

**MINUTES OF THE  
ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON  
TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT COMMISSION**

The regular meeting of the Accomack-Northampton Transportation District Commission was held at the STAR Transit Office, 21250 Cooperative Way, Tasley, Virginia, on Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Present:

Richard B. Tankard, Chairman  
Steve Mallette, Secretary-Treasurer  
Jeffrey K. Walker  
Laurence J. Trala

Absent:

E. Philip McCaleb, Vice Chairman  
Ron Wolff

Ex-Officio member present:

Kevin Page

Nonmembers present:

Mary Ardolino, STAR Transit  
Bennie Etheridge, Canonie Atlantic Co.  
Wanda Thornton, Canonie Atlantic Co.  
Darrel Feasel, Va. Dept. of Rail & Public Transportation  
Ken Pollock, Va. Dept. of Rail & Public Transportation  
Sandy Manter, Town Manager, Town of Onancock  
John M. Williams, Canonie Atlantic Co.  
Kris LaMontagne, Town of Onancock

In Re: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

In Re: Invocation

The invocation was given by Mr. Tankard.

In Re: Statements from the Public

Mr. Kris LaMontagne and Ms. Sandy Manter, representing the Onancock Ferry Committee, briefed the membership on the Committee's efforts to re-establish ferry service between Onancock and Tangier. A short-term solution has been achieved with the commencement of daily ferry operations from May 1 – September 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. For a long-term solution, grant funds are being sought from the State's Ferry Discretionary Fund as well as federal Stimulus funds. Mr. Page said that the Commission, as well as the Committee, needs to be aware of the project reporting requirements which will be in place if the project is initiated as well as performance standards to be met. Motion was made by Mr. Mallette, seconded by Mr. Walker, that the Commission offer its conceptual support to the Onancock Ferry Committee for inclusion in the grant applications. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Wolff and Mr. McCaleb and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

In Re: Account Balances

The monthly Assistant Secretary-Treasurer's report showed an ending balance at April 30<sup>th</sup> of \$1,777.51. The Public Transit Manager's report indicated that there was a balance of \$100.00 in the savings account and \$3,910.80 in the checking account for STAR Transit.

In Re: Public Transportation Report

Ms. Ardolino reported that ridership total for April was 3,143.

Following comments from Ms. Ardolino relative to the severe cash flow shortage being experienced by STAR Transit, Mr. Feasel and Mr. Pollock from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation stressed to the Commission the affect of reductions in local match contributions as it relates to services provided (for every dollar in local match, in excess of three dollars in state and federal aid can be achieved). Accomack County has reduced its FY 2010 contribution from \$33,820 in FY 2009 to \$29,524.00. Several suggestions were discussed by the Commission including possible reductions in service and requesting additional contributions from both the local governing bodies as well as private commercial vendors.

Mr. Feasel offered the services of VDRPT in the development of a marketing plan and a route analysis to assist, not only with the immediate situation, but with the future vision for STAR Transit and said that he would be glad to meet with the Commission again next month. As an exception to the Commission's Bylaws (to meet every other month), the Commission decided to also meet in June for further information and discussion with regard to this matter. In the mean time, both counties will be requested to fund the present advertising deficit (\$17,000) which led in part to this condition. Additionally, letters to each town as well as corporate sponsors will be issued in search of additional funding.

In response to a request from Ms. Ardolino, motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded

by Mr. Mallette, that vehicle #10, a 2005 Ford 20-passenger bus with lift, be sold. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Wolff and Mr. McCaleb and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

Ms. Ardolino’s final action item was consideration for hiring a mechanic. The Commission deferred action on this request following Mr. Pollock’s indication that he would assist with the development of a job description and scope of work for this position.

In Re: Minutes of March 3, 2009

Motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Mallette, that minutes of the meeting of March 3, 2009 be approved. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Wolff and Mr. McCaleb and voted “yes”. Motion was unanimously passed.

In Re: Closed Session:

Motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Mallette, that the Commission enter Closed Session in accordance with Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended:

Paragraph 1: Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of any public body.

All members were present with the exception of Mr. McCaleb and Mr. Wolff and voted “yes.” The motion was unanimously passed.

After Closed Session, the Chairman reconvened the meeting and said that the Commission had entered the closed session for that purpose as set out in paragraph 1 of Section 2.1-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended. Upon being polled individually, each member confirmed that this was the only matter of discussion during the closed session.

In Re: State’s Comments

Mr. Page reported that Bay Coast Railroad received \$219,489 in rail preservation funding for FY 2010.

In Re: Airport Update

It was the consensus of the Commission to request that the Accomack Airport provide routine reports, either verbal or written, to the Commission, relative to its activities.

In Re: Railroad Comments

Mr. LeMond and Mr. Holland were absent.

In Re: Custodial Services Bid

It was noted that only one bid was received in response to the Commission's RFP for custodial services: that of the current provider, Ms. Ardolino. Motion was made by Mr. Mallette, seconded by Mr. Walker, that the bid be rejected. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Wolff and Mr. McCaleb and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

In Re: Canonie Atlantic Representatives

It was noted that the Canonie Atlantic Bylaws only provide for nine members to that body. Consequently, Mr. Johnny Williams and Mr. Bill Floyd, the last two members appointed at the March 2009 annual meeting, were removed.

In Re: Recess

Motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Mallette, that the meeting be recessed in order to allow for the second quarter meeting of the Board of Directors of Canonie Atlantic Co. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Wolff and Mr. McCaleb and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

Following the Canonie meeting, Chairman Tankard reconvened the meeting.

In Re: Adjourn

Motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Mallette, that the meeting be adjourned. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Wolff and Mr. McCaleb and voted "yes." The motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned.