

**ITEM 5  
June 7, 2018  
PRTC Regular Meeting  
Res. No. 18-06-\_\_\_**

**MOTION:**

**SECOND:**

**RE: APPROVE – MINUTES – MAY 3, 2018**

**ACTION:**

**WHEREAS**, on June 7, 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 June 7, 2018.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission does hereby approve the minutes of May 3, 2018.

**Votes:**

**Ayes:**

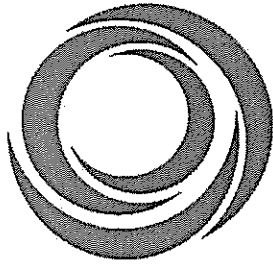
**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

**Absent from Vote:**

**Alternate Present Not Voting:**

**Absent from Meeting:**



# POTOMAC AND RAPPAHANNOCK TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

14700 POTOMAC MILLS ROAD • WOODBRIDGE, VA • 22192 •

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## MINUTES

PRTC Commission Meeting – May 3, 2018

### Members Present

\*Ruth Anderson, Chair  
\*George Barker  
\*Maureen Caddigan  
\*John Jenkins  
\*Matt Kelly  
\*Jeanine Lawson  
\*Wendy Maurer, Treasurer  
\*Marty Nohe  
\*Frank Principi, Immediate Past Chairman  
\*Jeanette Rishell, Vice Chair  
\*Pamela Sebesky, Secretary  
\*Gary Skinner, At-Large Member  
\*Paul Trampe

### Members Absent

Mark Dudenhefer  
Jennifer Mitchell

### Alternates Present

\*Margaret Franklin  
\*Steve Pittard

### Alternates Absent

Hilda Barg  
Pete Candland  
Jack Cavalier  
Norm Catterton  
Hector Cendejas  
Todd Horsley  
D.J. Jordan  
Kalai Kandasamy  
Tim McLaughlin  
Suhas Naddoni  
David Ross  
Cindy Shelton  
Donald Shuemaker  
Billy Withers  
Mark Wolfe

### Jurisdiction

Prince William County  
Virginia Senate  
Prince William County (arrived @ 7:20 p.m.)\*\*  
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

Stafford County  
Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Prince William County (left the table @ 7:20 p.m.)\*\*  
Department of Rail and Public Transportation

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

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\*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

Doug Allen – VRE  
Gina Altis – PRTC  
Monica Backmon – NVTA  
Cozy Bailey – Citizen  
Paolo Belita – PWC  
Tonisha Belton – PRTC  
Nydia Blake – Prince William County  
Tracy Dean – PRTC  
Rob Dickerson – PRTC Legal Counsel  
Joyce Embrey – PRTC  
Althea Evans – PRTC  
Donald Hamilton – Citizen  
Jim Halvorson – Citizen  
Lamarr Johnson – PRTC  
Todd Johnson – First Transit  
Ken Jones – PRTC  
Emory Large – First Transit  
Bob Leibbrandt – Prince William County

Doris Lookabill – PRTC  
Jacque Lucas – PRTC Legal Counsel  
Amber Maiden – Citizen  
Betsy Massie – PRTC  
Jerry McIntosh – PRTC  
Karen Mills – First Transit  
Perrin Palistrant – PRTC  
Kim Pitner – PRTC  
Christine Rodrigo – PRTC  
Rhiannon Roszell – First Transit  
Bob Schneider – PRTC  
Markesha Smithen – PRTC  
Chuck Steigerwald – PRTC  
Joe Swartz – VRE  
Nia Tuix – Citizen  
Mike Williams – PRTC  
Bea Wooden – PRTC

Madam Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation, and Roll Call followed.

Approval of the Agenda –4 [RES 18-05-01]

Commissioner Kelly moved, with a second by Commissioner Maurer to approve the agenda, as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. (KELLY/MAURER, UNANIMOUS)

Approval of the Minutes of the March 1, 2018 PRTC Board Meeting – 5 [RES 18-05-02]

Commissioner Kelly moved, with a second by Commissioner Barker, to approve the minutes of April 5, 2018, as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. (KELLY/BARKER, UNANIMOUS)

[Commissioner Caddigan arrived at 7:20 p.m. during Agenda Item 6 and Commissioner Franklin left the table as a voting member]

Citizens' Time - 6

Madam Chair Anderson noted that anyone wishing to address the Commission this evening will have three minutes to speak and for those who do speak to introduce themselves and to state if they are representing an organization or themselves. A number of individuals addressed the Commission (Transcript attached).

Madam Chair Anderson thanked everyone who spoke this evening and noted that the Commission takes everyone's comments very seriously, the comments are recorded, and the Commission will receive the comments in written form.

Madam Chair Anderson noted that there's an active investigation in progress, which is taking longer than expected and went on to note that in connection with a new allegation received on May 1<sup>st</sup> concerning alleged retaliation arising from the proposed RIF plan that was tabled at the Commission's December meeting, asked Dr. Schneider to contact the EEO Diversity Officer to the Prince William County Executive to perform a review of the new allegation and any similar claims that may arise on behalf of PRTC. Without objection from the Commission, Madam Chair Anderson noted that the investigation into the new allegations will move forward. There were no objections.

Commissioner Lawson asked if the new allegation can be shared with the Commission. Madam Chair Anderson noted that the new allegation has to do with a performance evaluation with an alleged retaliation.

#### Approval of the Consent Agenda –7 [RES 18-05-03]

Commissioner Jenkins moved, with a second by Commissioner Kelly, to approve the consent agenda, as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. [JENKINS/KELLY, UNANIMOUS]

- Accepted the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Monthly Jurisdictional Financial Report for the Period Ended February 28, 2018, as presented. [RES 18-05-04]

#### Virginia Railway Express (VRE) – 8

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

- VRE staff received emergency preparedness training with the Virginia State Police (with both Troopers and Canine Units) to familiarize themselves with the railroad. Staff also received comprehensive training in the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) certification process on the development of new infrastructure stations.
- Prior to a VRE train arriving at the Woodbridge Station on Monday evening, the train hit a trespasser that was in the right-of-way. The individual survived, but it is not known at this time the individual's condition. PRTC buses were requested and arrived at the Woodbridge Station around the time the train was released by Prince William County Police.
- VRE is making good progress in meeting the deadline to implement Positive Train Control (PTC) on the trains by December 31, 2018. VRE staff and Keolis personnel have been involved in training on the PTC system and how to use the onboard system components.
- As Chairman of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Commuter Rail Committee, Mr. Allen established a PTC Subcommittee appointing the General Manager of The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) as Chairman of the Subcommittee, who coordinated a workshop for systems nationwide and spent the last two days at APTA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. with representatives from Metro North and New York (Long Island Railroad), as well as systems from around the country to talk about PTC with regard to PTC issues and what can be done to meet the December 31<sup>st</sup> implementation deadline.
- Average daily ridership is 19,100 for the month of March and On-Time Performance (OTP) is 92 percent (Fredericksburg Line 89 percent and Manassas Line 96 percent). Also, as a result in rising temperatures, heat restrictions were imposed by CSXT, whereby trains are required to slow down.

- VRE staff met with the Virginia Congressional Delegation to talk about VRE's progress and projects in their respective areas as well as VRE's future plans. Staff also met with staff from Congressman Taylor's office, who serves on the House Appropriations Committee as well as with staff from the offices of Senator Kaine and Senator Warner.
- On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, a Transportation Forum for elected officials was held at George Mason University. The forum was informative and transportation providers in the region talked about their processes and projects.
- At the April VRE Operations Board Meeting, the Board authorized a contract amendment for financial auditing services to upgrade a financial model developed for VRE and to provide support so that VRE can update the financial plan developed a few years ago.

Authorize the VRE CEO to Execute an Amendment for the Fourth Year of the First Option Period of the Contract for Operating Services for Commuter Rail – 8-C [RES 18-05-05]

Commissioner Kelly moved, with a second by Commissioner Skinner, to authorize the VRE Chief Executive Officer to amend the Contract for Operating Services for Commuter Rail with Keolis Rail Services Virginia, LLC by approving up to \$15,718,000 for the fourth year of the first option period, for a total Contract value not to exceed \$163,124,557 through June 30, 2019. There was no discussion on the motion. (KELLY/SKINNER, UNANIMOUS)

Authorize the VRE CEO to Execute an Amendment for the Third Year of the Contract for Maintenance Services for Commuter Rail – 8-D [RES 18-05-06]

Vice Chair Rishell moved, with a second by Commissioner Skinner, to authorize the VRE Chief Executive Officer to amend the Contract for Maintenance Services for Commuter Rail with Keolis Rail Services Virginia, LLC by increasing the total contract authorization by \$7,674,000, for a total amount not to exceed \$22,018,638 through June 30, 2019. There was no discussion on the motion. (RISHELL/SKINNER, UNANIMOUS)

PRTC Executive Director's Time – 9

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

- Staff traveled to Richmond yesterday to meet with DMV personnel, who is in the process of attempting to figure out how the tax will be collected using different rates. NVTC, Hampton Roads, and OmniRide were present. At the current two-year average, 4 cents per gallon is collected and the projected regional cents per gallon tax to climb to 0.076 bringing with it the new capital rail fund, with a significant portion of that money going back to the non-bus sponsoring jurisdictions. Dr. Schneider expressed appreciation to the DMV staff.

The next step will be for the fuel distributors, along with DMV and The Department of Taxation, to carve the dollars into different pieces resulting in a flow of revenue calendar at which time it will be determined as to how the money will be distributed into the commuter rail operations fund and distributed to the different components with the challenge being what will the new dollars be in relation as to how the jurisdictions are funded as well as the implications with NVTA, and the loss of revenues will result in new questions for the jurisdictions. There's no new money, but the redistribution of a new dollar amount in a new way and it will take about the next 45 days to understand what the dollar amount will be.

Since the information is not known at this time, taxes collected in July will not be reported until September, so staff is not proposing to bring a new budget document forward until sometime in the fall. PRTC can do preliminary projections and PRTC's expectation ties into Commissioner Maurer's concern of how PRTC has historically reported revenue. PRTC will change its reporting function to have old/new collections show the delta in between, making it more functional. PRTC can survive one year on a flat budget ratio, but next year PRTC expects the traditional 3 to 3.8 percent increase, so with grant match requirements PRTC faces the declining availability to receive state funds for capital projects. PRTC will take advantage of the situation in the short-term to make improvements to service where possible.

Commissioner Barker noted that the 0.076 cents per gallon is a significant increase and went on to note that unlike the NVTC jurisdictions, PRTC doesn't have the implications of the Metro funding. It was learned during this process, that VRE is not a legal entity even unto itself, so the bills were amended to reflect VRE simply as a creation of NVTC and PRTC. There are indications that there will be additional revenues eventually, but even so there is a negative impact to the jurisdictions.

Commissioner Barker also noted that the fuel tax was realized without significant margins in both the House and the Senate, which is something to build upon. Dr. Schneider's suggestion about how PRTC will handle the reporting of the new money is a good suggestion. Also it seems there will be better communication between PRTC and the state going forward and as Dr. Schneider noted, it may take another 45 days to get everything worked out, but in the end it should become clear along with getting the monitoring reports out.

Commissioner Barker went on to note that he participated in two conference calls today. The first, with the Secretary of Transportation's office whereby it's now clear that over the next couple of months there is assurance that everything that was held in the bills will be specified as to exactly what it means, so that there's no ambiguity going forward so misinterpretations do not occur as well as to lock down on this as tightly as possible.

Concluding, Commissioner Barker noted the second conference call was a conversation with his counterparts in DC and Maryland in which we are moving forward to ensure that there's little difference between the bills in the three different jurisdictions and that there's understanding as to what the differences are. What was needed to be done has been done for this year. The bill doesn't favor the jurisdictions and transportation projects in Northern Virginia, but over time a lot of the issues can be addressed over the next couple of years.

- Article – “Summary: Metro is mulling a major redesign of the bus system” has been provided for the Commission's perusal.
- Dr. Schneider recognized LaTricia Benson and Joan Martin-Morris for their years of service (10 and 15 years, respectfully).
- Dr. Schneider expressed appreciation to staff who participated in Comcast Cares Day and noted that PRTC purchased 215 metal signs attaching the signs to the fences on Georgetown South. The complexity of the area makes it hard for first responders to reach families, and in particular, families in the outer area, so the signs will make it easier for first responders to respond quicker with regard to medical issues, safety issues, etc.
- Bus Operator Mohamed Elatrebi will represent PRTC at the National Bus Rodeo in Tampa Bay, Florida, May 5-7, 2018.

- Provided this evening for the Commission's perusal is a flyer re the I-66 Fare Buy-Down Summary.
- Some PRTC buses next week will display National Teacher Appreciation Week on their headway signs to honor Teachers and there will be a push on Facebook containing a link to the "Thank A Teacher" website.

Presentations – 10

There were no presentations.

PRTC Action Items – 11

Authorization to Purchase Thirty-One (31) 45-Foot MCI OmniRide Buses – 11-A [RES 18-05-07]

Commissioner Caddigan moved, with a second by Commissioner Maurer, to authorize the Executive Director to purchase thirty-one (31) 45-foot MCI buses via the RFTA joint procurement. There was no discussion on the motion. (CADDIGAN/MAURER, UNANIMOUS)

Authorization to Purchase Three 40-Foot Gillig OmniRide Buses – 11-B [RES 18-05-08]

Commissioner Jenkins moved, with a second by Commissioner Caddigan, to authorize the Executive Director to purchase three (3) 40-foot Gillig buses using the state funding provided by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation. There was no discussion on the motion. (JENKINS/CADDIGAN, UNANIMOUS)

Authorize Publication of, Seek Public Comments On, and Provisionally Adopt the Proposed Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Goal for Federal Fiscal Years 2019-2021 – 11-C [RES 18-05-09]

Commissioner Maurer moved, with a second by Commissioner Sebesky, to authorize the Executive Director to publish PRTC's proposed Disadvantaged Business Enterprise goal for FFY 2019-2021 of 11.3 percent for FTA-assisted contracts for public inspection for a period of 30 days and for public comment for a period of 45 days and further directs the Executive Director to submit the DBE goal of 11.3 percent of FFY 2019-2021 to the United States Department of Transportation through the Federal Transit Administration by August 1, 2018, in accordance with the Regulations, in the event that no further action is required by the Commission.

Commissioner Lawson asked if there are any FTA penalties. Dr. Schneider answered no.

Commissioner Maurer noted that the Federal Government has other categories i.e. women-owned businesses, etc. and asked if PRTC is only considering the DBE category. Ms. Massie answered yes. There was no further discussion on the motion. (MAURER/SEBESKY, UNANIMOUS)

Authorization to Award a Contract for Real-Time Passenger Information System – 11-D [RES 18-05-10]

Commissioner Jenkins moved, with a second by Commissioner Caddigan, to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Ride Systems for a three-year base contract in the amount of \$201,560, with two (2) 1-year options to be exercised at PRTC's sole discretion. There was no discussion on the motion. (JENKINS/CADDIGAN, UNANIMOUS)

Authorize Closed Meeting – 11-E [RES 18-05-11]

Commissioner Caddigan moved, with a second by Commissioner Sebesky, to convene into Closed meeting at 8:40 p.m. for discussion pertaining to the Executive Director's performance evaluation pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.1 and 2.2-3711.A.8 of the Virginia Code. There was no discussion on the motion. (CADDIGAN/SEBESKY, UNANIMOUS)

Certify Closed Meeting – 11-F [RES 18-05-12]

Vice Chair Rishell moved, with a second by Commissioner Kelly, to certify that to the best of each members' knowledge: (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were discussed in the Closed Meeting to which this certification applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the Motion by which the said Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by the Commission. No member dissents from the aforesaid certification. Closed Meeting session concluded at 9:55 p.m. There was no discussion on the motion. (RISHELL/KELLY, UNANIMOUS)

Action Items to Report Out of Closed Meeting – 11-G

Madam Chair Anderson noted there are no items to report out of Closed Meeting.

