

**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 Office, Melfa, Virginia, on Tuesday, July 7, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Present:

E. Philip McCaleb, Vice Chairman
Ron Wolff
Laurence J. Trala
Steve Mallette, Secretary-Treasurer

Absent:

Richard B. Tankard, Chairman
Jeffrey K. Walker

Ex-Officio member present:

Kevin Page

Nonmembers present:

Mary Ardolino, STAR Transit
J. T. Holland, Bay Coast Railroad
Larry LeMond, Bay Coast Railroad
Bennie Etheridge, Canonie Atlantic Co.
Richard Lewis, Canonie Atlantic Co.

In Re: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-Chairman.

In Re: Invocation

The invocation was given by Mr. McCaleb.

In Re: Statements from the Public

There were no statements.

In Re: Account Balances

The monthly Assistant Secretary-Treasurer's report showed an ending balance at June 30th of \$3,181.70. The Public Transit Manager's report indicated that there was a balance of \$718.44 in the savings account and \$12,300.00 in the checking account for STAR Transit.

In Re: Minutes of June 2, 2009

Motion was made by Mr. Wolff, seconded by Mr. Mallette, that minutes of the meeting of June 2, 2009 be approved. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Walker and Mr. Tankard and voted "yes". Motion was unanimously passed.

In Re: Public Transportation Report

Ms. Ardolino reported that ridership total for June was 2,719. She also noted that the STAR Transit accountant has been requested to attend the next meeting of the ANTDC.

Ms. Ardolino provided the following summary of outstanding bills as of July 1st:

Beauchamp Construction - \$14,258.70. It was noted that while a final punch list was completed with Mr. McCaleb, there are some items still outstanding. It was the consensus of the Commission that final payment should not be made to the contractor until all pending items have been satisfactorily completed.

Virginia Regional Transit - \$3,345.97 for construction manager services. Ms. Ardolino reported that sufficient capital funds remain (from refund of pump-and-haul bond) to cover this invoice. Motion was made by Mr. Mallette, seconded by Mr. Trala, that Ms. Ardolino be instructed to verify that this invoice is within the contract amount and if so, then to authorize payment. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Walker and Mr. Tankard and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

dBf Associated, Architects - \$23,993.55. Ms. Ardolino reported that these additional architectural services have been verified as valid charges. Funding from the bus stop shelter capital project (\$10,000), and the draft FY 10 capital projects (shop & security equipment)(\$13,993.55) have been identified to cover this obligation.

Ms. Ardolino reminded the Board that at the last meeting, the Commission voted to wait to order new business for receipt of stimulus funding which required no local match (due to arrive in September). Since then, another bus (#14), used on the Green Route, is out of service, needing

major repairs (air condition compressor; possible transmission replacement). Bus #14 is a 2006 model with 150,000+ miles. Currently, the Green Route is using the administration van, which has no wheelchair lift and according to the FTA, only three days are allowed on any route with no lift. Additionally, at the present time, STAR does not have a spare vehicle.

It was Ms. Ardolino's recommendation to order the two new buses already approved under the FY 09 capital grant immediately, especially considering the normal six-month wait for receipt of the vehicles.

There was a lengthy discussion relative to the merits of changing the fleet over to gasoline buses from diesel models. It was reported that switching to gas buses would result in an additional \$6,200 cost per year although many transit systems are in the process of switching to gasoline as a result of frequent transmission and other troubles with the diesel buses.

Motion was made by Mr. Mallette, seconded by Mr. Page, that STAR Transit be instructed to commence conversion to a gasoline fleet. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Walker and Mr. Tankard and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Mr. Trala, seconded by Mr. Mallette, that the Public Transit Manager be instructed to sell Bus #14. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Tankard and Mr. Walker and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

Motion was made by Mr. Wolff, seconded by Mr. Mallette, that the Public Transit Manager be instructed to proceed with ordering two new buses through the adopted 2009 Capital Budget, with the condition that the Public Transit Manager certify that there are sufficient local match funds available for such purchase. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Walker and Mr. Tankard and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed.

With regard to a proposal submitted by Mr. Detail to clean STAR Transit buses, motion was made by Mr. Mallette, seconded by Mr. Trala, that this matter be tabled until next month pending a closer look at the available budget. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Walker and Mr. Tankard and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed. Ms. Ardolino further reminded the Commission that she has been cleaning the building since February (at no charge).

In Re: State's Comments

Mr. Page commented that VDRPT staff will be meeting with Ms. Ardolino this summer to work on the FY 10 budget. He also reported that Rail Preservation funding has been approved for the Bay Coast Railroad in the amount of \$358,890 (\$219,489 state portion). These funds are slated for track improvements in the Cape Charles Division as well as at the Little Creek Yard.

In Re: Airport Update

No report was provided.

In Re: Railroad Comments

Mr. LeMond said that the Virginia Port Authority has approved grant funding in the amount of \$130,125 for improvements to the float bridge.

He also noted that the Broadband project was proceeding very smoothly.

New Business:

In Re: Award of Audit Contract for FY 09

Motion was made by Mr. Trala, seconded by Mr. Mallette, that the Commission award the contract for the FY 09 ANTDC/STAR Transit audit to Mitchell & Co. in accordance with the RFP's specifications. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Walker and Mr. Tankard and voted "yes." The motion was unanimously passed. It was noted that this is the first one-year renewal of the four such renewals which are allowed under the audit contract executed last year.

In Re: Adjourn

Noting that the Commission was not comfortable yet with reverting back to the bi-monthly meeting schedule, motion was made by Mr. Trala, seconded by Mr. Mallette, that the meeting be adjourned until August 2009. All members were present with the exceptions of Mr. Tankard and Mr. Walker and voted "yes." The motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned.