

**Hampton Roads Transportation
Accountability Commission (HRTAC)**

Summary Minutes of the November 20, 2014 Monthly Meeting

The Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC) Monthly Meeting was called to order at 12:45 PM in the Regional Board Room, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, with the following in attendance:

HRTAC Voting Members in Attendance:

Alan P. Krasnoff, Chair	Mary Jones
Paul D. Fraim	Delegate S. Chris Jones
Clyde Haulman	McKinley Price
W. Eugene Hunt, Jr.	William D. Sessoms
Delegate Johnny Joannou	George Wallace
Linda T. Johnson	Kenneth Wright
Dallas Jones	Delegate David Yancey

HRTAC Ex-Officio Members in Attendance:

Cathie France (Alternate)
Charlie Kilpatrick

HRTPO Interim Executive Director:

Camelia Ravanbakht

Other Participants:

Peter Huber
Deputy Secretary Grindly Johnson
Brent Spain
James Utterback

HRTAC Voting Members Absent:

Byron Bailey
Raystine D. Johnson-Ashburn
Senator Louise Lucas
Senator Frank Wagner, Vice Chair
Donald Wiggins

HRTAC Ex-Officio Members Absent:

John Malbon
Jennifer Mitchell
John Reinhart

* Late Arrival or Early Departure

Others Recorded Attending:

Robert Brown, Daniella Cossy, Stuart Goodpasture, Dennis Heuer, Ellis W. James, Kathleen McCarthy, Rhonda Murray, James Openshaw, Donna Sayegh, Tom Shepperd, Jeff Sullivan, Waverly Woods (Citizens); James Baker, Jan Proctor (CH); Randy Martin (FR); Brian DeProfio (HA); Anne Seward (IW); Bryan Hill (JC); Brittany Forman, Marcus Jones, Bryan Pennington, Jeffrey Raliski (NO); Britta Ayers, Bryan Stilley (NN); Sherri Neil (PO); Randy Wheeler (PQ); Michael Johnson (SH); Selena Cuffee-Glenn, Eric Nielsen (SU); Brian Solis, Jim Spore (VB); Jack Tuttle (WM); Teresa Langille (9/12, VBTA); Shannon Moody (American Infrastructure); Steve Schemmel (Bank of America Merril Lynch); Mark Macintyre (CH2M Hill); Doug Martin (Corps of Engineers); Jamaal E. O'Neal (Daily Press); Scott Forehand, Don Quisenberry, (eScribeSolutions); Reid Greenmun (Hampton Roads Tea Party, Virginia Beach Taxpayer's Alliance); Tracy Baynard, Kathryn Reichel (KPMG); Karen McPherson (McPherson Consulting); Dave Thompson, Chuck Eastman, (Michael Baker International); John Gergely (Occupied Newport News); Nelson L. Bush (PFM Group); Deborah Brown, (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky (PortsmouthCityWatch.org); Tom Thornton (Portsmouth Tea Party Alliance); Zach LeMaster (Senator Tommy Norment); Matthew Ward (Suffolk News Herald); Robert K. Dean (Tidewater Libertarian Party); Dianna Howard (VBTP, VBTA, TLP); Susan Clizbe, Tony Gibson, Paula Miller, Dawn Odom, Laurie Simmons (VDOT); Martha McClees (Virginia Beach Vision); David Forster (Virginian-Pilot); Kelli Alredge, Melton Boyer, Nancy Collins, Greg Grootendorst, Julia Hillegass, Whitney Katchmark, Randy Keaton, Mike Long, Joe Turner, Chris Vaigneur (HRPDC); Rob Case, Kathlene Grauberger, Danetta Jankosky, Mike Kimbrel, Brian Miller, Kendall Miller, Joseph D. Paulus, Dale Stith (HRTPO).

Public Comment Period (*limit 5 minutes per individual*)

Mr. Robert Brown spoke about the General Taylor Freeway alternative to some portions of the current plan.

Ms. Donna Sayegh spoke about liberty, the historical creation of municipal councils and the negative impacts of those councils, and the unnecessary proliferation of redundant agencies.

Ms. Dianna Howard suggested the creation of the HRTAC Citizens Advisory Committee via Bylaws changes, and requested that the Chair of the HRTAC Citizens Advisory Committee be welcomed to the monthly meetings and be given a vote. She closed by suggesting that Townebank should not be chosen as the bank for HRTAC.

Ms. Teresa Langille spoke next and suggested additional bylaws changes associated with the method of choosing the chair and vice chair based on population. She also spoke about being overly taxed.

Ms. Daniella Cousceau spoke about clarifying the specifics of what constitutes a quorum. She also spoke about a change to the bylaws to incorporate the creation of a Secretary position.

Mr. Reid Greenmun spoke about the inconvenient time of the scheduled meetings. He also spoke about bylaws changes to eliminate voice voting and look to adopt a weighted-voting option coupled with better regional decision making efforts.

Ms. Waverly Woods recommended another bylaws change that would require HRTAC to give residents the right to speak for up to 5 minutes on any agenda item, resolution, or motion.

Mr. Tom Thornton made another bylaws change recommendation associated with the selection of a HRTAC Executive Director, term limits, and removal of the director prior to term limit conclusion.

Mr. Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky discussed alternative transportation methods and suggested that business growth requires multi-modal solutions. He reiterated that you cannot pave your way out of congestion.

Minutes of the October 16, 2014 HRTAC Monthly Meeting

Mayor William Sessoms Moved to approve the October 16, 2014 Summary Minutes; seconded by Mayor Paul Fraim. The Motion Carried.

HRTAC Finance Committee Report by Vice Chairman Eugene Hunt

Mr. Hunt began by discussing the most recent Finance Committee meeting and the public comments collected at that time. He then proceeded with a summary of the budget, noting the changes made since the last budget was presented; the resulting 2015 budget was modified by reducing the number of staff for HRTAC. He made a motion, which included changes to the FY 2015 budget and HRTAC staffing changes that would go through much discussion and iteration before being finalized and later voted upon. He then recommended that the Finance Committee and TAC come together again to put together modeling scenarios.

Delegate Jones expressed some confusion as to the segmentation of the projects. Mr. Kilpatrick explained the intricacies that necessitated segmentation and the associated procurement process. Additional discussion occurred yielding that HRTAC decisions, or lack of timely decisions will impact VDOT activities on projects.

Delegate Joannou expressed confusion on the I-64 widening projects, route 199, and the continued use of HRTPO staff.

Mr. Hunt explained and Mr. Kilpatrick expanded on the explanations. Finally, Delegate Jones reiterated that using the HRTPO staff solution was a bridge until HRTAC is up and running. Mayor Hunt confirmed the Budget Committee's understanding of the "bridge" use of HRTPO staff and the next budget session presented by the Executive Director will see those sections disappear.

Mayor Price asked about a potential delay to segment 2 of the I-64 widening project, and what could be done to limit the delays for that project. Chair Krasnoff voiced similar concerns. Mr. Kilpatrick explained that the plan was to send segment 2 for procurement in the spring of 2015. He also remarked that the contracting community is not interested in bidding on projects that aren't funded.

Next the discussion focused on funding, cashflow, bonding, and projections. Delegate Jones and Eugene Hunt gave additional information to the discussion.

Delegate Jones gave a concise review in response to additional confusion stated by Delegate Joannou of the proposed budget. He stated the different projects with the amount of money associated with the various projects. He stated that the Board should move forward with the approval process so as not to interfere with the process that VDOT must observe.

Ms. Mary Jones recommended that the document delineating the various segments be put back up on the screen to allow everyone to see exactly to what was being referred.

Mayor Haulman questioned the rationale for not including all of the segments if the TPO has already stated that all of the projects are needed.

Chair Krasnoff remarked the reasoning to be an issue of timing. Delegate Jones expanded that the reasoning for the concern from the Finance Committee perspective was that they didn't have hard costs for everything and did not want to commit to all of the projects. He continued that he was committed to all of the projects. Mayor Hunt further explained his concern about appropriating money and spending some of it for a project that may not be able to be completed, and the potential wasted money that possibility represents.

Ms. Mary Jones expressed the importance of the I-64 expansion and that it is a regional top priority. Ms. Jones continued and expressed confusion about the removal of the segmenting of I-64 projects.

Mayor Hunt clarified his original motion which includes removal of two of the segments. He explained that it would be authorizing the expenditure of funds without knowing how much it would cost.

Ms. Jones commented that to be true for any proposed road project. She then restated confusion of Mayor Hunt's original motion to remove two of the segments and his recent restatement of the motion to include everything. Mayor Hunt then restated and clarified that the motion was to include all except for the Ft. Eustis project, as it did not impact the VDOT process. Ms. Jones expressed agreement and that they should not be taking actions to impede progress.

Mayor Sessoms asked for clarification that the projects were not using much bonding authority, which was confirmed by Mayor Hunt. Mayor Sessoms continued that additional debt may be necessary to complete the projects.

Mr. Kilpatrick provided more information and insight into the process and the plan. He remarked that the models originally used were cash and carry models. He said that bonding could allow for acceleration of projects and/or addition of new projects. He provided some projected timelines for the various segments, and additional process description that each project (segment) would endure. He went on to say that the package presented today was a game plan and not set in stone.

Mayor George Wallace asked if the Finance Committee was planning to use the pay-as-you-go method, to which Mr. Hunt replied that the committee has concluded that smaller change projects can be done with cash before the bonding capabilities are established.

The discussion continued and it was succinctly put that the first segment of the I-64 widening project could be paid with cash if the bonding ability isn't in place in time.

Mayor Price commented that as Mr. Kilpatrick had portrayed, all of the projects on the list could be included without any financial implication. Further, if that was the case, in an effort to eliminate the confusion, he would suggest moving the complete package forward rather than dropping some projects from the list. Mayor Hunt then explained that they weren't being dropped from a list, just that no money was being appropriated to them.

Mayor Haulman questioned that if both the TPO and HRTAC consent that the listed projects are ones that they want to do, why the motion state method of funding or project order. He followed by summarizing the current discussion as "we have the funding and the timing, but we are concerned about committing money we don't have."

Mayor Hunt responded that the VDOT models demonstrate that there is not enough money to do all of the projects without making decisions on tolling and everything else. He continued that he did not they did not want to apply money to projects that haven't been stuck into the model yet.

Chair Krasnoff stated that efficient and cost-effective expenditure of funds was the responsibility of the Tech Committee.

Mayor Haulman stated that they are being asked to vote on something without having enough information to do so.

Deputy Secretary Grindly Johnson reminded the Board that Secretary Layne had presented the first five projects and the two development projects through the model and that a copy of the model results were presented to the Board.

Mayor Hunt responded by stating that all seven projects were not run through the model since the model came back with 38 years to get the first five projects completed.

Mayor Linda Johnson asked about having a financial advisor available to help explain things and help the Board really understand what they are doing. She stated her understanding that they didn't say they were going to pay cash for all of the projects, and expanded that she didn't think that to be the expectation of any member of the Board.

Mayor Fraim expressed agreement with Mayor Johnson's statements. He further stated that the entire package needs to be moved forward at the same time.

Ms. Mary Jones expressed appreciation for the work that the Finance Committee and Mayor Hunt have done. She continued and expressed absolute agreement with the budget issues that have been raised. She noted that it was her understanding that that a public hearing would be held for each allocation before the body made an allocation. Chair Krasnoff noted that a public hearing was held. Mayor Hunt added that all of the costs were presented at the public hearing. Ms. Jones continued to explain her understanding as meaning each project, every expenditure individually, decided by HRTAC.

Delegate Jones expressed growing confusion. He described a bank roll of nearly \$300 Million at the end of next year. He reviewed previous contemplations that after the Board had matured, the projects had matured, and an Executive Director was in place, that the decisions could be made to start working projects in tandem. He gave some examples of tandem projects with different financing options. He stated his expectation for today's meeting was to discuss entity structure, organization, and project progression. He stated his desire to keep the train moving. He stated failure to fund the projects would negatively impact discussions with VDOT and the Secretary.

Ms. Mary Jones expressed concern that the process and discussion not be rushed, and that it was obvious that discussion was needed. Delegate Jones remarked that they had been deliberating this for months, and he did not think that was in any way rushing the decision. He stated that the public hearing was held and the Board has had months to do their due diligence.

Delegate Joannou had a question about tolls, prompted by a statement made by Mayor Hunt. Delegate Joannou wanted to make certain tolls were not being voted on in this vote, to which Mr. Hunt responded that tolls bothered him as well and they were not voting on tolls at this time. Delegate Joannou stated that he wanted to make it clear for the record that this vote did not have anything to do with putting tolls on any of these facilities.

Mayor Eugene Hunt, on behalf of the HRTAC Finance Committee, Moved to approve the FY 2015 Operating Budget and list of projects with the amended reduction of HRTAC Staff costs; seconded by Mayor Paul Fraim. The Motion Carried.

Next, Chair Alan Krasnoff inquired as to the status of the Attorney General's Opinion regarding Conflicts of Interest for Board Members with banking ties. Peter Huber and Brett Spain commented and stated that the Attorney General will only issue opinions on individuals. It was suggested that any Board Member with a concern should go through the process of requesting and getting an Opinion from the Attorney General.

Unfinished/New Business

There was not any new or unfinished business discussed.

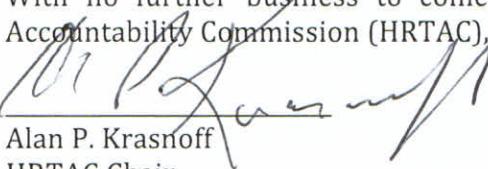
Next Meeting

Clyde Haulman Moved to change the time of the next monthly meeting scheduled for December 18, 2014 to 10:00AM; seconded by Mayor Paul Fraim. The Motion Carried.

The Next HRTAC Monthly Committee meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2014 at 10:00 AM.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC), the meeting adjourned at 2:31 PM.



Alan P. Krasnoff
HRTAC Chair