

**MINUTES OF THE  
ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON  
TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT COMMISSION**

A regular meeting of the Accomack-Northampton Transportation District Commission was held at the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce Office, Melfa, Virginia, on Monday, May 2, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

Present:

Oliver H. Bennett, Chairman  
Wanda Thornton, Vice Chairman  
Donald L. Hart, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer  
Ron Wolff  
Willie C. Randall

Absent:

Laurence J. Trala

Ex-Officio member absent:

Kevin Page

Nonmembers present:

Dave Morgan, Virginia Regional Transit  
Mark McGregor, Virginia Regional Transit  
Kirk Miles, STAR Transit  
Larry LeMond, Bay Coast Railroad  
J. T. Holland, Bay Coast Railroad

In Re: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman who indicated that a quorum was present.

In Re: Invocation

The invocation was given by Mr. Wolff.

In Re: Statements from the Public

There were no statements from the public.

In Re: Account Balances

The monthly Assistant Secretary-Treasurer's report showed an ending balance at April 29<sup>th</sup> of \$3,894.94.

In Re: Minutes of April 4, 2011

Motion was made by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Randall, that minutes of the meeting of April 4, 2011 be approved. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Page and Mr. Trala and voted "yes", with the exception of Mrs. Thornton who abstained. Motion was passed.

In Re: Public Transportation Report

Representatives from Virginia Regional Transit distributed the following Management Report for April 2011:



**Management Report for Star Transit  
May 1, 2011**

**Operations:**

- March was the one year anniversary of Virginia Regional Transit taking over management of Star Transit. Under the new management, we saw the ridership supersede & maintenance cost decrease of the previous year. The March 2011 ridership was 5,319 vs. 4,134 for March 2010.
- The North Route is still a work in progress pending receipt of grant.
- The lawn care bid for the 2011 season has been awarded.
- Received estimates on installation of two lighted signs which would be located at the front & rear of the Star building. This has been forwarded to Bruce Simms, Director of Facilities.
- Currently working on grant which would provide GPS Tracking on three buses.
- Inquiring about receiving permission to install bus shelters from Eve Belote at Eastern Shore Community College & Artie Miles at the Exmore Town Office.

**Ridership Statistics for April 2011**

- The ridership count for all routes, with two days remaining, is 4,596 passengers. This is above last year’s ridership count of 3,800 for this time period.
- The second month of the new 10hr door to door Green service continues to be steady. The passenger count as of April 27<sup>th</sup> is 606 passengers. We attribute the decline on this route to the Holiday & Spring Break.

**Maintenance**

- Service of all buses & vehicles is current. STAR continues to maintain a low maintenance cost in comparison to previous years.
- Per Bruce Simms, Director of Facilities, correction of the parking lot drainage problem is scheduled to begin May 16th.

**Financials**

- Currently working to obtain appointment with Accomack County School/Reconnect to establish a partnership.

<b>STAR TRANSIT 2010 - 2011</b>				<b>MARCH 31, 2011 23 DAYS</b>			
Month	Total Revenue	Total Expenses	Surplus/Deficit	Per Trip Analysis			Total Cost
				10-11 Trips	09-10 Trips	Diff	
<b>Oct.</b>	\$32,583.82	\$26,011.65	\$6,572.17	4,680	2,932	60%	\$5.56
<b>Nov.</b>	\$34,503.12	\$37,752.87	-\$3,249.75	4,785	2,381	101%	\$7.89
<b>Dec.</b>	\$33,021.71	\$30,234.00	\$2,787.71	3,577	2,781	29%	\$8.45
<b>Jan.</b>	\$33,527.90	\$36,655.67	-\$3,127.77	5,085	2,871	77%	\$7.21
<b>Feb.</b>	\$34,006.60	\$36,823.85	-\$2,817.25	4,584	2,760	66%	\$8.03
<b>Mar.</b>	\$33,472.72	\$54,500.44	-\$21,027.72	5,319	3,482	53%	\$10.25
<b>Apr.</b>			\$0.00	1	3,800	100%	\$0.00
<b>May</b>			\$0.00	1	3,263	100%	\$0.00
<b>June</b>			\$0.00	1	2,998	100%	\$0.00
<b>July</b>			\$0.00	1	3,251	100%	\$0.00
<b>Aug.</b>			\$0.00	1	3,895	100%	\$0.00
<b>Sept.</b>			\$0.00	1	4,270	100%	\$0.00
<b>VEH</b>			\$0.00	<b>28,036</b>	<b>\$38,684.00</b>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$201,115.87</b>	<b>\$221,978.48</b>	<b>-\$20,862.61</b>	<b>4,673</b>	<b>AVERAGE COST PER TRIP -&gt;</b>		<b>\$7.92</b>
					<b>&lt; - AVERAGE MONTHLY TRIP</b>		

