

**Hampton Roads Transportation
Accountability Commission (HRTAC)
Summary Minutes of the January 21, 2016 Regular Meeting**

The Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC) Regular Meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. in the HRTPO Regional Board Room, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, with the following in attendance:

HRTAC Members in Attendance:

William Sessoms, Chair	Dallas Jones
Clyde Haulman, Vice Chair	Alan Krasnoff
Rex Alphin	McKinley Price
Paul Fraim*	George Wallace
Michael Hipple	Jeffrey Wassmer
Linda Johnson	

HRTAC Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

Charlie Kilpatrick	John Malbon
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HRTAC Executive Director

Kevin Page

Other Participants:

Neal Crawford	Grindly Johnson
Cathie France	James Utterback
Tom Inglima	

HRTAC Voting Members Absent:

Kenneth Alexander	Chris Jones
Eugene Hunt	Frank Wagner
Johnny Joannou	Kenneth Wright
Raystine Johnson-Ashburn	David Yancey

HRTAC Non-Voting Members Absent:

Jennifer Mitchell	John Reinhart
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* Denotes Late Arrival or Early Departure

Others Recorded Attending:

Kelly Lackey, Earl Sorey (CH); Randy Martin (FR); Lynn Allsbrook, Brian Deprofio (HA); Britta Ayers, Bryan Stilley (NN); Jeff Raliski (NO); Bob Baldwin (PO); Michael Johnson (SH); Phil Pullen, Doug Smith (VB); Marvin Collins (WM); Tom Shepperd (YO); Bill Cashman (AECOM); Steve Schemmer (Bank of America); Beth Arnold (CH2M); John Herzke (Clark Nexsen); Frank Papcin (CTAC); Scott Forehand, Alex Fudala, Don Quisenberry (eScribe Solutions); Nick Antonucci, Anil Sharma (HNTB); Kevin White (Kaufman & Canoles); Bert

Ramsey (Lane Construction); Sam Blevins (McLean Contracting Company); Karen McPherson (McPherson Consulting); Chuck Eastman (Michael Baker); Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky (PortsmouthCityWatch.org); Ken Yarberry (RK&K); Mindy Hughes (Seventh Point Transportation PR); Dianna Howard (VBTA, VBTP, TLP); Jim Long, Dawn Odom (VDOT); Kirsten Tynch (VHB); Patrick Dixon (Wells Fargo); Amber Randolph (Willcox and Savage); Phil Lohr (WRA); Nancy Collins, Robert Crum, Danetta Jankosky, Randy Keaton, Mike Long, Joe Turner, Chris Vaigneur (HRPDC); Michael Kimbrel, Camelia Ravenbakht (HRTPO)

Call to Order

Chair William Sessoms called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Linda Johnson Moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Mr. Paul Fraim. The Motion carried.

Public Comment Period (limit 5 minutes per individual)

Mr. Frank Papcin stated that he was offended by Secretary Aubrey Layne's remarks about the Hampton Roads area. Mr. Papcin stressed that he is firmly resolved against tolls and recommends considering alternatives.

Chair's Comments

Chair William Sessoms pointed out that the meeting was backed up and to expedite business, the order of business would be rearranged with the permission of the members.

Consent Items

Mr. Paul Fraim Moved to approve the Consent Items pursuant to the suggested motions in the agenda packet, which Consent Items included (1) the Minutes from the December 16, 2015 HRTAC Regular Meeting, (2) the Amendment to the FY2016 Budget, (3) the Virginia Retirement System and Group Life Insurance Program Resolutions (Election to Participate, Obtaining Social Security Coverage, Health Insurance Credit Program), and (4) Preserving Flexibility to Reimburse Expenditures on I-64/I-264 Interchange Improvements Project, Phase 1, with proceeds of a Bond Issue; seconded by Ms. Clyde Haulman. The Motion carried.

Action Items

Director Page explained Action Item 6A, which relates to the authorization of a public hearing related to I-64/I-264 Interchange improvements under UPC 106693 and US Route 460/58/13 Connector work under UPC 106694.

Mr. Rex Alphin Moved to Approve the authorization of a Public Hearing on amendments to the HRTAC Financial Plan to cover Preliminary Engineering costs relating to I-64/I-264 Interchange improvements under UPC 106693 and US Route 460/58/13 Connector work under UPC 106694; seconded by Ms. Linda Johnson. The Motion carried.

Director Page proceeded to explain Action Item 6B, which calls for a resolution of support for Senator Wagner's proposed legislation related to increasing regional revenues. Mr. Page explained that SB 470 would increase the tax on certain regional fuel sales, and SB 477 would place a floor on the tax.

Mr. McKinley Price Moved to Approve a Resolution to Support Proposed Legislation to Increase Regional Revenues; seconded by Ms. Linda Johnson. The Motion carried.

Information Items

Financial Report

Director Page offered the Financial Report showing gross revenues to date as \$377,941,489 dollars; a cash balance of \$375,798,774; \$487,735,643 is encumbered over the next five fiscal years.

Legislative Update

Director Page summarized information on legislative items. He explained that three of the four items in the approved HRTAC Legislative Agenda are subject to legislative proposals. The Legislative Agenda item relating to system-wide financing has not been supported. He shared a list of Senate and House bills, as well as a Department of Transportation study of toll relief—all of which may impact HRTAC directly. He also noted Senator Wagner's Senate Bill regarding CTB membership and Delegate Jones' House Bill dealing with tolling.

Funding Strategies Advisory Committee

Neal Crawford, Chair of the Funding Strategies Advisory Committee, stated that the Committee continues its work and is preparing a plan to present to the Commission in March. He reviewed some of the work, scenarios, and projections while noting the March deadline. He asked for discussion and direction for the Committee.

Mr. Alan Krasnoff asked Chair Crawford to explain his statement that the plan would include the first phase of the Hampton Roads Crossing. Chair Crawford stated that the plan would use a per segment value, based on a two dollar toll on Patriot's Crossing or HOT-to-congestion pricing with HRBT. Mr. Krasnoff stated that he understands the legislation by Delegate Jones would impact the plan. He suggested that Commissioner Kilpatrick provide some clarity on the status of the project.

Mr. Charles Kilpatrick explained that the environmental study needs to be completed before choices of projects are made. Specifically, the SEIS process must be resolved and a Record of Decision needs to be determined.

Chair Crawford noted that VDOT should continue to focus on value. Mr. Kilpatrick suggested that a decision has not been made indicating how much money is needed.

Chair Sessoms thanked the Funding Strategies Advisors Committee, repeated his optimism, and asked Mr. Utterback when to expect the true cost figures for the High Rise Bridge. Mr. Utterback responded that he will bring the information to next month's meeting.

Chair Sessoms noted that in light of favorable project bids being received and HB2 activity, it appears that HRTAC may be able to do more than one major water crossing and asked for direction from VDOT and Director Page.

Mr. George Wallace asked for clarification on what will drive the decisions on funding and pointed out that the focus has been congestion mitigation. He questioned what information would be needed for the decision-making, and what information the SEIS was expected to provide.

Mr. Kilpatrick volunteered that he would provide the language used in the SEIS, but that all projects focus on congestion mitigation along with other factors such as economic development and safety.

Mr. Wallace stated that the seven percent figure stated by VPA is small for congestion mitigation.

Chair Sessoms asked Director Page to address the concerns. Director Page likened the situation to a three-legged stool represented by the SEIS, the Constrained Long-Range Plan, and the Plan of Finance. He noted that Mr. Crawford put out for discussion whether FSAC should be focused on the Plan of Finance based on current information. He noted that a crossing project could not be named until the SEIS completion, but that the hope is to have projects in a long-term plan by March.

Mr. Crawford noted the possibility of a conflict with proposed legislation by Delegate Jones. Mr. McKinley Price questioned the point in preparing a plan in light of the many variables. Mr. Clyde Haulman stated that he understands that the committee is asking if they should proceed and plan for the first three projects, and that in order to do so, more information is needed.

Mr. Alan Krasnoff expressed concern that too much time would elapse without decisions, partly because of the HB2 process, but that his intent is to give Mr. Crawford direction.

Mr. Kilpatrick offered that VDOT expects that the High Rise Bridge could be built with substantially less money and that he will have the amount at the February meeting. He agreed that VDOT, PFM, and the Committee can work together closely to accomplish the task.

Mr. Utterback added that much can be learned during the time the SEIS is being completed as well as from the significant technology on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel.

Mr. Paul Fraim offered that they should be sure of the numbers before they take action, adding that a number offered should be accompanied by documentation. He remarked that if tolling is probable for one or more of the projects, their vote on current projects should be made in consideration of that probability.

Mr. Price cited the pending legislation and questioned preparation of a finance plan without knowing the pending legislative limitations or the finance amount needed.

Chair Sessoms offered that if the Commission voted to move something forward, that it should be part of a package. Further, he agreed that the plan needs to move quickly and appreciated that VDOT and FSAC will provide in February the information on the cost of the High Rise Bridge and the plan to pay for it. Mr. Price reiterated his concern over requesting the Committee to prepare a plan without knowing how much money will be available. Chair Sessoms added HB2 funds and flooring the gas tax legislation that could potentially provide additional funding sources.

Ms. Cathie France provided clarification that 60 percent congestion mitigation would be achieved in connection with the Craney Island Connector portion of a third crossing and that 7 percent is related to truck traffic. Ms. France cited the Old Dominion University Modeling and Simulation Study as the source of the information. In addition, she addressed the on-going questions regarding the Port Authority's commitment to fund the Craney Island Connector. She stated that the Port Authority does not plan to fund the Connector, but that it should be considered as part of the project.

Mr. Page shared that communication from HRTPO indicated that the Connector would not be funded from the HRTF. Mr. Fraim added that the topic had been discussed by the Port Authority and the HRTPO, but that no formal action had been taken. He pointed out that the Crossing was intended to be accomplished in phases over a period of 20 years. He offered an optimistic view on the progress of other projects and commended the cooperation of VDOT.

Mr. Michael Hipple expressed concern over the \$200 million shortfall on the Patriots Crossing project. He noted his interest in all nine projects, as well as consideration of the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel. Chair Sessoms stated that the SEIS is considering the HRBT.

Mr. Crawford appreciated Mr. Price's concern and realizes that all nine projects may not be possible. He added that close work with Mr. Page to get solid numbers will be helpful. Ms. Johnson appreciated the Vice Chair's comments and that the costs of projects were better than expected.

Chair Sessoms anticipated that in a short period of time, HRTAC would know what revenues would be coming in as well as the costs of projects, which may allow a start on those such as the High Rise Bridge.

HRTPO Report of Activities

Mr. Robert Crum shared that he continues to work closely with Mr. Page and noted that Senator Cosgrove has agreed to dedicate the Hampton Roads Caucus weekly meeting on January 28 to a regional day.

Adjournment

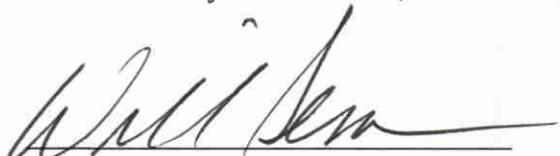
Chair Sessoms thanked Mr. Kilpatrick, Mr. Utterback, and Mr. John Baldwin for their hard work with HRTAC.

Next Meeting

The next HRTAC meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2016 at 12:30 p.m.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission, the meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.



William D. Sessoms, Jr.
HRTAC Chair