



Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
The Authority for Transportation in Northern Virginia

GOVERNANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 14, 2021

5:30 PM

NVTA Offices

Meeting conducted in person and Live Streamed via YouTube

SUMMARY MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** Chair Randall
 - ✓ Chair Randall called the meeting to order at 5:41pm.
 - ✓ Attendees:
 - Members: Chair Randall; Board Member Cristol; Mayor Davis-Younger, Chairman McKay.
 - Other Authority Members: Councilmember Snyder
 - Staff: Monica Backmon (CEO); Michael Longhi (CFO); Margaret Duker (Executive Asst/Clerk).
 - Other Attendees: Daniel Robinson (Fairfax County); Joanna Anderson (City of Alexandria); Tracy Baynard (McGuire Woods Consulting LLC.); Martin Kenny and Julie Coccari (The Millennial Group - participated remotely).
 - Jurisdictional and agency staff as well as the public were able to view the meeting via the Authority's YouTube channel.

2. **Approval of Deferred July 8, 2021 Meeting Summary**
Recommended Action: Approval of Meeting Summary, (with abstentions from those who were not present).
 - ✓ Action deferred.

3. **Approval of the September 9, 2021 Meeting Summary**
Recommended Action: Approval of Meeting Summary, (with abstentions from those who were not present).
 - ✓ Mayor Davis-Younger moved approval of the September 9, 2021, GPC meeting minutes, seconded by Board Member Cristol. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/Information

4. **Draft 2022 Legislative Program, Report and Discussion** Ms. Backmon, CEO
Ms. Baynard, McGuire Woods Consulting, LLC
 - ✓ Chair Randall noted that a lot of initiatives may change depending on the results of the November 2 elections.

- ✓ Ms. Baynard proceeded with an update of topics discussed at the last meeting for the 2022 Legislative Program:
- ✓ With regards to the Electric Vehicle Rebate Program, she noted that rebate items were in the Bill when it passed at the General Assembly. She noted that regardless of whether a car is new or leased, the buyer will receive a rebate of \$2,500 and if the purchaser is within the federal minimum income level, there is additional \$2,000 for the buyer. This incentive applies to a new car of not more than \$55,000 in value and also to a used vehicle that is no newer than two years and no older than 5 years.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard added that there is a cap of \$5,000 on new vehicles and \$2,500 on used vehicles, which are less than two years old.
- ✓ She also added that a base cap of \$2,500 is awarded for buying or leasing a used vehicle and a head of household with lesser income receives an additional \$2,500 in rebate.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard noted that about \$40 million was designated to support the program for low-income families.
- ✓ Board Member Cristol recommended re-stating to say fully fund all vehicles.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard agreed to re-word as recommended.
- ✓ Ms. Backmon inquired whether this included charging stations.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard responded that no, adding that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) had requested for \$50 million for electric vehicle infrastructure. However, this did not make it to the Governor's budget so she expects that there will be continuing discussions on electric vehicles charging infrastructure during the next General Assembly Session.
- ✓ Board Member Cristol inquired if VDOT had a proposal to build charging stations.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard responded that there were a number of things the agency planned to do, namely adopting policies, going into partnerships and so forth. She noted that VDOT is working on a strategy this time around regarding forming some public/private partnerships down the line, possibly through Request for Proposals (RFPs) or have companies compete to use the Volkswagen fund.
- ✓ Alternatively, she further noted that the agency could request local governments to install charging stations on public property for public use.
- ✓ Board Member Cristol commented that this calls for a multi-agency approach and will love to see VDOT lead on this end.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard agreed and noted that there will be a section on the Authority's Transportation Technology Strategic Plan (TTSP), which emphasizes electric vehicles and electric vehicle infrastructure as part of the 2022 legislative program priorities.
- ✓ In addition, she noted that the section on WMATA will also be updated with language which highlights the need for more government operating and capital assistance.
- ✓ She went on to add that the other update had to do with open meetings at the Freedom of Information Advisory (FOIA) Council.
- ✓ Board Member Cristol remarked that she was initially enthusiastic about the upcoming modifications to the open meeting policy, but the new changes are still not enough. She cited the Virginia Railway Express as an example of a public body which has members living in distant places and have to travel far to convene for in person meetings with their CEO. She noted that there needs to be changes to this policy to empower public bodies to

be able to make decisions for themselves, especially for members of public bodies who live far and have to travel miles to attend meetings in person.

- ✓ Chair Randall mentioned that mental health professionals advocate for in-person contact meetings, as such, proposed a split of half in person and half remote (50/50).
- ✓ Ms. Baynard posited that there may be some sensitivity towards local governments which may not be able to afford the sophisticated equipment needed to support the virtual and hybrid form of meetings.
- ✓ Board Member Cristol responded that there are a host of options to benefit the hybrid format for conducting meetings, like live recordings, phone ins etc.
- ✓ Board Member Cristol recommended that the Authority's position on this should note that NVTA supports maximum percentage of virtual meetings or the maximum authority for public bodies to set their own requirements in this regard as the more flexibility, the better for all.
- ✓ Board Member Cristol also discussed different meeting requirements for Boards and Commissions which are not comprised of elected officials.
- ✓ Chair Randall expressed her agreement to this proposal.
- ✓ Ms. Baynard also noted that the JLARC Transportation Funding Study will be presented again on November 8th to the Commission and the region may decide next steps for the Quantico-Springfield Study soon.
- ✓ She further added that the Interim Report from the Transit Equity and Modernization Study will be presented in December, but not yet aware of any recommendations to be made from the Study.
- ✓ She noted that it is important to ensure that nothing hampers NVTA's efforts in the region and funding, especially as Authority Members are part of the Greater Washington partnership.
- ✓ Chair Randall wrapped up the discussion as Members prepared to go into a closed meeting.

Motion to Convene Closed Meeting

Chair Randall moved that the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Governance and Personnel Committee convene a closed meeting, as authorized by Virginia Code section 2.2-3711.A1, for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter, specifically to discuss the CEO Position Description and Compensation Analysis report to the extent it pertains to the CEO Performance Review.; seconded by Board Member Cristol. Motion passed unanimously at 6:17pm.

Motion to Reconvene in an Open Meeting

Chair Randall moved that the members of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Governance and Personnel Committee certify: (1) that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Chapter 37, Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which closed the meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by the Committee; seconded by Mayor Davis-Younger. Motion passed unanimously at 6:45pm.

5. Adjournment

- ✓ The meeting adjourned at 6:36pm.

Next Meeting: November 18, 2021 at 5:30 PM
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