

**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 Tuesday, December 4, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

Present:

Oliver H. Bennett, Chairman
Donald L. Hart, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer
Willie C. Randall
Laurence J. Trala

Absent:

Wanda Thornton, Vice Chairman
Ron Wolff

Ex-Officio member present:

Jeremy Latimer for Kevin Page

Nonmembers present:

Larry LeMond, Bay Coast Railroad
Darrel Feasel, Virginia Regional Transit
Maria Ptakowski, Virginia Regional Transit
J. T. Holland, Bay Coast Railroad

In Re: Call to Order

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

In Re: Invocation

The invocation was given by Mr. Hart.

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 November 30th of \$11,860.64.

In Re: Minutes of November 6, 2012

Motion was made by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Randall, that minutes of the meeting of November 6, 2012 be approved. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Wolff and Mrs. Thornton and voted "yes". Motion was unanimously passed.

In Re: Public Transportation Report

Mr. Feasel and Ms. Ptakowski distributed the following Management Report for November 2012:



Management Report for Star Transit

December 2012

Operations

- ***STAR Transit New Freedom (Orange/Silver) Route*** – The new route continues to run smoothly. There were a total of 539 passengers for the month of November; this is 38 less passengers than the month of October.

Transit Capital

- ***STAR Transit FY2013 Capital Vehicle Program*** – VRT staff will be visiting the Champion Bus factory on December 11th and 12th to meet with factory and Rohrer Bus representatives to discuss STAR Transit's BOC Van order. STAR Transit will be replacing vans #21, 22 and 23.
- ***STAR Transit Shop Equipment Program*** – VRT staff are in the process of purchasing numerous shop equipment items for the maintenance area. These items are being purchased through DRPT Grant #47012-15.

Human Resources

- **Hurricane Sandy** – No STAR Transit staff were affected by the recent hurricane and service was back in service on Wednesday. Staff was able to use PTO time to make up for any lost hours.

Marketing and Outreach

- **DRPT SJ297 Study** - VRT staff continues to meet with Virginia Delegates and Senators to discuss VRT’s view on SJ297. Recent discussions and emails from the Virginia Transit Associations appear to show that DRPT is acknowledging to General Assembly members that DRPT is open to possible changes to its current SJ297 proposal which could in its present form drastically reduce state operating funds to rural systems such as STAR Transit. VRT will continue to monitor this issue.

The Commission members discussed the potential impact of this legislation and motion was made by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Randall, that letters indicating our opposition to this matter be send to Delegate Lewis, Senator Northam and Accomack & Northampton Counties. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Wolff and Mrs. Thornton and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

Transit Maintenance

- **Preventive Maintenance Program** - All STAR Transit vehicles have been serviced for the month of November and all vehicle records are up to date.

Ridership Statistics for November 2012

- **Ridership Statistics** -STAR Transit carried approximately 6813 passengers in November as compared to 5666 passengers this time last year. This is a 20% increase in ridership.

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In Re: State’s Comments

Mr. Latimer reported that the Rail Preservation Fund grant application period opened this week. The deadline is February 1, 2013.

In Re: Airport Update

There was no comment from Mr. Hart.

In Re: Railroad Comments

Mr. LeMond reported that staff was continuing to work on the derailment site. The product was transferred to empty tank cars and the damaged cars will be shipped to a car repair facility.

The Santa Train was another success – almost 1,000 kids met Santa, Mrs. Claus and the elves. It was the consensus of the group to send thank-you letters to the contributors of this event.

Mr. Hart relayed a concern relative to the Rt. 180 crossing at Wachapreague. Mr. LeMond said that new rails and asphalt were needed. Mr. Latimer indicated that he would check on funding availability for renovation of this crossing.

In Re: Adjourn

It was the consensus of the Commission that the January 2013 meeting be cancelled; motion was made by Mr. Randall, seconded by Mr. Hart, that the meeting be adjourned. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Wolff and Mrs. Thornton and voted “yes.” The motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned.