

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, March 22, 2007

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those present are highlighted)

Commissioner Hilda M. Barg
Commissioner Sharon Bulova
Commissioner Gerald E. Connolly, NVRC Vice Chairman
Commissioner W. S. Covington, III
Commissioner Joan Cross
Commissioner Steve DeBenedittis
Commissioner Joan DuBois
Commissioner Barbara A. Favola, NVRC Chairman
Commissioner Penelope A. Gross
Commissioner Catherine Hudgins
Commissioner Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Commissioner Harold Lippman
Commissioner Elaine N. McConnell
Commissioner Martin E. Nohe
Commissioner Harry J. Parrish, II, NVRC Treasurer
Commissioner Redella S. Pepper
Commissioner M. Jane Seeman
Commissioner Paul C. Smedberg
Commissioner Linda Smyth
Commissioner Stephen Snow
Commissioner J. Walter Tejada
Commissioner William J. Treuting, Jr.
Commissioner Bruce E. Tulloch
Commissioner Kristen C. Umstatt
Commissioner Fred E. Yohey, Jr.

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

STAFF PRESENT

G. Mark Gibb
Linda M. Tenney
Linda Summerall
Ken Billingsley
Barbara Gordon
Normand Goulet
Doug Pickford
James Van Zee

Executive Director
Deputy Director
Executive Secretary
Director, Demographics
Communications Director
Sr. Environmental Planner/IT Manager
Director, Environmental and Heritage Resources
Director, Regional Planning Services

GUESTS PRESENT

Hon. Vincent F. Callhan, Jr.
Hon. Albert R. Gasser, Jr.
Hon. Tom Peterson
Bruce Bennett
Sue Rowland
Jane Woods

Virginia House of Delegates
Mayor, Town of Quantico
Mayor, Town of Clifton
Hunter Mill Road Traffic Calming Committee
SR Consulting, Inc.
Drift Woods Consulting

REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PLAN

Prior to the Commission meeting, a signing ceremony was held for the first-ever Northern Virginia Regional Water Supply Plan. This plan, involving the 23 municipalities in Northern Virginia, will ensure drinking water for the next 30 years. The state has mandated that all municipalities develop these plans individually or as a region.

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Favola called the meeting to order at 7:45 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.

PRESENTATION Report on 2007 General Assembly Session

Hon. Vince Callahan Delegate Callahan noted he has served in the House of Delegates for nearly 40 years, having been elected first in 1967, and he has decided not to run for re-election. Delegate Callahan is the second longest-serving member of the General Assembly.

Delegate Callahan discussed the upcoming events of the 400th anniversary of Jamestown, noting his role as co-chair of the anniversary celebration.

He reported that the 2007 session finished amicably and on time, unlike last year. The budget was passed unanimously, the first time in all the years Delegate Callahan has served. The conference committee and the Governor are making changes to the transportation bill. Delegate Callahan added that no one is satisfied with the bill. He then reviewed the various funding mechanisms provided in the transportation bill, including the Hampton Roads portion of the legislation, and the biennium budget. Delegate Callahan highlighted that General Fund money has always been used to fund transportation — this is not a new concept with regard to the transportation bill. He added that currently, Virginia's economy is doing very well, which allows for a surplus in the state's revenue.

Delegate Callahan said he takes great pride in sponsoring a half-million in funding for cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay, adding that the Bay and the Potomac River are some of the state's greatest natural assets. Delegate Callahan pointed out that the 1968-70 biennium budget (his first term in office) was \$3 billion; today it is \$74 billion.

questions and answers

Commissioner Pepper expressed concern that the Northern Virginia jurisdictions will not implement the transportation taxes if the transportation bill is not amended. Chairman Favola added that the jurisdictions would support an increase in the gas tax. Commissioner Smedberg commented that under the current transportation bill, the state is abdicating an important piece of its mission: transportation funding. Delegate Callahan replied that many parts of the state have regional taxes, citing the hotel tax in the Richmond area to pay for the Richmond convention center as one example. He reported he sponsored a \$20 auto registration fee bill for the Governor; however, that was reduced by \$10 in the bill that passed, because the legislation permits the Hampton Roads transportation authority to add an additional \$10.

Commissioner Bulova inquired about the utility re-regulation bill, advising Delegate Callahan that the Commission is concerned about the loss of oversight by the State Corporation Commission. Delegate Callahan replied the SCC will have oversight, adding that he expects the Governor will amend the bill.

A proclamation of appreciation was presented to Delegate Callahan, and the members thanked him for sharing his insights.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Pepper moved approval of the minutes of the February 22 meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

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

- A. Financial Reports for January and February 2007
- B. Resolution No. P07-17: Authorization to Submit a Technical Assistance Proposal to the Department of Environmental Quality's Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program for 2007-2008

- C. Resolution No. P07-18: Authorization to Apply For, Receive, and Subcontract 2007-2008 Part A (formerly Title I) Funds for Services Under the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act of 2006
- D. Resolution No. P07-19: Authorization to Apply For, Receive, and Subcontract 2007-2008 Part B (formerly Title II) Funds for Services Under the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act of 2006
- E. Resolution No. P07-20: Authorization to Submit a Grant Proposal to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in Support of the Development of the *LID Supplement to the Northern Virginia BMP Handbook*
- F. Resolution No. P07-21: Authorization to Submit a Proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's 2008-2009 Community Action For A Renewed Environment Program
- G. Resolution No. P07-22: Authorization to Enter Into a Contract with Development Services Group, Inc. for Phase II of the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Assessment

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Mr. Gibb called attention to the letter from Dominion Virginia Power, responding to the Commission's letter to the Governor regarding utility re-regulation.

Copies of the *2007 Quick Guide* were distributed. NVRC has published this booklet for sixteen consecutive years. Member jurisdictions receive a set number of complimentary copies; additional copies may be purchased.

Also distributed was a copy of NVRC's funding proposal to host the METREX council meeting next year. Staff should know in May if the application is approved.

Staff is proceeding with Phase 2 of the Alternative Transportation and Land Use Activities Strategies "ATLAS" study, and proposes convening a panel of experts in June to meet with key Northern Virginia policy makers. This is a grant from VDOT.

For the third consecutive year, NVRC and a coalition of Northern Virginia jurisdictions are using radio ads to educate the public about steps they can take to prevent water pollution. In addition to radio and print ads, a new website, www.onlyrain.org, contains in-depth information.

Copies of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's letter to the Governor recommending changes to the transportation bill were distributed.

COMMITTEE
REPORTS

Communications

Commissioner Smedberg reported that each month, more and more communications come out from NVRC. Information on tonight's water supply plan signing ceremony is supposed to be in all "Extra" sections of *The Washington Post*, on Thursday, March 29.

The Communications Committee met before the Commission meeting and discussed communications objectives in celebrating the Commission's 60th anniversary. The committee members and Commissioners of a staff-developed logo for the anniversary year but also agreed to continue working on the tag line.

The committee also discussed presenting awards: one for a program central to best practices, another to someone who has advanced NVRC's cause. Chairman Favola commented that an award can be to someone from the past that advanced the Commission or to a leader we'd like to recruit, while Commissioner Gross expressed support for an award recognizing an effective regional collaboration.

Legislative Ms. Rowland briefly reviewed the legislative platform, noting the Governor has not yet signed bills.

Commissioner Parrish asked what the jurisdictions will do if the transportation bill is not amended. Commissioner Barg reported Prince William has passed a resolution stating the Board will not implement it.

Operations Commissioner Parrish reported the committee did not meet in March, but will take up selection of an auditor and review the proposed staff compensation plan in April. The Commission will take up the compensation plan in May or June and the final FY08 budget in June.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business, Chairman Favola adjourned the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director

Approved by:

Barbara A. Favola
Chairman