

**ITEM 5-A
February 1, 2018
PRTC Regular Meeting
Res. No. 18-02-___**

MOTION:

SECOND:

RE: APPROVE – MINUTES – DECEMBER 7, 2017

ACTION:

WHEREAS, on February 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission ("PRTC" or the "Commission") convened its regular meeting at the PRTC Transit Center, located at 14700 Potomac Mills Road, Woodbridge, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, PRTC conducted business in accordance with a published agenda dated February 1, 2018.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission does hereby approve the minutes of December 7, 2017.

Votes:

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent from Vote:

Alternate Present Not Voting:

Absent from Meeting:



POTOMAC AND RAPPAHANNOCK TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

14700 POTOMAC MILLS RD • WOODBRIDGE, VA • 22192 • PRTCTRANSIT.ORG

MINUTES

PRTC Commission Meeting – December 7, 2017

Members Present

*Richard Anderson
*Ruth Anderson
*George Barker
*Maureen Caddigan
*John Jenkins, Immediate Past Chairman
*Matthew Kelly,
*Jeanine Lawson
*Paul Milde, Treasurer
*Marty Nohe
*Frank Principi, Chairman
*Jeanette Rishell, Vice Chairman
*Pamela Sebesky, Secretary
*Gary Skinner
*Paul Trampe

Jurisdiction

Virginia House of Delegates
Prince William County
Virginia Senate
Prince William County
Prince William County
City of Fredericksburg
Prince William County
Stafford County
Prince William County
Prince William County
City of Manassas Park
City of Manassas
Spotsylvania County
Spotsylvania County

Members Absent

Jackson Miller
Jennifer Mitchell
Bob Thomas

Virginia House of Delegates
Department of Rail & Public Transportation
Stafford County

Alternates Present

Norm Catterton
Margaret Franklin
*Todd Horsley

Prince William County
Prince William County
Department of Rail & Public Transportation

Alternates Absent

Hilda Barg
Pete Candland
Hector Cendejas
Wendy Maurer
Tim McLaughlin
Suhas Naddoni
Steve Pittard
David Ross
Laura Sellers
Donald Shuemaker

Prince William County
Prince William County
City of Manassas Park
Stafford County
Spotsylvania County
City of Manassas Park
Department of Rail & Public Transportation
Spotsylvania County
Stafford County
City of Manassas Park

Mark Wolfe
Billy Withers

City of Manassas
City of Fredericksburg

*Voting Member

**Delineates arrival/departure following the commencement of the PRTC Board Meeting. Notation of the exact arrival/departure time is included in the body of the minutes.

Staff and General Public

Gina Altis – PRTC
Doug Allen – PRTC
Cozy Bailey – Citizen
Tonisha Belton – PRTC
LaTricia Benson – PRTC
Tomonkia Byrd – PRTC
Nelson Cross – First Transit
Tracy Dean – PRTC
Rob Dickerson – PRTC Legal Counsel
Joyce Embrey – PRTC
Althea Evans – PRTC
Mike Garber – PBMAres
Donald Hamilton – PRTC
Adra Haley – Citizen
JR Hipple – SIR
Todd Johnson – First Transit
Ken Jones – PRTC
Uriah Kaiser – Potomac Local
Emory Large – First Transit
Bob Leibbrandt – Prince William County
Doris Lookabill – PRTC

Jacqueline Lucas – PRTC Legal Counsel
Betsy Massie – PRTC
Ben Matters – PRTC
Jerry McIntosh – PRTC
Karen Mills – PRTC
Holly Morello – PRTC
Michael Otson – Citizen
Vivian Ozbun – Citizen
Perrin Palistrant – PRTC
Kim Pitner – PRTC
Christine Rodrigo – PRTC
Marsha Reid – PRTC
Bob Schneider – PRTC
Markesha Smithen – PRTC
Joe Stainsby – PRTC
Chuck Steigerwald – PRTC
Joe Swarz – VRE
Ken Tuitt – PRTC
Nia Tuix – Citizen
Bea Wooden – PRTC
Monique Wyche – First Transit

Chairman Principi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence, and Roll Call followed.

Approval of the Agenda –4 [RES 17-12-01]

Chairman Principi noted that the Commission is in receipt of an open letter from employees claiming that the proposed reduction-in-force (Agenda Item 10-E) is for illegally, discriminatory purposes. Upon discussion with the Executive Director and PRTC Legal Counsel, it is recommended that the agenda be amended to table Agenda Items 10-E and 10-F to a future PRTC Board meeting. Also, the Executive Director has been asked to contact the Prince William County EEO and Diversity Officer through the Prince William County Executive's office to perform an independent review of the complaint. Chairman Principi also noted that Citizens' Time (Agenda Item 6) will still occur and anyone who would like to address the PRTC Board will be given three minutes to speak.

Continuing, Chairman Principi noted that the Agenda will be further amended to allow Mike Garber (PBMAres) to give his financial audit presentation (Agenda Item 10-A) to occur before the Executive Director's Report (Agenda Item 8) and Agenda Items 8 and 9 will be swapped on the

agenda, as the Executive Director's Report contains a presentation on the new branding of the PRTC organization and VRE CEO Doug Allen will need to depart in order to attend the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission's (NVTC) meeting later this evening.

Commissioner Rishell moved, with a second by Commissioner Barker, to approve the agenda, as amended. Commissioner Skinner made a friendly amendment to the motion and second to move Mr. Allen's Report (Agenda Item 9) to occur before Agenda Item 6 (Citizens' Time) to allow Mr. Allen sufficient time to depart for the NVTC meeting. Both Commissioner Rishell and Commissioner Barker agreed to the friendly amendment. There was no further discussion on the motion. (RISHELL/BARKER, UNANIMOUS)

Approval of the Minutes of the November 7, 2017 PRTC Board Meeting – 5 [RES 17-12-02]

Commissioner Skinner moved, with a second by Commissioner Rishell, to approve the minutes, as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. (SKINNER/RISHELL; WITH MAJORITY VOTE, HORSLEY/LAWSON/SEBESKY ABSTAINED)

At this time, VRE CEO Doug Allen gave his report (Item 9 will remain in correct numbering sequence within the minutes).

Citizens' Time - 6

Chairman Principi noted that Citizens' Time provides private individuals an opportunity to address the PRTC Board. Protocol allows for citizens to speak for up to three minutes and citizens are asked to come to the podium to speak into the microphone as the PRTC Board Meetings are recorded. Chairman Principi asked those who would like to address the PRTC Board this evening to direct their comments to the PRTC Board, introduce themselves, share whether they are here representing an organization, themselves or an outside organization, and to note if they are an employee of PRTC or First Transit.

At this time a number of citizens and PRTC/First Transit employees addressed the PRTC Board (Transcript attached).

Approval of the Consent Agenda –7 [RES 17-12-03]

Commissioner Jenkins moved, with a second by Commissioner Sebesky, to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. [JENKINS/SEBESKY, UNANIMOUS]

- Accepted the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Monthly Jurisdictional Financial Report for the Period Ended September 30, 2017, as presented. [RES 17-12-04]
- Accepted the 2018 PRTC Meeting Schedule, as presented. [RES-17-12-05]

At this time, Mike Garber (PBMAres) gave a briefing on PRTC's FY 2017 Audited Financial Statements (Agenda Item 10-A). There were no questions.

Authorization to Accept FY 2017 Audited Financial Statements, Required Communication to the Commissioners, and PBMares, LLP Management Letter [17-12-06]

Commissioner Kelly moved, with a second by Commissioner Jenkins, to accept the FY 2017 audited financial statements, required communication to the Commissioners, and management letter, as presented by PBMares, LLP. There was no discussion on the motion. (KELLY/JENKINS, UNANIMOUS)

PRTC Executive Director's Time – 8

Dr. Schneider briefed the Board on the following item(s) of interest:

- Dr. Schneider introduced Mr. J.R. Hipple of Southeastern Institute of Research, Inc. (SIR), who gave a presentation about the “PRTC Brand Renewal Strategy.”
- Christine Rodrigo (PRTC's Public Relations Specialist) recognized for 15 years of service.
- The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) passed the I-395 Inside the Beltway concessionaire's package. PRTC has a proposed agreement with VDRPT, which is technically VDOT/CTB and NVTC also has an agreement. There were no substantive changes – mainly related to how the funds would be passed internally within the Commonwealth.
- The OmniRide Fuel Dashboard covers the first quarter of the fiscal year and shows that PRTC pumped less fuel and PRTC's projected fuel expense is considerably lower. The total cost of last year's fuel over this year's fuel reflects that PRTC expended \$60,000 less through the first four months of the year so PRTC is paying a lower price per gallon for fuel, resulting in a cost savings in the near-term.

Chairman Principi observed that year over year PRTC is spending more money on fuel, but cut services over that period of time. Dr. Schneider noted the service cuts occurred in 2016 and that staff will confirm the information with staff and report back to the Commission.

Commissioner Skinner asked if PRTC's gas futures will be affected i.e. where PRTC purchases six months of fuel and also asked about when the next batch of gas futures purchase will occur. Dr. Schneider noted that PRTC's gas futures purchase will be affected in the near term and also noted that the most recent batch of gas futures PRTC purchased is at a higher rate. Dr. Schneider noted that he cannot recall off the top of his head when the next batch of gas futures will be purchased, but will gather this information and report back to the Commission with an update.

- For perusal, staff has identified an article “The Bus Network Redesign in Indianapolis Will Be Like Launching a Brand New Transit System” that talks about the issues suburban communities are facing and focuses on suburban services in the outer area. PRTC is more of this parallel and is that suburban community. PRTC's focus is what this means for Prince William County.

- With the release of the LaHood Report, NVTC has crafted a letter from Jeff McKay to Governor McAuliffe that identifies parallels that exists for the WMATA reforms that are tied to NVTC, which is relevant to PRTC as PRTC is one of the two owners of the VRE, so there are implications in terms of rail transportation and for the region as a whole. Specifically, NVTC recently adopted two resolutions one of which is a resolution from NVTC to endorse the direction and spirit of WMATA General Manager Paul Wiedefeld's April 2017 Action Plan, which outlines key steps to control operation of capital costs. A secondary resolution includes provisions for labor negotiations, pension liability, etc. NVTC is formally asking in support of the reform effort that the Reform Board is formed to be jointly appointed by the Governor and NVTC.

Tolls on I-66 are as much as \$40.00 for a ten mile commute. There's a proposal from Loudoun County Supervisor Ron Meyer to potentially place a cap on the tolls or a suspension. Commissioner Lawson noted that the Prince William Board of County Supervisors agreed to write a letter to the Governor, Secretary Layne, and Governor-Elect Northam to express concern about the toll pricing and to ask for a temporary freeze of the tolls until such time a solution is reached.

Virginia Railway Express Chief Executive Officer's Time – 9

Mr. Allen briefed the Board on the following item(s) of interest:

- VRE participated in a rail security meeting convened by The Association of American Railroads in conjunction with TSA to look at current and pending regulations and best practices on how to improve security and began a program to install new access control equipment and security cameras at VRE's facilities.
- Ridership was 19,700 for the month of October and On-Time Performance (OTP) is 91% on both the Fredericksburg Line and the Manassas Line.
- Good progress is being made at the Potomac Shores Station by DRPT as well as their work on designing the third track through that section. The developer has restarted the design work on the station.
- VRE is working to get operational by January with two storage tracks by the L'Enfant VRE Station, which will provide VRE more operational flexibility.
- VRE is expanding at the crossroads yard to build a lifecycle overhaul and upgrade facility to keep VRE's rolling stock and railway equipment in a state-of-good-repair. VRE has worked with the Spotsylvania Board of County Supervisors to get a zoning update for a parcel of property VRE requires to commence the work. With the updated zoning in place, VRE will begin an appraisal and review process along with the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) review, so that VRE can acquire the property and begin work on the facility.

- An action item is before the Commission this evening with regard to VRE's Legislative Agenda. Also, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) voted on Wednesday to endorse a number of projects that have been recommended by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA). The projects relate to the I-66 Outside the Beltway Project and VRE is recommended to receive \$128 million to implement the Manassas Line capacity enhancements. The CTB will vote in January to add the projects to the Commonwealth's Six-Year Improvement Plan.
- The jurisdictional CAO Task Force concluded their analysis of VRE's proposed FY 2019 budget and concurs with the analysis and the recommended budget, which will be brought to the VRE Operations Board at its next meeting.

Accept and Authorize Distribution of VRE's FY 2017 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) [Res 17-12-07]

Commissioner Kelly moved, with a second by Commissioner Nohe, to accept VRE's FY 2017 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and associated information from the auditors and authorizes the VRE Chief Executive Officer to forward these documents to interested groups, firms, and members of the public. There was no discussion on the motion. (KELLY/NOHE, UNANIMOUS)

Authorization to Submit VRE Projects to NVTA for FY 2018-2023 Six Year Program Funding Consideration [17-12-08]

Commissioner Caddigan moved, with a second by Commissioner Kelly, to approve the submission of the projects identified in Attachment 1, for a total request up to \$168 million, to the NVTA for consideration for funding in its FY2018-2023 Six Year Program. The projects encompass NVTA TransAction Project No. 93, VRE Fredericksburg Line Rail Capacity Improvements; Project No. 298, VRE Alexandria-DC Rail Capacity Improvements; Project No. 300, VRE Manassas Line Capacity Enhancements; Project No. 301, VRE Fredericksburg Line Service Expansion and authorizes the VRE Chief Executive Officer to submit the approved projects for funding, to make any necessary corrections to project amounts or descriptions, to remove the L'Enfant station and track improvements project dependent on its eligibility for NVTA funding, and to execute all project Agreements on behalf of the Commissions. There was no discussion on the motion. (CADDGIAN/KELLY; WITH MAJORITY VOTE, NOHE/RISHELL ABSTAINED)

Authorization to Submit VRE Projects to NVTC for FY 2018 I-66 Commuter Choice Funding Consideration [Res 17-12-09]

Commissioner Kelly moved, with a second by Commissioner Milde, to approve the submission of the Crystal City Station Improvements, L'Enfant Station and Track Improvements, and Manassas Line Real-Time Multimodal Traveler Information System projects to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) for funding consideration in its FY 2018 Commuter Choice Program and authorizes the VRE Chief Executive Officer to submit the approved projects for funding, to make any necessary corrections to project amounts for descriptions,

and to execute all project agreements on behalf of the Commissions. There was no discussion on the motion. (KELLY/MILDE, UNANIMOUS)

Approve the 2017/2018 VRE Legislative Agenda [Res 17-12-10]

Commissioner Milde moved, with a second by Commissioner Jenkins, to approve the 2017/2018 VRE Legislative Agenda and authorizes the VRE Chief Executive Officer to actively pursue the elements set forth in the attached documents. There was no discussion on the motion. (MILDE/JENKINS, UNANIMOUS)

PRTC Action Items - 10

Authorization to Accept the FY 2017 Audited Financial Statements, Required Communication to the Commissioners, and PBMAres, LLP Management Letter

This item voted on following Mike Garber's (PBMAres) briefing to the Commission.

Authorization to Submit an Application for, and Accept, NVTC's Commuter Choice Multimodal Funding [17-12-11]

Commissioner Lawson moved, with a second by Commissioner Barker, to authorize the Executive Director to apply for and accept funding from the I-66 Commuter Choice Program.

Chairman Principi asked what projects are included in the Program. PRTC Director of Operations and Operations Planning Perrin Palistrant noted there are five total projects being requested. Mr. Palistrant went on to note that two of the projects are specific transit-related projects: 1) add one morning and one evening trip to the Linton Hall Metro Direct bus service and 2) reintroduce all day reverse commute service on the Manassas Metro Direct.

Continuing, PRTC Director of Strategic Planning Chuck Steigerwald noted there are three ideas on the transportation demand management side that include 1) to build a flexible vanpool program, which is technology based, 2) implement one or more neighborhood shuttles to commuter lots in the I-66 corridor attempting to use a micro-transit application for those services, and 3) increased monthly payment through the Vanpool Alliance Program to vanpools in that corridor and/or combine this item with the flexible vanpool program.

There was no further discussion on the motion. (LAWSON/BARKER, UNANIMOUS)

Authorization to Execute an Agreement with VDRPT to Provide Funding for Bus Service Improvements during the Construction of the I-395 Express Lanes [17-12-12]

Commissioner Milde moved, with a second by Commissioner Sebesky, to authorize the Executive Director to execute an agreement with VDRPT for the provision of transit services as part of the I-395 Express Lanes Transportation Management Program. There was no discussion on the motion. (MILDE/SEBESKY, UNANIMOUS)

Authorization to Submit a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Funding Request for FY 2024 and a Possible NVTAFY 2018-2023 Funding Request [7-12-13]

Commissioner Milde moved, with a second by Commissioner Sebesky, to authorize the Executive Director to submit a CMAQ funding request for FY 2024 and a possible NVTAFY 2018-2023 funding request for the Western Facility. There was no discussion on the motion. (MILDE/SEBESKY; WITH MAJORITY VOTE NOHE ABSTAINED)

Implementation of the Reduction-In-Force Policy, Abolishment of Vacant Bus Monitor Position and Creation of Positions

This item tabled.

Authorization to Execute an Amendment to Contract #13-02 between the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission and First Transit, Inc.

This item tabled.

Chairman's Comments – 11

Vice Chairman Rishell reported that the Nominating Committee's proposed slate of PRTC Officers for calendar year 2018 is as follows:

Chairman	Frank Principi
Vice Chairman	Jeanette Rishell
Secretary	Pamela Sebesky
Treasurer	Ruth Anderson
Immediate Past Chairman	John Jenkins
At-Large	Matt Kelly

Madam Vice Chair Rishell noted that this is PRTC Officer (Treasurer) Paul Milde's last meeting and expressed appreciation to Mr. Milde for his service to the PRTC Board. Mr. Milde will be missed.

At this time, Madam Vice Chair Rishell asked for nominations from the floor. Chairman Principi added that the proposed 2018 PRTC Slate of Officers is for information purposes only this evening and that the adoption of the 2018 PRTC Slate of Officers will occur at the Commission's January 4th meeting. Continuing, Chairman Principi noted that during the Nominating Committee meeting, Commissioner Ruth Anderson was mentioned as a potential candidate for the Treasurer position.

At this time, Chairman Principi asked a second time if there are any nominations from the floor and if any Commissioner would like to nominate themselves for one of the Officer positions. Commissioner Lawson asked if representatives from the City of Manassas and the City of Manassas Park are always required to be on the Executive Board. Commissioner Milde noted that the only requirement is that the Chairman is always from Prince William County and all of the other positions can move around as the Commission desires. PRTC Legal Counsel Rob Dickerson confirmed that the Chairman position per the PRTC Bylaws always goes to a

representative from Prince William County and also confirmed per the PRTC Bylaws that the position of Chairman and Vice Chairman cannot be held by somebody from the same jurisdiction.

Commissioner Kelly added that the tradition has been that PRTC's southern jurisdictions are nominated to the At-Large position; however, if either Commissioner Trampe or Commissioner Skinner would like to serve in the At-Large capacity he is amenable to them doing so.

Commissioner Skinner asked if there can be any modifications to the 2018 PRTC Slate of Officers at the next meeting. Chairman Principi answered yes, and reiterated that this is for information purposes only this evening and if anyone would like to nominate themselves between now and the next meeting to please let him know.

Other Business/Commissioners' Time – 12

Commissioner Jenkins complimented PRTC for the fine bus service it provided from the PRTC Transit Center to the Hilton Springfield and return for transporting Commissioners and staff to attend the December 4th Joint NVTC-PRTC Legislative Briefing. Commissioner Jenkins commended the bus Operator who was attentive, courteous, and attended to the passengers' needs and encouraged those Commissioners who haven't rode one of PRTC's 57-passenger OmniRide buses to do so.

Commissioner Trampe noted that during Citizens' Time this evening one of the speakers mentioned a two-month period after employment of having health insurance and that it's his understanding they have to be given the option of buying into the group health plan for an additional six months and would like to ensure PRTC complies with the COBRA requirement.

Commissioner Anderson asked if PRTC provides bus service on Route 28. Commissioner Nohe noted that to be fair PRTC does provide service in the Route 28 corridor and noted that a statement has been made that implied people who reside on Route 28 don't have bus service and noted that PRTC does have bus service in the Manassas Park Yorkshire area. Buses travel along roads other than Route 28, because Route 28 is a commercial corridor that doesn't provide direct connectivity to people. Dr. Schneider added that part of PRTC's marketing approach is to get people to travel to park n ride commuter lots, to Sudley Road, etc. so that PRTC's buses can travel on I-66, which has the HOV lanes as opposed to Route 28, which is a virtual parking lot. PRTC will continue to look at the issue.

Commissioner Lawson asked if the Commission is meeting on January 4, 2018. Chairman Principi answered yes.

Commissioner Franklin asked in terms of the restructuring for the Dispatchers, will the restructuring be postponed until after the investigation is completed. Dr. Schneider noted that the request is to postpone Agenda Items 10-E and 10F until the independent review occurs. Commissioner Franklin also noted that she still sees buses with issues once every few weeks on the side of the road and asked if it's possible for Commissioners to receive monthly updates in terms of what challenges the PRTC buses are having. Dr. Schneider answered yes.

Dr. Schneider noted that since PRTC stopped focusing on governance and reminded the Commission that the monthly Board Kits contain information items, which includes PRTC's Performance Service Reports that validate information related to accidents, breakdowns, etc. by PRTC's Quality Assurance team. PRTC uses the information to compare and contrast on invoicing. The Commission will start to receive a 24-month review of the accident/incident record as well as look into the road call issue.

Commissioner Barker noted that during the legislative session the Metro funding issue will be dealt with this year and thinks there's a good chance the funds will be available to enable moving forward on the issue and as part of the issue, will also deal with the gas tax floor issue as it relates to the regional gas tax with serious consideration of this issue in the General Assembly which is a more viable issue right now than it has been in the past for a variety of reasons. Also, the General Assembly will be moving in a direction as it relates to the revenue capital fiscal cliff facing transit agencies all across the Commonwealth and as to whether actual decisions will be made this year (doesn't have to be done this this year and could be pushed off to partly next year).

Commissioner Jenkins commended Commissioner Barker on his remarks, which were very applicable and right to the point.

Commissioner Skinner expressed appreciation to Commissioner Milde for his service on the PRTC Board, and the VRE Operations Board. Commissioner Skinner also expressed appreciation to Commissioner Richard Anderson for his service on the PRTC Board and wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Commissioner Sebesky also expressed appreciation to Mr. Milde for his leadership and service on the PRTC Board, and the VRE Operations Board and serving the greater communities of not just Stafford County, but everywhere.

Commissioner Sebesky noted she attended the December 4th Joint NVTC-PRTC Legislative Briefing and expressed appreciation to PRTC for providing the OmniRide bus to the Hilton Springfield and encouraged Commissioners to ride the bus when it's offered as it was a great experience. Also, if PRTC can do anything to help with the Route 28 situation as it would be great to get more people using public transportation instead of traveling on Route 28 in cars.

Chairman Principi expressed appreciation to Commissioner Milde, Commissioner Richard Anderson, and Commissioner Miller for their service on the PRTC Board. Chairman Principi noted that the January 4th Commission meeting will be the last meeting Commissioners Richard Anderson and Miller attend and will be recognized for their service on the PRTC board at that time. Chairman Principi extended an invitation to Commissioner Milde to attend the Commission's February meeting to be recognized at that time.

Adjournment – 13

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Principi adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Information Items

There were no comments.

NEXT MEETING: January 4, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: PRTC Transit Center
14700 Potomac Mills Road, 2nd Floor
Woodbridge, VA 22192-6811

CITIZEN'S TIME -- TRANSCRIPT

Donald Hamilton, PRTC Employee

I have shortened my remarks, because of the change to the Agenda. I just want to say that when Mr. Schneider informed us that we were to be RIF'd, he told us he was brought in to make tough decisions and to me it's not a tough decision to decide that you're just going let other people suffer. Seems like the tough decision would be to find a way to help these people who have been working here many years loyally and faithfully through thick and thin coming to work in the middle of the night in ice storms going home in the middle of the night in ice storms. Seems like there should be a better way than just laying us all off.

Tonisha Belton, PRTC Employee

I am a Dispatcher with PRTC and I'm kind of thinking back on what he said. Although 10E has been removed from the agenda, when it was presented there it was stated that this is being done because of inefficiencies and redundancy. In my meeting with Mr. Schneider it was stated that it was not performance based as to his decision and I would like to know what are the inefficiencies and redundancies that he is speaking of, because I've never been made aware of any inefficiencies within my department.

Ken Jones, PRTC Employee

My name is Kenneth Jones and I'm the Manger of Dispatch and I know that it's kind of unusual that Managers speak when there's a reduction-in-force, but I feel so strongly for these people who have given their all to this organization 15, 13, 10 years. Like Mr. Hamilton said come in earlier come to work in ice storms, snow storms, making sure that the passengers and our passengers get to their destination safely and on time and it's easy to look at a piece of paper and see numbers, but behind those numbers are people and people's lives and at this time of year its Christmas time people should be thinking about taking care of kids and getting toys, but instead I have dispatchers worrying about I got to get my kids to the doctor, I got to get my kids to the dentist because I'm not going to have coverage, they shouldn't have to go through that after all their dedicated years of service and I say dedicated and as far as the redundancy that was stated in here low performance and inefficiencies and at some point I would like to know what quantitative analysis was made to come to that conclusion. I've never been approached as the manager of the department that there was a problem with efficiency. I've seen them work well, I've had the actual contractor himself say that it's a beautiful arrangement that it works and it works well. So I just want you all to take this into consideration and when it comes back up on the agenda, I will finish my remarks.

Nia Tuix*, Citizen

My name is Nia Tuix and I represent the Greater DC Chapter of the National Action Network and I'm representing the PRTC Dispatchers in listening and attempting to get a fair analysis from both sides as to why decent people who have dedicated to this company for years and have not shown disciplinary problems why they have been in effect presented with dismissal. Public opinion is powerful and in the Greater DC Chapter of the National Action Network founded by our great leader Reverend Al Sharpton public opinion when people also hear we analyze and attempt to understand both sides of what is fair to employees that have held up a company that have made the company in a position to move forward some come and some are pushed off the ship they say and we're trying to understand why that decision is not a decision that is based on a more humane civil and human rights approach. As people have been saying these are livelihoods, these are paychecks were in an economy that is not strong at all this is not the time regardless of Christmas this is just not the time for people to be laid off and there's no disciplinary reason the reason the company is laying the people off is basically my concern is it a legal decision is it a decision based on what is best for the company is it just numbers and the people who have put in years of expertise to build a company they're not needed anymore and the severance pay is just embarrassing. Public opinion has a lot of weight. I'm not threatening you, this is my job this is what we deal with we deal with public opinion because this meeting is important and I thought we were going to be here to address it doesn't look like that's going to be done. I'm grateful to have a chance to say something but you're not losing your job I don't think you're going to have a job in the new year you're not going to be worried about anything related to being unemployed it's not fun. A lot of people become unemployed but let the reason be because it is substantiated based on not just finances but based on something that is understandable come to work and get a pink slip you want to understand and you want to see if you can avoid a pink slip to work out something that is suitable in a humane fashion. Thank you for your time.

Cozy Bailey*, Citizen

Good evening Mr. Commissioner and all the Commission Members, I am the Reverend Cozy Bailey and I'm the President of the NAACP in the Prince William community representing members from Prince William County, Manassas, and Manassas Park. There's a couple of things that I'm going to say and like one of the previous speakers, I've amended my remarks since this resolution will not come forth this evening, but there's a couple of things I would like to say. First, I'd like to commend you for delaying this decision until you take those actions that you plan to take. What that does as the previous speaker says the court of public opinion is it allows the community to recognize that you are at least trying to do something in an equitable way and that's very important. I came tonight to address this resolution, but again I won't have that opportunity so you will see my face again when it comes up on the agenda again. Let me tell you that everybody who has been involved in business recognizes the need for efficiencies and sometimes those efficiencies are dollars and people, however, as you have heard the people who are affected speak and there's many more who are standing here tonight there's much more that goes into a decision here than just numbers and dollars. There's people's lives who are here and it appears to me based upon my discussions with the employees that there's some confusion about how this decision was reached. You know there are some specific examples that I won't go into tonight I'll save that for the time when you actually bring this resolution vote. I will

encourage you to assure that the communication is clear and understandable to the employees as you go forward so that they don't wonder, for instance, what inefficiencies, what low performance has been displayed. I also want to ensure that you continue to work in conjunction and under the direction of Article 6 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which of course states specifically for governmental organizations that no decisions are made that are inequitable or have any unequal treatment to minorities specifically people of color. The NAACP represents people of color and all people who feel they are being treated in an inequitable way. I would ask that you review the action during the time that you're taking to let the Human Rights Commission and others to take a look at it, this independent review that you're going to do and talk to the employees who are affected again so that they understand exactly what's happening and perhaps come up with a course of action that satisfies the need for the transportation enterprise within Prince William County and surrounding communities to be more effective and more efficient and also take care of the people that's so important especially as we look forward and we recognize that specifically the Prince William community is in fact what some people call a majority, minority community. I say it's a community where the majority of people are people of color and that you understand that you are part of that community as well. To make a positive mark as you do the job that you have to do and it's a tough job. I would just again enjoin you to think about those things as you take this time to go forward and come up with something again that is equitable for all side. Thank you.

Vivian Ozbun, Citizen

Good evening, my name is Vivian and I am a previous PRTC employee and I worked closely with dispatch and I'm here on the Item 10E. In here you say redundancy and inefficiencies and functions between PRTC and First Transit, we've already heard from Mr. Jones and one of the other employees and Mr. Jones being a manager that he was not approached concerning this. On the way over here, I listened to Mr. Schneider and on day three he gave us a speech one of the things that he stressed is respect something that I think these employees weren't given and something that I would like you to consider something that I feel like deserves to know why they're going to lose their job, why they're being you know displaced, why their income and their families are at risk. These are things that I'd like you to consider going forward, I know that this is not going to be brought up today, but it is something that I feel like the Executive Director did not do his due diligence something that should be addressed these people have a right to know what's going on. You're looking at 13 positions replacing only 11 of them. A lot of times they're short-staffed already. There's also the idea of a peacekeeper between PRTC and First Transit something that if you work in Customer Service it's something that is extremely important, you don't want a divide, you want those people to be able to come together and you want them to be able to communicate and you want a middle man to help that happen, so that's something that I also think that's never considered, but again most importantly, the working relationship between the two and the respect given to the employees that are about to be dismissed I think all should be considered.

Jerry McIntosh, PRTC Employee

My name is Jerry McIntosh been living in Prince William County for about 10 years, homeowner, voter I'm just looking at the ones that I voted for and I don't even know faces all I'm saying is that

when you're doing your investigation, please let somebody talk to us. Some of us have been here when some of ya'll were still in college, some of us has been here before ya'll was even on the Board. Ya'll don't know us, all you have to do is make a decision, push through executives, that's it. We're more than that, we are people and that's all I'm asking you to do. When you do your investigation don't go by the man sitting right to you, come talk to us, pull us in you don't have to come down to the bus yard, we'll come in, we'll talk to you, and make a wise decision because we have some talented people in this building who care about Prince William County, we care. We've been waiting on raises for five years, six years, we've been holding on to hope just to get out. Even when ya'll are gone and ya'll are off your stance, we're still here even if it goes on and we don't have a job here, we're still voting in this County. I'm just saying please when you make your decision talk to us. Thank you.

Michael Otson*, Citizen

Good evening, my name is Michael Otson President of the (ineligible) of this County and member of the NAACP and my appeal is to the management team. When I started in Fairfax, we contracted out a lot of our services, but over time we found out that we lost control and so group by group we started to bring things in-house customer service and the last group was dispatch. We made a mistake by contracting out dispatch, because you need control and when you contract it out although you save money you give up control and dispatch can be complex so you really need to pay people well especially if you have Trapeze you have some of the features the CAD and some of the other things. You know a lot of the contract staff now they don't although they tell you on paper they don't have that expertise when they come on site, you find out that they don't have that expertise to use that equipment. So I would say that even if you make this decision in the long run you'll find out that that contract staff is not as good as you think they are and you need to control dispatch. Thank you.

LaTricia Benson, PRTC Employee

Hello Mr. Chairman, my name is LaTricia Benson I'm the Senior Monitor and work here at PRTC. I just need clarification, I know you said you're going to answer any questions, but you will address it later on, my question is as far as our severance pay that you're actually offering, it's not a severance pay. A severance pay is actually more than just one pay check. Severance pay is something that you didn't earn, it's something that is given, so my question is the letter says we will be paid 20 days from the date of January 12th and also insurance will be until March, I do believe, but my letter did not state that so I need clarification to that, so if you can address that at the next meeting, I can't speak for anyone else but if everyone else's letter is like that then I believe that's falsification so can it be addressed and looked over.

Emory Large, First Transit Employee

My name is Emory Large, Bus Operator, who I work with a lot of these fine people here every day to get these people to work. These people who have these big homes, they pay property taxes, they work at the Pentagon, DC and I don't understand they knew this (ineligible) was coming down a long time ago why everybody can't get together. You got new funding from Gainesville, there's new funding I heard from a Delegate that there's going to be some additional revenue from Richmond possibly, why do we have to make this decision so hastily and so we provide a

great service for this County and a lot of us barely make enough to live in this County that they live further south, so I would like for ya'll to take all that into consideration. Thank you very much.

Bea Wooden, PRTC Employee

My name is Beatrice Wooden. I'm a Dispatcher. I've been here for a little over 13 years. The severance pay really needs to be addressed, because I have over 450 hours of sick leave, I don't call out sick, I report to work faithfully at four o'clock in the morning, my co-partner here reports to work faithfully at 3 o'clock in the morning and to be said that we will get paid for anything over 450 hours is like 25% that's a slap in my face for 13 years. I come to work, I report to my boss, if I'm feeling sick we make arrangements, we're a team, we make arrangements to have each other covered and if I need to go home at 8 o'clock, 9 o'clock I can go home, but this is really I feel bad because this is like I said this is a real slap in my face after 13 years. I'm 59 years old this was my home for the next six, seven years until I could retire and spend time with my grandkids, but I appreciate that you're going to reconsider, talk things over whatever you need to do and get back with us.

Adra Haley*, Citizen

My name is Adra Hayley I'm not an employee, but I'm a former employee of First Transit. In 2009 I was in the same situation as these guys you know we lost our contract and First Transit didn't pick us up and I understand what they're feeling and we was told that we were going to get a severance pay, we didn't get nothing. We had to go out and find our own job and you know half of the time you know doors were shut in my face. I understand what they're going through, but Mr. Commissioner and I'm not trying to put down First Transit you better consider hiring First Transit to do your dispatching, because I know what they're about I worked for them for over 20 years and these people, they're good people and I've heard their stories about going to work in the snow staying two almost five hours after the time they're supposed to get off and yeah, it's just a slap in the face. Ya'll going to go home during the holidays, ya'll going to sit under your tables, be with your families these guys going to be here thinking about whether they're going to have a job come first of the year, so take that into consideration before you turn anything over to First Transit and I'm sorry for stepping on anybody's toes. Thank you.

Monique Wyche, First Transit Employee

Good evening everyone, my name is Monique Wyche and this is Ahmad Khan and Norma Rodriquez. We are First Transit employees. We're not PRTC of course and we haven't gotten the letters, but we are being directly impacted by the change that's coming amongst the dispatchers, because we work in dispatch also, so therefore our jobs have or will be posted and inevitably we're going to be out of jobs also if we're not selected for these positions, so again we just ask that you reconsider and just take into effect that it's just not affecting these persons but us also.

Ken Tuitt, PRTC Employee

Good evening Commissioners, unfortunately I'm a little underdressed, but I apologize. I'm the new guy on the block and since I started working with PRTC it's been a second family. I spend all

my time here, these guys work hard. They took me in, they taught me a lot, I've been in the industry for 30 years, but I'm still learning so much from these guys. When Dispatch steps into work, there's nothing you have to fear. Dispatch is there to take care of whatever you need, so please reconsider this, think wisely. Thank you.

*Correct spelling of names not provided; may be incorrect.