

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

**Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, May 24, 2018**

**COMMISSIONERS**

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Marc T. Aveni	<i>City of Manassas</i>
Hon. Willie F. Bailey	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Sharon Bulova	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Kelly Burk	<i>Town of Leesburg</i>
Hon. Peter Candland	<i>County of Prince William</i>
<b>Hon. John C. Cook, NVRC Treasurer</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
<b>Hon. Laurie A. Dirocco, NVRC Chairman</b>	<b>Town of Vienna</b>
Vacant	<i>Town of Dumfries</i>
Hon. Libby Garvey	<i>County of Arlington</i>
<b>Hon. Penelope A. Gross</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
Hon. Pat Herrity	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Geary Higgins	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Hon. Catherine Hudgins	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
<b>Hon. David Meyer</b>	<b>City of Fairfax</b>
<b>Hon. Martin E. Nohe</b>	<b>County of Prince William</b>
<b>Hon. Sheila Olem</b>	<b>Town of Herndon</b>
Hon. Redella S. Pepper	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Frank J. Principi	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Phyllis J. Randall	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
<b>Hon. Jeanette Rishell</b>	<b>City of Manassas Park</b>
<b>Hon. Kathy L. Smith</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
<b>Hon. David Tarter, NVRC Vice-Chairman</b>	<b>City of Falls Church</b>
<b>Hon. John Vihstadt</b>	<b>County of Arlington</b>

**STAFF PRESENT**

Robert Lazaro	<i>Executive Director</i>
Linda M. Tenney	<i>Deputy Director</i>
Gina Kesselmann-Smith	<i>Executive Assistant</i>
Normand Goulet	<i>Director, Environmental Services</i>

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Randy Bartlett	<i>Fairfax County</i>
John Gaffigan	<i>Leaders in Energy</i>
Ann Jennings	<i>Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia</i>
Ellen Volo	<i>Fairfax County Government Relations</i>

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman DiRocco called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called and all members present or absent were noted for the record.

**DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATIONS**

**Chesapeake Bay Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP)**

The Commission received a presentation from the Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia, Ann Jennings, on the development of Phase III of the WIP and the important roles the Planning Districts will be undertaking in this project.

Commissioner Rishell uttered concerns in regards to the lack of Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF). Ms. Jennings confirmed that the budget that was introduced during this session had \$0 for SLAF. At the moment there is still no budget. But funding SLAF is a huge priority for this new administration.

Commissioner Meyer commented that the City of Fairfax is putting a lot of money into stormwater maintenance. So he was wondering what other jurisdictions were doing. Ms. Jennings said that engaging localities across the Commonwealth of Virginia is important and is currently being done. To that point, Commissioner Rishell asked if any localities are being fined for noncompliance. Ms. Jennings said that she is lacking the expertise to answer this question, but she could look into this. Commissioner Gross added that there have been fines, but rare and not of big amounts. Ms. Jennings added that every locality should be held to the same standard.

Commissioner Meyer added that there should be a statewide initiative to fund a sort of Master's programs to send people out to educate regions where expertise on this matter is needed. Ms. Jennings pointed out that more technical experts are needed and she thanked Commissioner Meyer for this recommendation.

Ms. Jennings also added that working with PDCs is a priority and that the date to finish Phase III of the WIP is set at June 28, 2019.

Ms. Jennings also applauded Normand Goulet for his great work he has been doing for NVRRC.

**LED Street Light Update**

A brief update was provided by Mr. Lazaro with respect to the ongoing dialogue on the regional level with Dominion Energy regarding the availability and pricing of LED Street Lights.

An agreement has been achieved on rates. There will be substantial savings.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P18-36 – Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried unanimously.

Background:

In support of the Chesapeake Bay Phase III Watershed Implementation Planning (WIP) efforts, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), in cooperation with the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership and other state and federal partners, has made grant funds available as authorized in the federally-funded 2017 Commonwealth of Virginia Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Program (CBRAP) Work Plan approved by EPA.

