

# NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

## Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, January 26, 2012

### COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

<b>Hon. Sharon Bulova</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
Hon. Peter Candland	<i>County of Prince William</i>
<b>Hon. Janet Clarke</b>	<b>County of Arlington</b>
Hon. John C. Cook	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
<b>Hon. Steve DeBenedittis</b>	<b>Town of Herndon</b>
<b>Hon. Jay Fiset</b>	<b>County of Arlington</b>
Hon. Robin Gardner	<i>City of Falls Church</i>
<b>Hon. Penelope A. Gross</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
Hon. Pat Herrity	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Catherine Hudgins	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
<b>Hon. Robert W. Lazaro, Jr., NVRC Vice Chairman</b>	<b>Town of Purcellville</b>
<b>Hon. Fernando "Marty" Martinez</b>	<b>Town of Leesburg</b>
<b>Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
Hon. Suhas Naddoni	<i>City of Manassas Park</i>
<b>Hon. Martin E. Nohe, NVRC Chairman</b>	<b>County of Prince William</b>
Hon. Harry J. Parrish II	<i>City of Manassas</i>
<b>Hon. Redella S. Pepper, NVRC Treasurer</b>	<b>City of Alexandria</b>
<b>Hon. Frank J. Principi</b>	<b>County of Prince William</b>
<b>Hon. M. Jane Seeman</b>	<b>Town of Vienna</b>
Hon. R. Scott Silverthorne	<i>City of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Paul C. Smedberg	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
<b>Hon. Linda Smyth</b>	<b>County of Fairfax</b>
<b>Hon. Nancy West</b>	<b>Town of Dumfries</b>
<b>Hon. Scott K. York</b>	<b>County of Loudoun</b>
vacancy	<i>County of Arlington</i>

### STAFF PRESENT

G. Mark Gibb	<i>Executive Director</i>
Linda M. Tenney	<i>Deputy Director</i>
Linda Summerall	<i>Executive Secretary</i>
Ken Billingsley	<i>Director, Demographics &amp; Information Services</i>
Normand Goulet	<i>Sr. Environmental Planner</i>
Michelle Simmons	<i>Director, Human Services</i>
Peggy Tadej	<i>No. Va. Regional BRAC Coordinator</i>
Aimee Vosper	<i>Director, Environmental &amp; Planning Services</i>

### OTHERS PRESENT

Bruce Bennett	<i>Hunter Mill Defense League/Hunter Mill Rd. Traffic Calming Cmte.</i>
Curt Bradley	<i>Potomac Conservancy</i>
Julie Bolthouse	<i>Piedmont Environmental Council</i>
Rob Dugger	<i>Smart Beginnings</i>
Adrienne Fancher	<i>Alexandria Sanitation Authority</i>
September Jones	<i>Smart Beginnings Alexandria/Arlington</i>
Kendra Kielbasa	<i>Smart Beginnings Greater Prince William</i>
Laura Miller	<i>Fairfax County BRAC</i>
Sue Rowland	<i>NVRC Legislative Liaison; SR Consulting, Inc.</i>

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Nohe called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

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

**MINUTES** Commissioner Lazaro moved approval of the minutes of the December 8, 2011, Commission meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

**NOVA FORWARD** Chairman Nohe welcomed Dana Kauffman, Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations, Northern Virginia Community College. Prior to joining the Community College, Mr. Kauffman served on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

*Dana Kauffman* Mr. Kauffman reported that not only is Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) the largest college/university in Virginia, it is now the largest institute of higher learning in the national capital region. With 78,000 students, NVCC's average class size is 23; the cost is less than \$3,500 for students to attend full-time.

The college recently completed two studies to position the region for long-term economic growth, also ensuring that our educational system can be positioned to support this growth. The studies looked at K-12 as well as higher education.

NVCC and the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce jointly funded the first study in which Dr. Stephen Fuller provided analysis of the projected economic growth and the nature of the jobs driving that economic growth. For the second study, also in partnership with the Chamber, the college worked with NVRC staff to look at the changing demographics.

From 2010-2020, 303,000 new jobs will be created, a two percent growth region-wide each year, plus an additional 350,000 jobs will need to be filled as the Baby Boomers start retiring. However, up to 100,000 jobs will be eliminated due to federal government downsizing, leaving more than a half million job openings. The demand will be most pronounced in the professional/science/technology field (40 percent of the estimated job growth) followed by health care. Other experts note that higher education will be needed to fill these jobs, with a projection that not enough students are graduating from the region's colleges/universities to meet the demand from employers in the greater D.C. region.

Northern Virginia faces two strategic issues:

- College access for first generation college-goers, minorities and immigrants
- Developing a tech-savvy front-line workforce

NVCC is addressing these challenges through its SySTEMic Solutions program (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) in the Prince William area, with 1,000 students in the STEM pipeline: 300 in middle schools, 480 in high schools, 316 in NVCC; by 2015 it is projected that nearly 3,000 students will be in the pipeline, with 500 in middle schools, 575 in high schools, 1,607 in NVCC, 545 in George Mason University and 200 GMU students graduating annually.

SySTEMic Solutions programs currently in place:

- Professional development opportunities for teachers of STEM curricula
- Dual enrollment courses with a STEM focus in all three school systems
- Expanded regional employment opportunities in the STEM fields
- Part-time employment and internship opportunities for students in STEM programs
- Pathway to the Baccalaureate Program activities and student support services
- Aligned secondary to post-secondary STEM curriculum and program offerings
- Expanded robotics programs in elementary, middle and high schools
- Support through industry partnerships to provide ever-expanding internship opportunities, professional mentors and career exploration activities

Supplemental funding through a budget amendment is being sought this General Assembly session to expand SySTEMic Solutions into Fairfax, Arlington, Loudoun and Alexandria. Corporations would match state funding.

*questions & answers* Commissioner Martinez commented that many middle and high school students are bored; they need help in relating their studies to the real world. Mr. Kauffman noted that

embedded counselors are in place to reach out to these students as well as to children who come from families where higher education is not the norm.

Commissioner McKay asked if George Mason University will have enough spaces available for the students coming out of NVCC. Mr. Kauffman said that although GMU's freshman class was smaller last year, the number of slots for transfer students has been increased.

In reply to a comment about the large number of teachers retiring, Mr. Billingsley stated that Baby Boomers comprise one-third of Northern Virginia's workforce. Their retirement over the next decade will result in a shortage of highly educated workers.

Commissioner DeBenedittis wondered how to ensure that NVCC's tuition remains low. Mr. Kauffman replied it depends on the Governor's budget as well as financial support from the local jurisdictions.

CONSENT AGENDA Commissioner York moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of the items outlined below. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

- A. Financial Reports for August 2011
- B. Resolution No. P12-17: Commonwealth of Virginia's Proposed Withdrawal from the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB) Compact
- C. Resolution No. P12-18: Removal of Individual Waste Load Allocations for MS4 Permit Holders from the Chesapeake Bay TMDL
- D. Resolution No. P12-19: Authorization to Apply for Funding to Benchmark the BRAC Impacts

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Gibb distributed a copy of his report on:

- NVRC Brokers Funds for AIDS Drugs  
At NVRC's request, the D.C. Health Dept. has agreed to make a contribution of \$600,000 to the Virginia AIDS Drug Assistance Program to support AIDS drug needs within the suburban Virginia portion of the D.C. Eligible Metro Area. This contribution underwrites annual AIDS pharmaceutical costs for about 57 people.
- NVRC Nonprofit Affiliate  
Staff is revisiting the idea of developing a 501(c)(3) arm of NVRC as another mechanism for raising funds to support its work to take advantage of corporate and philanthropic funding opportunities. Numerous regional councils throughout the U.S. have done this, including Thomas Jefferson PDC (Charlottesville), and MWCOG is solely a nonprofit organization. Initial discussion will take place through the Operations Committee. Commissioner Fisette requested that an analysis of the advantages and disadvantages, along with a summary of other regional councils' experiences, be presented to the Commission.
- Residential Energy Progress Report  
NVRC is partnering with the Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP) and local governments to offer a new energy efficiency service to Northern Virginia homeowners. LEAP's program manager is located in the NVRC office.
- Regional Water Supply Plan Update  
18 of the 22 participating Northern Virginia jurisdictions have approved the regional plan. It is under review in the remaining 4 jurisdictions.

- Virginia Outdoors Plan Update  
Two public meetings were held at NVRC on January 25 so that the Virginia Dept. of Conservation could receive public input. The draft plan is expected this summer with the final plan scheduled for spring 2013.
- Conservation Corridors Report Completed  
This report on the region's most environmentally-sensitive areas and opportunities for their conservation, restoration, and/or maintenance has been completed and posted on NVRC's website. A presentation will be made at the Commission's February 23 meeting.

Mr. Gibb also reported that the federal Justice Department has ordered all of the training centers for the severely intellectually disabled in Virginia closed; this includes the Northern Virginia Training Center, which is slated for closure by June 30, 2015. He has talked with some of the state Delegates and Senators about this issue.

The issue is two-fold: what to do with the training center's 170 residents and what happens to the state-owned land, approximately 80 acres, located opposite George Mason University. Commissioner Bulova reported she discussed this with Virginia's Secretary of Health and Human Resources, who advised that alternate housing for this population can't "feel, sound or be institutional."

It was agreed that NVRC staff will further explore this issue and report back to the Commission with findings and recommendations and perhaps a dialog with state representatives at a future meeting.

#### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Nohe welcomed two new members of the Commission: Janet Clarke, Vice Chairman of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors and the county's additional representative on the Commission, and Fernando "Marty" Martinez of the Leesburg Town Council.

Chairman Nohe also reminded the members that the Commission will hold a brief legislative meeting in Richmond on February 9 in conjunction with VML/VACo/VAPDC Legislative Day.

#### BRAC REPORT

Commissioner McKay, Chairman of the BRAC Committee, announced that the committee holds its evening meetings at NVRC on the third Thursday of every month. The next meeting will be February 16.

There will be additional rounds of BRAC, with the Army targeted to lose a lot of positions. Donald Carr of Ft. Belvoir thinks that installation will not be greatly impacted since so much has been added recently to its infrastructure.

NVRC's grant for a dynamic ridesharing pilot program along the I-95/395 corridor was funded. It will initially focus on bringing real-time ridesharing to the BRAC locations in Northern Virginia.

#### LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Commissioner Gross, Chairman of the Legislative Committee, reported that positions on eminent domain and online travel taxes have been added to the Commission's 2012 platform.

Del. David Bulova introduced HB 426 to include NVRC in regional strategic planning. After discussing possible unintended consequences such as costs and requirements to NVRC, Del. Bulova agreed to pull this bill. NVRC's Legislative Committee will discuss this with Del. Bulova after the session adjourns.

Commissioner York moved to add a position supporting the budget amendment introduced in the House and Senate for \$500 million from the state to buy down the cost of tolls on the

Dulles Toll Road to support construction of Metro's Silver Line. The motion was seconded and carried.

ADJOURNMENT      There being no further business, Chairman Nohe adjourned the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

G. Mark Gibb  
Executive Director

Approved by:

Martin E. Nohe  
Chairman