infrastructure continues, sheet walls are being installed at both locations, and the station platform is in progress.
- IV. Architecture/Engineering Building Layout Discussion—Chris Robinson, Robert Natale, and Alyson Gregorowicz (Wendel)—It was reported that hazardous materials have been identified in the train station building. Specific testing and mitigation (removal and/or encapsulation) will be incorporated into the construction bid package. There was a discussion about the need to increase the size of the waiting room to meet Amtrak's minimum standards. This can be accomplished by removing the former ticket booth area. Further, by removing the former ticket booth area the visual lines inside the building open thereby providing an increased level of security. The board discuss potential uses of the extra space in the former baggage area of

the building. Uses such as a conference room were discussed. The board did not anticipate needing to buildout this space at the onset of construction; however, the consensus was to design the area as warm, lit space, meaning the HVAC system would be designed to handle the additional square footage and the electrical plan would incorporate needs for the space. Programming the space will be determined at a later date.

V. Grants Update

- a. ARC for preliminary Architecture/Engineering costs—In progress, the next quarterly report/remittance is due in October.
- b. CRISI grant for construction—VPRA met with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to discuss what would be required in the subgrantee agreement. At this point VPRA will be working with the Station Authority to determine the specific scope of the project for use of CRISI funds. This will be delivered to FRA in the coming months as the A/E plans for the station building are finalized.

VI. NRV Passenger Rail Organization Update (Ann Cassell)—

NRV Passenger Rail continues to work with David Bailey, their lobbyist in Richmond, and that they have placed a NRV passenger rail ad in the Red Book his firm provides every legislator in the Virginia General Assembly.

VII. Next Meeting Date—October 23, 2025

VIII. Adjourn