The intent of this project initiative is for each PDC covering Chesapeake Bay watershed localities to convene locality and regional officials, staff and stakeholders to provide input and recommendations for meeting Local Area Planning Goals (LAPGs) in accordance with the DEQ-provided "Outline for Local Area Planning Goal Initiative". PDCs may choose to collaborate or partner with adjacent PDCs in this planning effort, but template BMP input decks will be required for each PDC.

#### INFORMATION ITEM

The Nominating Committee proposed an amendment to the Bylaws that will increase the number of months a Chairman or Vice Chairman may serve when first elected to complete the unexpired term of a predecessor.

Specifically, this amendment increases, from six to eleven, the number of "extra" months a Chairman or Vice Chairman may serve when assuming an unexpired term. It does not change the opportunity for a Chairman or Vice Chairman to then serve up to two additional years, if the incumbent subsequently is elected to serve a full one-year term of his own, and one additional full term, as is normally provided.

According to the current Bylaws, proposed amendments must be presented in writing to the Commission at a regular meeting, but are not subject to a vote until the next Commission meeting. A majority of all members of the Commission is required to adopt any proposed amendment to the Bylaws. The Resolution will not be subject to action until the June Commission meeting.

#### REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A Nominating Committee has been formed to recommend to the Commission a proposed slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2019:

Chairman DiRocco appointed the Nominating Committee as follows:

Commissioner Gross  
Commissioner Vihstadt  
Commissioner Bailey  
Commissioner Rishell  
Commissioner Olem  
Commissioner Bulova  
Commissioner Nohe

Commissioner Gross is appointed to serve as Chairman.

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers for July 2018 – June 2019

Honorable Laurie DiRocco (Town of Vienna) – Chairman  
Honorable David Tarter (City of Falls Church) – Vice Chairman  
Honorable John Cook (Fairfax County) – Treasurer

The vote to confirm the nominees will take place at the Commission's June meeting.

EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR'S  
REPORT

Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for April 2018 and the following:

- Promoting Bike and Pedestrian Safety
  - NVRC participated in two community based events. One in Sterling and the other in the Gum Spring Community Center in Fairfax County.
  - At both events NVRC teamed up with InovaTrauma Services and other local partners to promote bike and pedestrian safety as part of our grant through the Department of Motor Vehicles.
- Neabsco Boardwalk
  - NVRC was pleased to play an important role in administering the design funds for this beautiful project.
- Working with the German Military
  - NVRC staff was pleased to meet with the Commander of the German Military Command for the US and Canada to talk about best practices of working with the community and sharing ideas on how to work together.
  - The proposal was well received and this work was seen as a natural extension of the other work NVRC has undertaken to observe and share best practices.
- Sharing our Work
  - NVRC was pleased to co-host an innovation breakfast with the Community Foundation on green energy. More than 120 people were in attendance and allowed us to share the work we have engaged in with respect to solar, community energy planning, etc.
- Upcoming Events
  - Cyber Training & Education Conference – June 26, 2018
  - Potomac Commuter Fast Ferry – June 4, 2018

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman DiRocco briefed the Commission on the Innovation Breakfast Event – Changing The Frame On Green Energy, that took place May 10, 2018 and was co-sponsored by NVRC. The event's keynote speaker was Sanjiv Mahan, President, WGL Energy. Program panelists included Robert Lazaro, Executive Director, Northern Virginia Regional Commission; Ruth Ann Norton, President & CEO, Green & Healthy Homes Initiative; Karen Schaufeld, Founder, Powered by Facts; and Delegate Rip Sullivan, VA State Delegate, 48th District. The panel talked about what role business, local government, and philanthropy have to play to promote sustainable energy sources and what steps our region can take toward a greener future.

MINUTES

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of April 26, 2018. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Olem and carried unanimously.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Gross reported on the Community and Military Partnership meeting that took place on May 17, 2018 at the NVRC office location. The next Community and Military Partnership meeting is taking place on September 20, 2018 at the NVRC office location. All the Commissioners are invited to attend.

Commissioner Gross also reminded the Commission of the upcoming one-day conference on June 26, 2018 at George Mason University, that will focus on teachers and transitioning military to address the cyber security crisis in the region.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman DiRocco adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.  
Executive Director

Approved by:

Laurie A. DiRocco  
Chairman