

**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 Building, Melfa, Virginia, on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Present:

Oliver H. Bennett, Chairman (late)
Donald L. Hart, Jr., Vice Chairman
C. Reneta Major, Secretary-Treasurer (late)
Ron Wolff
Granville F. Hogg, Jr. (late)
Laurence J. Trala

Ex-Officio member present:

Jeremy Latimer

Nonmembers present:

Larry LeMond, Bay Coast Railroad
J. T. Holland, Bay Coast Railroad
Mark McGregor, Virginia Regional Transit
Bruce Simms, Virginia Regional Transit

In Re: Call to Order

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

In Re: Invocation

The invocation was given by Mr. Trala.

In Re: Statements from the Public

There were no comments.

In Re: Account Balances

The monthly Assistant Secretary-Treasurer's report showed an ending balance at January 31st of \$16,987.68.

In Re: Minutes of January 6, 2015

Motion was made by Mr. Wolff, seconded by Mr. Trala, that minutes of the meeting of January 6, 2015 be approved. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Bennett, Ms. Major and Mr. Hogg and voted "yes". Motion was unanimously passed.

In Re: Public Transportation Report

Mr. Bennett and Ms. Major arrived at 5:33 p.m.

The following Management Report was distributed:



**STAR Transit Management Report
February 03, 2015**

Operations

The STAR Transit Manager is meeting with various companies in the service area such as Eastern Shore Community Service Board and Eastern Shore Community Partners to ensure the service is meeting the needs of the community as well as working on increasing ridership.

Transit Capital

No items at this time

Human Resources

On February 02, 2015 one of our Drivers (Vernon) fell while inspecting a bus and sustained an injury. Employee was taken to the hospital and further updates will be available at the meeting.

I attended the driver training held at the facility on January 20, 2015 to brief all employees on current events regarding STAR Transit.

Marketing and Outreach

Management Outreach – Meeting with different companies located on the Eastern Shore to increase ridership opportunities.

Transit Maintenance

Preventive Maintenance Program - All Star Transit vehicles have been serviced for the month of September and all vehicle maintenance records are up to date.

Ridership Statistics

Ridership Statistics – The January 2015 STAR Transit passenger statistics show over 7,000 rides which is 14% higher than the same month a year ago.

Finance

The 2016 budget has been successfully submitted to DRPT.

Other

Mr. McGregor indicated that STAR Transit is being audited by the State in February. Additionally, he noted that a budget was submitted to the State to include an extra route in southern Northampton County.

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In Re: State's Comments

Mr. Latimer indicated that the state is reviewing all travel expenses; therefore, he and Mr. Hennessee will attend at least once every quarter but will still be available as needed.

Mr. Hogg arrived at 5:35 p.m.

In Re: Airport Update

Messrs. Hart and Wolff had no reports.

In Re: Railroad Comments

Mr. LeMond distributed the following report:

1. We handled 86 cars in January bringing our 10 month total to 1,413 carloads. Although this was a low carload month, it was a good revenue month because 39 of these cars were high revenue carloads. Our three largest shippers were Gordon Paper = 28 cars; Sharp Energy = 20 cars; and Mid-Atlantic Transload = 15 cars.

2. I ask that the ANTDC consider a resolution in support of our Rail Preservation Application FY2016. This application is for the renewal of 800 ties on the Cape Charles Division and 400 ties and 1 set of switch timbers on the Little Creek Division. Estimated Cost: \$170,000 = RPF \$102,000 and BCR \$68,000.

Motion was made by Mr. Wolff, seconded by Ms. Major, that the following resolution be adopted. All members were present and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed. Said resolution as adopted is set forth below:

**ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON TRANSPORTATION
DISTRICT COMMISSION
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RAIL PRESERVATION
APPLICATION BY THE
BAY COAST RAILROAD**

WHEREAS, the Bay Coast Railroad desires to file an application with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation for funding assistance for a Crosstie Renewal Project – Cape Charles Division = 800 crossties; Little Creek Division = 400 crossties and 1 set of switch timber with an estimated total project cost of \$170,000; 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 the cities of Virginia Beach and Norfolk; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board has established procedures for all 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 Crosstie Renewal Project on

both the Cape Charles and Little Creek Divisions proposed by the Bay Coast Railroad for inclusion in the projects funded in the Rail Preservation Program.

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3. Retirement Announcement. After over 47 years working in the RR industry, I plan to retire May 1st.

Alex Parry with over 20 years with the RR and is currently Asst. General Manager will be promoted to General Manager.

Joyce Collins with over 30 years with the RR and is currently Freight Agent and Accountant will be promoted to Asst. General Manager.

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In Re: Adjourn

Motion was made by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Wolff, that the meeting be adjourned. All members were present and voted "yes". The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned.