

**Hampton Roads Transportation  
Accountability Commission (HRTAC) Finance Committee  
Summary Minutes of the August 19, 2014 Meeting**

The Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC) Finance Committee Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Regional Board Room, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, with the following in attendance:

**HRTAC Finance Committee Members in**

**Attendance:**

W. Eugene Hunt  
Senator L. Louise Lucas\*  
McKinley Price  
William D. Sessoms  
Senator Frank Wagner, Chair

**HRTPO Interim Executive Director:**

Camelia Ravanbakht

**Other Participants:**

Dep. Sec. Grindly Johnson  
Tom Inglima  
Alan Krasnoff\*  
Jim Spore

\* Late Arrival or Early Departure

**Others Recorded Attending:**

Tracy Agnew, Robert Brown, Robert Dean, Ross Grogg, Dianna Howard, Jim Keiper, Josh Lazernick, Harry Lester, Eugene Maina, Mike Robinson, Donna Sayegh (Citizens); James Baker, Earl Sorey (CH); Brian DeProfio (HA); Tom Slaughter, Bryan Stilley, Jerri Wilson (NN); Deborah Brown, Bryan Pennington, Jeff Raliski (NO); Sherri Neil (PO); J. Randall Wheeler (PQ); Angie Berik, Julie Dumi, Bob Matthias (VB); Martha McClees (VB Vision); Vince Mastracco (Kaufman & Canoles); Tamaal O'Neil (Daily Press); Chris Collins (Jacobs Engineering); Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky (Portsmouthcitywatch.org); Amber Randolph (Willcox & Savage); Rob Case, Brian Chenault, Kathlene Grauberger, Danetta Jankosky, Michael Kimbrel, Kendall Miller, Joe Paulus (HRTPO Staff); Melton Boyer, Nancy Collins, Mike Long, Chris Vaigneur (HRPDC Staff)

**Public Comment Period (*limit 3 minutes per individual*)**

Ms. Donna Sayegh, Portsmouth Citizen, addressed the HRTAC Finance Committee regarding the draft budget.

(Mayor Krasnoff arrives)

Mr. Jim Keiper, Chesapeake Citizen, addressed the HRTAC Finance Committee regarding light rail and the Maglev.

Ms. Dianna Howard, representing the Hampton Roads Tea Party, the Virginia Beach Tax Payers Alliance, and the Tidewater Libertarian Party, addressed the HRTAC Finance Committee regarding the draft budget.

Mr. Robert Brown, Chesapeake Citizen, addressed the HRTAC Finance Committee regarding public comment video submittal.

Mr. Robert K. Dean, representing the Tidewater Libertarian Party, addressed the HRTAC Finance Committee regarding the draft budget.

(Senator Lucas arrives)

Mr. Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky, representing Portsmouthcitywatch.org, addressed the HRTAC Finance Committee regarding the draft budget.

Ms. Brenda Hardison, Chesapeake Citizen, addressed the HRTAC Finance Committee regarding the draft budget.

### **Proposed Draft Budget**

Chair Frank Wagner stated that Mr. Jim Spore, Virginia Beach City Manager, was asked to prepare an HRTAC draft budget for the HRTAC Finance Committee to review. He noted the draft budget was a collaborative effort which involved several Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs). He indicated the Committee would review the proposed budget and move it forward to the full HRTAC for further discussion.

Mr. Jim Spore reported the proposed HRTAC draft budget respects federal code and maximizes efficiency and collaboration between the HRTAC, HRTPO, and HRPDC. He briefed the Committee on the draft budget, including the proposed:

- Governance Structure
- HRTAC Staff Structure
- Operating Budget
- HRTAC Staff Budget
- HRTPO Staff Support Budget

Discussion ensued regarding whether the HRTAC should hire its own Executive Director, or whether a single Executive Director should lead the HRTAC, HRPDC, and HRTPO. A question was raised on whether having one Executive Director for all three organizations would result in a reduction in the locality per capita currently going to the HRPDC and HRTPO. Dr. Camelia Ravanbakht, HRTPO Interim Executive Director, replied there were no planned reductions.

The Committee discussed whether the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund (HRTF) Administrative Fees of roughly \$550,000 incurred thus far, should be included in the HRTAC proposed budget. Chair Wagner replied that the fees cover the administrative costs of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the Department of Taxation for collecting the fees and taxes and accounting for them properly. Mr. Tom Inglima, HRTAC Counsel, stated the legislation provides for the administrative fees to be generated. Mr. Inglima noted the fees are not accounted for in the proposed budget since the fees are withdrawn before the funds are deposited.

Deputy Secretary Grindly Johnson commented that the Administration would prefer the HRTAC have its own Executive Director. She noted that Secretary Layne will provide start-up funds for the HRTAC budget, if necessary.

The Committee agreed the following two items would be forwarded to the HRTAC Retreat:

- Discussion – Separate HRTAC Executive Director or one Executive Director for HRPDC/HRTPO/HRTAC
- Presentation – Budget figures for the above options

A question was raised regarding the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund (HRTF) and whether the State held the account. Deputy Secretary Johnson and Chair Wagner stated that the account is currently held by the State, but will eventually be held directly by the HRTAC.

Mayor McKinley Price stated the Executive Director search by Springsted Incorporated is on hold until it is decided whether the HRTAC will have a separate Executive Director.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **Next Meeting**

There was no discussion regarding the next HRTAC Finance Committee meeting.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor William Sessoms Moved to adjourn the HRTAC Finance Committee; seconded by Mayor Price. The Motion Carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.