

**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, April 7, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Present:

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

Ex-Officio member absent:

Jeremy Latimer/Steven Hennessee, DRPT

Nonmembers present:

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

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 Ms. Major.

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 March

31st of \$19,285.73.

In Re: Minutes of March 3, 2015

Motion was made by Mr. Hart, seconded by Ms. Major, that minutes of the meeting of March 3, 2015 be approved. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Wolff and voted “yes”. Motion was unanimously passed.

In Re: Public Transportation Report

The following Management Report was distributed:



**STAR Transit Management Report  
April 7, 2015**

**Operations**

The Transit Manager is reviewing the Chincoteague route to incorporate more of Main Street in an attempt to gain ridership on the island.

**Transit Capital**

No items at this time

**Human Resources**

No items at this time

**Marketing and Outreach**

- We met with Turner Construction and Hospital management team to discuss transportation access as well as ensuring that bus shelter locations and possible bus pull off areas are taken into consideration while in the planning phase of the new Hospital.
- Working with ESAA Senior Director to provide on board travel training to their senior clients.

**Transit Maintenance**

***Preventive Maintenance Program*** - All Star Transit vehicles have been serviced for the month of March and all vehicle maintenance records are up to date. One of the 2014 buses experienced a blown engine (under warranty) and will be out of service for approximately 3-5 weeks.

**Ridership Statistics**

***Ridership Statistics*** – The March 2015 STAR Transit passenger statistics show 7,094 rides for the month which is 21% decrease from the same month last year. March set an all-time passenger record.

**Finance**

Presented to the Northampton Board of Supervisors regarding requested funding for 2016 which included the application of the expansion route in Northampton County. It was noted that an additional \$20,800 will be needed from each county for the extra local match required if the grant is approved for the new route.

**Other**

It was noted that STAR Transit is undergoing an audit and it was recommended that personnel policies be developed specific to STAR, rather than using the current VRT policies. Motion was made by Mr. Hogg, seconded by Ms. Major, that VRT be authorized to develop personnel policies for STAR Transit and that same be brought back for action by the ANTDC. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Wolff and voted “yes”. The motion was unanimously passed. It was noted that this work is anticipated to take about 60 days.

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**In Re: State’s Comments**

There were no comments.

**In Re: Airport Update**

There was no report by Mr. Hart, but when Mr. Wolff arrived later in the evening, he reported that he will be flying with the *Blue Angels* at the Rockford, Illinois air show on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**In Re: Railroad Comments**

Mr. Wolff arrived at 5:45 p.m.

Mr. LeMond distributed the following report:

## ANTDC MEETING

**APRIL 7, 2015**

1. We handled 330 cars in March which brought our year-end total to 1,849 cars as compared to 1,718 cars last year. (March is the end of the fiscal year.)

Our largest shippers in March were **DCP Midstream (butane) = 210 cars**; Mid-Atlantic Transload = 31 cars; Gordon Paper = 24 cars; Sharp Energy = 22 cars; and Associated Farms = 16 cars.

FY 2014-15 Division Breakdown:

	<u>Cars</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u> <u>Revenue</u>
Cape Charles Division	674	36%	54%
Little Creek Division	1,175	64%	46%

FY 2014-15 Top Five Shippers:

	<u>Cars</u>
DCP Midstream	369
Mid-Atlantic Transload	316
Gordon Paper	276
Sharp Energy	233
Bayshore Concrete	119

2. Rhinehart Construction has begun the new track construction at Coastline Chemical in New Church. They should complete in April.

Lastly, Mr. LeMond reminded the Commission that this would be his last ANTDC meeting as he was retiring effective May 1<sup>st</sup> and introduced Mr. Alex Parry, who has been appointed as General Manager.

The Commission presented Mr. LeMond with the following Resolution of Appreciation:

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Mr. Larry E. LeMond was appointed Vice President & General Manager of the Eastern Shore Railroad in January 1997; and

WHEREAS, over the past nineteen years, Mr. LeMond has successfully led the railroad through the bad times: the loss of shippers, the deterioration of the physical plant, the cut-backs

in personnel; and also through the good times: the increased carloads, the new industrial sidings, the refurbished Barge *NANDUA*, the ever-popular Santa Train; and

WHEREAS, the past nineteen years has also seen the resurgence of the railroad's support, with new customers, a new management company, new leadership among its governing body, and a rehabilitated and vastly improved track bed, rolling stock, Cape Charles Yard and Little Creek Yard; and

WHEREAS, following these nineteen years of service to the Eastern Shore, Mr. LeMond has tendered his notice of retirement to be effective May 1, 2015.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Accomack-Northampton Transportation District Commission does hereby commend Mr. Larry E. LeMond for his selfless dedication to the preservation of the rail industry on Virginia's Eastern Shore and the strengthening of its economy, and conveys its best wishes to Mr. LeMond for a well-deserved, prosperous Retirement.

Adopted this   7th   day of   April  , 2015.

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In Re: VDOT Correspondence re: Tangier Project

It was reported that VDOT is soliciting comments relative to a proposed project on Tangier involving replacing the existing timber deck structures on two bridges with pre-fabricated steel truss structures. Ms. Major reported that this matter is also on the next Accomack County Board of Supervisors' agenda for action. Motion was made by Mr. Wolff, seconded by Mr. Hart, that the Commission relay its endorsement to VDOT for this project as outlined. All members were present and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

In Re: Change May Meeting Date

In order to accommodate a conflict posed by Mr. Bennett, motion was made by Mr. Hart, seconded by Ms. Major, that the regular May meeting be moved from Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, to Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce, Melfa, Virginia. All members were present and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

In Re: Adjourn

Motion was made by Mr. Hart, 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.