

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, October 28, 2021

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Walter L. Alcorn
Hon. Victor S. Angry
Hon. Andrea O. Bailey
Hon. Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
Hon. Kenny A. Boddye
Hon. Juli E. Briskman
Hon. Kelly Burk
Hon. John T. Chapman
Hon. Linda J. Colbert
Hon. Matt de Ferranti
Hon. Libby Garvey
Hon. Penelope A. Gross
Hon. Pat Herrity
Hon. Rodney L. Lusk
Hon. David Meyer, NVRC Vice Chairman
Hon. Cydney A. Neville, NVRC Chairwoman
Hon. Sheila A. Olem
Hon. Dalia A. Palchik
Hon. Jeanette Rishell
Hon. Koran T. Saines¹
Hon. Kathy L. Smith, NVRC Treasurer
Hon. David Tarter
Hon. James R. Walkinshaw²
Hon. Mark Wolfe

County of Fairfax
County of Prince William
County of Prince William
City of Alexandria
County of Prince William
County of Loudoun
Town of Leesburg
City of Alexandria
Town of Vienna
County of Arlington
County of Arlington
County of Fairfax
County of Fairfax
County of Fairfax
City of Fairfax
Town of Dumfries
Town of Herndon
County of Fairfax
City of Manassas Park
County of Loudoun
County of Fairfax
City of Falls Church
County of Fairfax
City of Manassas

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Lazaro
Linda M. Tenney
Gina Kesselmann-Smith³
Normand Goulet
Christopher Landgraf
Michelle Simmons
Peggy Tadej⁴

Executive Director
Deputy Director
Management Analyst
Environmental Services Director
Military Installation Resiliency Project Manager
Human Services Director
Director of Community and Military Partnerships

OTHERS

Andrew Grossnickle
Michael Moran

Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates
Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates

¹ Joined virtually

² Joined virtually with Chairwoman's permission

³ Joined virtually

⁴ Joined virtually

- CALL TO ORDER** Chairwoman Neville called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.
- ROLL CALL** The roll was called and all members present or absent were noted for the record.
- PRESENTATION** **FY21 Audit Report**
- The Commission received a presentation from NVRC’s auditors on the Fiscal Year 21 audit from Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates (Clean Opinion).
- ACTION ITEMS** Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-9– Accept FY21 Audit. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- Background:
- Resolution accepting the FY21 Audit as performed by Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates
- Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-10– Resolution adopting meeting schedule of the Commission for 2022. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- Background:
- Resolution adopting meeting schedule of the Commission for 2022.
- Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-11– Authorization to submit a Flood Education and Prevention grant proposal to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- Background:
- Resolution authorizes the Executive Director to apply for a grant not to exceed \$95,000 from the Department of Conservation and Recreation in support of furthering a regional rainfall and flood information system. This grant will allow for configuring the software platform so that the data can be aggregated and displayed in a single dashboard for the entire region will allow for improved spatio-temporal analysis of intense rainfall events and urban flood warnings.
- Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-12 – Adoption of Preliminary FY23 Budget and Work Plan. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- Background:
- Resolution authorizing the adoption of the Preliminary FY23 budget and work plan. The preliminary budget forms the basis of requested support from local government members. There is no proposed increase in per capita dues.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

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

- Resiliency Webinars
 - Our Resiliency Webinars continue to draw participants from across the region, Commonwealth, country and globe. Opportunities abound to share best practices from partners in Germany and the U.S.

- Solarize NoVA Update
 - NVRC's Solarize NoVA campaign for 2021 was our most successful to date. With 138 contracts for 1.3 MW of new solar with a contract value in excess of \$3.5 million.
 - Many thanks to our Commissioners and local government partners in helping to share the information regarding this important project.

- Welcome Chris Landgraf
 - NVRC is pleased to welcome Chris to our team. Chris will be leading our Military Facility Resiliency project.
 - Education
 - Master's of Arts in Geography from the University of Arkansas
 - Bachelor's of Science in Biology from the University of Mary Washington
 - Experience
 - Deputy Director of Public Works, Fort Belvoir
 - Director of Public Works, Kandahar, Afghanistan
 - Master Planner, Fort Belvoir
 - Stormwater Program Manager, Fort Belvoir
 - Environmental Planning Manager, New Kent County
 - Co-author of Low Impact Design Article, Land and Water
 - 25+ years of Stormwater and Watershed Planning
 - 15+ years of Stream Repair and Stabilization
 - Certified Level II Natural Channel Design Specialist

- NVRC Meeting Schedule
 - There is no meeting for the month of November. NVRC's remaining meeting for 2021 has been rescheduled to Thursday, December 16.

CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT

Chairwoman Neville started her report by expressing gratitude to Commissioner Gross for her continuous leadership and guidance and she also applauded the NVRC staff for all their hard work and continued dedication for moving the region forward.

Chairwoman Neville concluded her report by asking Commissioners to email her if there is anything Commissioners would like to see discussed at future meetings.

COMMUNITY & MILITARY PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Gross invited Commissioners to attend the upcoming Community and Military Partnership Meeting scheduled to be held virtually on December 2 at 10 am. Commissioner Angry is going to be leading it.

- This meeting will feature Mr. Mike McGhee, Executive Director, Climate Resilience, Office of the SECDEF followed by a presentation by Chris Landgraf, NVRC Program Manager, Military Installation Resilience on the MIRR project being undertaken with funds from the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation.
- The three Military Installation will provide updates.
- Dr. John Moeller will lead a discussion on the History of Fort Belvoir resulting from the visit with the Renaming Commission.
- Blue Star Family, Dr. Jessica Strong, PhD, LMSW/ Co-Director of Applied Research will provide an update on the survey results from the region.

Commissioner Gross also reported that during the month of October, NVRC has been delivering 16,800 tons of salt, sand, and rock to Quantico which will provide the base with savings of \$143,668. NVRC is also receiving an 8% fee.

Follow-up actions are to complete the DEI Roadmap and determine if a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Alliance for the Region is needed.

Commissioner Gross concluded by adding that an RFP has been on the street for the Business Case for the Ferry to include service, financial, and governance models. Background: For more than ten years, NVRC has coordinated a partnership of local jurisdictions and other local, state, and federal agencies including the National Park Service, Department of Defense (DoD), Maritime Administration (MARAD), and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the purpose of implementing an M-495 Regional Passenger Commuter Fast Ferry on the Anacostia, Potomac, and Occoquan Rivers in the National Capital Region (NCR). This RFP comes on the heels of the NVRC Infrastructure Gap Analysis completed in 2019; the Market Analysis completed in June 2015; and the Prince William County Potomac River Commuter Ferry Service Study & Route Proving Exercise completed in 2009 (2009 RPE). The previous studies undertaken have demonstrated that a fast ferry would reduce congestion, energy, and the number of single occupancy vehicles (SOVs) in use along I-95. Additionally, the fast ferry would serve as a new alternative to the region's multimodal transportation system, enhancing connectivity, security, and livability for the communities of the National Capital Region (NCR).

This first phase of study is focused on the business case, to determine if ferry transit service is at a “go/no-go” decision point in the NCR. This phase will focus on such matters as: operational developments, fact-based revenue and expense analysis, and organizational structure for implementation. The business case is expected to develop the implementation strategies to take to private investors by providing the service model, financial model, and governance model to support well-informed planning, policy, and budgetary decisions for the future of commuter ferry passenger transportation in the NCR. More information can be found at the following website: www.potomaccommuterfastferry.com

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of September 23, 2021. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyer and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Neville adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

Cydny A. Neville
Chairwoman