Hours of Operation				Cost per Mile			
HOURS				COST			
Oct.	785	April		Oct.	\$1.13	April	\$0.00
Nov.	785	May		Nov.	\$1.67	May	\$0.00
Dec.	710	June		Dec.	\$1.46	June	\$0.00
Jan.	785	July		Jan.	\$1.42	July	\$0.00
Feb.	747	Aug.		Feb.	\$1.52	Aug.	\$0.00
Mar.	946	Sept.		Mar.	\$1.91	Sept.	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>4,758</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>			
AVERAGE MONTHLY HOURS			<b>793</b>	AVERAGE COST PER MILE			<b>\$1.53</b>

Hourly Cost				Mileage			
Oct	\$33.14	April	\$0.00	Oct	23,052	April	
Nov.	\$48.09	May	\$0.00	Nov.	22,562	May	
Dec.	\$42.58	June	\$0.00	Dec.	20,662	June	
Jan.	\$46.70	July	\$0.00	Jan.	25,817	July	
Feb.	\$49.27	Aug	\$0.00	Feb.	24,283	Aug	
March	\$57.61	Sept	\$0.00	March	28,473	Sept.	
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>144,849</b>
AVERAGE TOTAL HOURLY COST			<b>\$46.65</b>	AVERAGE MONTHLY MILES			<b>24,142</b>

Route Location	Passenger Totals	Operating Hours	Mileage
Red	1,754	272	6,833
Purple	1,569	256	6,640
Blue	1,130	188	4,651
Green	866	230	6,900
Spare/Other			3,449
	<b><u>5,319</u></b>	<b><u>946</u></b>	<b><u>28,473</u></b>

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Mr. McGregor reported that the program of projects submitted to the Commonwealth Transportation Board has been tentatively approved pending public hearing. This program included the Green Route, funded for 10 hours per day. The reinstatement of the Northern Accomack County (Chincoteague) Route, projected for 10 hours per day, has been funded partially. He also noted that all capital items requested have been approved for funding. Lastly, Mr. McGregor noted that the State's compliance review is scheduled for June 21<sup>st</sup>.

In response to a question from Mr. Randall, Mr. McGregor indicated that VRT will bring back a proposal for service to the southern part of Northampton County for submittal in the next grant cycle.

In Re: State's Comments

There was no report from the State.

In Re: Airport Update

Mr. Wolff updated the Commission on the Navy's interest in the airport.

In Re: Railroad Comments

Mr. LeMond said that during the last month, work has progressed on the Little Creek pontoon system. He hopes to have an operational system by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. LeMond provided the following resolution of support for the Commission's consideration for rail projects for the six year rail preservation plan. Motion was made by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mrs. Thornton that the resolution be adopted as set out below. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Trala and Mr. Page and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed. Said resolution as adopted is set out below:

ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE SIX-YEAR RAIL PRESERVATION

APPLICATION OF THE BAY COAST RAILROAD

WHEREAS, the Bay Coast Railroad desires to file its six-year Rail Preservation Application with the Department of Rail and Public Transportation for funding assistance for the following project years:

FY 2012 – No Application Will Be Filed.	
FY 2013 – Cape Charles Division – Crosstie Replacement	\$170,000
FY 2014 – Little Creek Division – Crosstie Replacement & Surfacing	\$165,400
FY 2015 – Cape Charles Division – Crosstie Replacement & Surfacing	\$223,800
FY 2016 – Cape Charles Division – Crosstie Replacement & Surfacing	\$250,100
FY 2017 – Cape Charles Division – Crosstie Replacement & Surfacing	\$285,000

WHEREAS, the Bay Coast Railroad has identified that these projects are estimated to cost \$1,026,300; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly, through enactment of the Rail Preservation Program, provides for funding for certain improvements and procurement of railways in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Bay Coast Railroad is an important element of the transportation system in both Accomack and Northampton counties; and

WHEREAS, the Bay Coast Railroad is instrumental in the economic development of the area, provides relief to the highway system by transporting freight, and provides an alternate means of transportation of commodities; and

WHEREAS, the ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT COMMISSION supports these projects and the retention of the rail service; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board has established procedures for the allocation and distribution of the funds provided.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT COMMISSION does hereby request the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation to give priority consideration to the projects proposed by the Bay Coast Railroad.

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In Re: Adjourn

Noting that the Commission was not comfortable yet with reverting back to the bi-monthly meeting schedule, motion was made by Mr. Randall, seconded by Mr. Wolff, that the meeting be adjourned until June, 2011. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Page and Mr. Trala and voted "yes." The motion was passed.

The meeting was adjourned.