

APPROVED

At the April 9, 2009 Rail Advisory Board meeting, a motion to accept the minutes of the January 9, 2008 meeting was made by James Keen, seconded by Sharon Bulova, and approved by the Rail Advisory Board members.

Minutes

**Rail Advisory Board Meeting
Discovery Room
Science Museum of Virginia
2500 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA**

January 8, 2009

Note – At the direction of the Board and the Director of DRPT, these summary minutes will reflect Action Items and Informational Requests to the Agency from the Board.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Wiley Mitchell Jr., Chairman
Richard Beadles
James Keen
Gregory Marston

Trenton Crewe, Vice Chairman
Dwight Farmer
Bruno Maestri

Charles Badger, Acting Director, DRPT

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sharon Bulova
Peter Shudtz

Call to Order

The Rail Advisory Board Meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. by Chairman Mitchell.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

A motion to accept the agenda of the January 8, 2009 meeting was made by Mr. Maestri and seconded by Mr. Crewe. Mr. Beadles requested time before the end of the meeting to discuss railroad maintenance as a general issue and Main Street Station. The motion carried without opposition.

Adoption of Minutes

A motion to accept the November 13, 2008 minutes was made by Mr. Marston and seconded by Mr. Keen. The motion carried without opposition.

Public Comment

There were no public comments received by e-mail. Mr. William Bates of United Transportation Union and Ms. Meredith Richards of Virginians for High Speed Rail signed up to speak and addressed short remarks to the Board.

Director's Update

Charles Badger, Acting Director of DRPT, reviewed the schedule for the Rail Enhancement Fund applications, with the request from the chairman that if the agency desires that the Board

APPROVED

participate in the evaluation and ranking of the applications, a meeting before the scheduled April 9, 2009 could be arranged.

Mr. Badger confirmed to the members of the Board that the Board would be able to review all the applications once they have been received.

Mr. Badger updated the Board on the reductions to the rail programs due to the economic downturn. The Board members were invited to the two remaining meetings for the revised Six-Year Improvement Program.

The Chairman asked Mr. Badger to consider reviewing the other rail programs, Bond Funds, Rail Preservation and Rail Industrial Access, that impact rail in the Commonwealth.

2009 Legislative Update

Mr. Badger reviewed the current bills submitted for the upcoming General Assembly session. The agency does have a team in place that will be following all legislation as it is presented and following these bills through the session. Mr. Badger will come back to the Board at the March or April meeting with the results of the Assembly session.

CSX Peninsula Sub-Division Presentation

Mr. Jay Westbrook of CSX Transportation made a presentation to the Board related to the conflicts and needs of CSX on the rail line from Richmond to Newport News.

Amtrak /VRE On-Time Performance and Ridership Update

Jay McArthur of Amtrak and Kevin Page for Dale Zehner of Virginia Railway Express updated the Board on both passenger rail systems' performance, ridership figures and the reduction of delays. Mr. Zehner was unable to attend due to planning for the upcoming Inaugural events.

(Due to time constraints, the Chairman requested reversing the agenda items to move the APM Terminals presentation before Mr. Page's presentation on the State Rail Resource Allocation Plan after lunch.)

APM Terminals – Virginia Presentation

Mr. Ed McCarthy briefed the Board on the operations of the APM Terminals – Virginia Portsmouth marine terminal and its on-dock rail yard REF project.

Statewide Rail Resource Allocation Plan and Revised FY2009 – 2014 Six-Year Improvement Plan

Kevin Page, Chief of Rail Transportation, gave a presentation to the Board on the Statewide Rail Resource Allocation Plan and the revised Six-Year Improvement Plan. The Board was asked to act on a recommendation of the following projects to the Commonwealth Transportation Board: Project 12, Roanoke Regional Intermodal Facility (Supplemental); Project 13, Roanoke Regional Intermodal Facility (Supplemental Cove Hollow Road Relocation); Project 16, NS I-81 Crescent Corridor Phase 1.

As stated by the Chairman, a motion was made “to give qualified approval to this plan and recommend that it be adopted by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.” The motion was moved by Mr. Keen and seconded by Mr. Crewe. In discussion the Chairman requested the record to show that the plan is subject to amendment if the circumstances or priorities change in the future and that the implementing programs are going to be considered by the Board in the future. The motion carried without opposition.

APPROVED

Information Items

Mr. Page provided an overview of the informational items provided to the Board in their notebooks.

After the review of the Information Items, the Chairman opened the floor for Mr. Beadles' discussion items.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m. The next meeting of the Rail Advisory Board will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the Discovery Room of the Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia.