

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, July 22, 2021

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Walter L. Alcorn	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Victor S. Angry	County of Prince William
Hon. Andrea O. Bailey	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Elizabeth Bennett-Parker	City of Alexandria
Hon. Kenny A. Boddye¹	County of Prince William
Hon. Juli E. Briskman	County of Loudoun
Hon. Kelly Burk	<i>Town of Leesburg</i>
Hon. John T. Chapman	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Linda J. Colbert	Town of Vienna
Hon. Matt de Ferranti	County of Arlington
Hon. Libby Garvey	County of Arlington
Hon. Penelope A. Gross	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Pat Herrity	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Rodney L. Lusk	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. David Meyer, NVRC Vice Chairman	City of Fairfax
Hon. Cydny A. Neville, NVRC Chairwoman	Town of Dumfries
Hon. Sheila A. Olem	<i>Town of Herndon</i>
Hon. Dalia A. Palchik²	County of Fairfax
Hon. Jeanette Rishell	<i>City of Manassas Park</i>
Hon. Koran T. Saines	County of Loudoun
Hon. Kathy L. Smith, NVRC Treasurer	County of Fairfax
Hon. David Tarter	City of Falls Church
Hon. James R. Walkinshaw	County of Fairfax
Hon. Mark Wolfe	<i>City of Manassas</i>

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Lazaro	<i>Executive Director</i>
Linda M. Tenney	<i>Deputy Director</i>
Gina Kesselmann-Smith	<i>Management Analyst</i>
Normand Goulet	<i>Environmental Services Director</i>
Jill Kaneff	<i>Regional Demographer</i>
Michelle Simmons	<i>Human Services Director</i>

¹ Joined virtually with Chairwoman's permission

² Joined virtually with Chairwoman's permission

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Neville called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

PRESENTATION

Supporting Northern Virginia's Minority-Owned Businesses

Jill Kaneff, NVRC's Regional Demographer, was the coauthor of the report entitled "Supporting Northern Virginia's Minority-Owned Businesses". Minority-owned businesses have experienced heightened risk associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a complex effect on the region's local economy and on the wellbeing of its minority-owned businesses.

The report contains detailed, factual information on the minority business community and recommendations from the Northern Virginia Minority-Owned Working Group, composed of members from the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia, the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, the Loudoun County Department of Economic Development, the Prince William County Department of Economic Development, Arlington Economic Development, and the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership.

ACTION ITEMS

Commissioner Saines moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-1–Support for 100MW solar array and 50MW battery project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Boddye and carried unanimously.

Background:

The region has committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50% from 2005 levels by 2030 and 80% by 2050. Additionally, the Virginia Clean Economy Act commits the Commonwealth to 100% carbon free electricity generation in Northern Virginia by 2045. In response to climate change Dominion Energy has proposed a 100MW solar array and 50MW battery storage project at Dulles International Airport. NVRC has long supported increased renewable energy resources for the region and Commonwealth. As such, the resolution expresses the Commission's support for the project which requires a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the State Corporation Commission.

Commissioner Saines moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-2–Authorization to Execute for Line of Credit or Loan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Boddye and carried unanimously.

Background:

NVRC has been advised that it has been awarded a \$3 million grant from Virginia Housing in support of affordable housing in the region. As the grant is on a cost reimbursable basis the Executive Director is recommending the Commission obtain a Line of Credit to ensure the timely payment of expenses should the funds be needed. The Commission has utilized this cash management strategy in the past as part of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program.

Commissioner Saines moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-3– NoVA Waste Management Board Continued education and promotion of integrated solid waste management and product stewardship. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Boddye and carried unanimously.

Background:

Northern Virginia Waste Management Board members have developed a series of Fact Sheets and Policy Positions to clarify and provide recommendations on electronics, litter, tires, recycling facilities, paint recover, extended producer responsibility, glass, contamination, and other issues. The resolution authorizes the Solid Waste Management Board to provide continued education and promotion of integrated solid waste management and product stewardship.

Commissioner Saines moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-4 – NVRC Appointment to the Board of Directors of the Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Boddye and carried unanimously.

Background:

This resolution authorizes the reappointment of Thomas Fonseca to the HSA Board. Mr. Fonseca is an Arlington County appointment and was unanimously approved to his current seat by the Commission.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for June 2021 and the following:

- German Partnerships
 - NVRC was pleased to meet with Klaus Mindrup, a member of the German Bundestag, along with a member of the environmental staff from the German Embassy in Washington.
 - Conversation ranged on a large number of issues including energy policy, climate change and resiliency. Mr. Mindrup represents a district in the City of Berlin.
- Supporting Minority-Owned Businesses
 - Jill Kaneff, NVRC's Regional Demographer, has been invited to appear before the Virginia Minority Business Commission in Richmond regarding the findings of our most recent report in conjunction with the Community Foundation of Northern Virginia.
- First PACE Deal in Virginia is in NoVA
 - Congratulations to our colleagues in Arlington County on the first PACE deal in the Commonwealth of Virginia – a 44 kW solar array.

- NVRC has long supported PACE legislation and programs in the region. Other localities with PACE programs include Fairfax County, Loudoun County and the Town of Dumfries.
- Solarize NoVA Update
 - Our Solarize NoVA campaign ended on June 30.
 - Results to date:
 - 90 Signed Contracts
 - 952.39 kW
 - \$2,552,291.00 in contract value
 - Additional proposals out for consideration
- Heat Island Map
 - NVRC's heat island map from our Climate Resiliency dashboard was featured in a WUSA9 story regarding the localized impact of heat islands.
- Virginia Housing Grant
 - Award of \$3 Million to Northern Virginia Regional Commission for affordable housing.
 - Housing Grant Principles
 - Member local governments are the priority
 - 30 affordable housing units must be created
 - Project must be habitable by 6/30/2024
 - Equitable distribution of funds

CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT

Chairwoman Neville mentioned #onenovaregion to show the region's collaboration and unity. She also mentioned three pillars of impact on the region for the current fiscal year – Education, Environment, Homelessness.

Chairwoman Neville also reminded the Commissioners that input on future meetings is always welcome.

COMMUNITY & MILITARY PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Lazaro reported that the July 8 Community and Military Partnership Meeting was a great success.

The Highlights from the Meeting included:

- A great discussion with Brad Medairy - Executive VP & Cyber Functional Service Officer from Booz Allen on the cyber security threats, workforce, and solutions.

- Dr. Liza Durant, GMU provided an overview of the NOVA CCI NODE and it was good to learn that they are starting on version 2.0 from the meager beginnings of a website.
- Michael Dent, CIOS, Fairfax County provided the County Response – investments in cyber are still not at the needed level.
- Military installation updates

Mr. Lazaro also invited Commissioners to attend the upcoming Community and Military Partnership Meeting scheduled to be held virtually on September 9 at 10 am.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission meeting minutes of June 24, 2021 were approved and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Neville adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

Cydny A. Neville
Chairwoman