PRTC Chairman's Time – 12

On behalf of the Commission and Dr. Schneider, Madam Chair Anderson recognized and congratulated Ms. Altis for her 27 years of service/retirement.

Madam Chair Anderson noted the Commissioners have at their seats an Engagement Opportunities flyer.

Madam Chair Anderson noted that the Executive Board met this evening resulting in a handout containing suggestions for updating the Bylaws. Some suggestions were received and Madam Chair Anderson encouraged Commissioners to review the Bylaws, the suggestions, and to provide input. The Executive Board will meet at 6:00 p.m. on June 7<sup>th</sup> with the aim of presenting a draft of the Bylaws at the Commission's regular Board meeting starting at 7:00 p.m.

Madam Chair Anderson noted that the July 5<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting follows the Fourth of July holiday and asked Commissioners to let her know if they will be out of town that week in the case the July 5<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting has to be changed to a different date, if a quorum cannot be met. A decision as to whether to change the July 5<sup>th</sup> Board meeting date will be made at the Commission's June meeting.

Commissioner Lawson noted that she has a conflict on June 7<sup>th</sup>, as there's a high school graduation in her district that evening and noted that she will be unable to attend the June Commission meeting unless she is needed for quorum purposes. Madam Chair Anderson asked if any other Commissioners have a conflict on June 7. Hearing none, she noted that the June 7<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting date will remain as is.

Other Business/Commissioners' Time – 13

Commissioner Franklin noted that a topic discussed at the last Commission meeting is morale among the PRTC employees and suggested that Dr. Schneider explore an opportunity for employees and



management to engage in some type of outside moderator process (not about the issues under investigation), but to discuss general morale issues and a way to move forward.

Commissioner Sebesky announced that there will be an Air Show at the Manassas Airport on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment – 14

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Madam Chair Anderson adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Information Items

There were no comments.

NEXT MEETING:	June 7, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	PRTC Transit Center 14700 Potomac Mills Road, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Woodbridge, VA 22192-6811

ATTACHMENT

**Item 6**  
**May 3, 2018**  
**PRTC Regular Meeting**

Citizens' Time (Transcript)

Bea Wooden, PRTC

My name is Beatrice Wooden, Dispatcher. I just wanted to uh at the last meeting it was stated when a operator if everything is okay there's a code that comes across the radio. Um there is no such code that comes across the radio that everything is okay. We do use a 10:8 code which is used basically in transportation meaning that I'm going I'm ready to start my route uh if dispatch says something to an operator as if did you copy what I say or whatever the operator will come back and say 10:4 um and um so I wanted to just make sure everybody understood that there when we talk across the radio we do use codes we use 10:8 in service and we also use a 10:4 meaning uh did you copy what I said. Those are the kind of codes we use numbers in talking across the radio um most of the we don't just come across and say that everything is okay or whatever that we you know in service whatever you say 10:8 I'm 10:8 I'm in service. The other thing I want to touch on is um the relationship dispatch has with operators. I feel it's a good relationship and I feel that when an operator is needed to do a extra piece of work as to be bumped up to another route because a route is running late so forth VRE if we need help whatever the operators and the dispatch have a relationship that we can go to them, we can call them when they come into the window, we can ask them um Joan can you you know can you help us out can you go ahead and do this run for us or can you go to the VRE pick up people whatever the case may be the operator has the majority of the time they're going to say yes that's the relationship. If they say no or if if we don't have words or anything like that when that's a problem where they're never going to do anything for us again, the morale is down anything like that it's the next day you start all over again because the main focus is to get the customers from A to B and back safely in the in the way that we need to do that and I just wanted to say that. Thank you.

Tonisha Belton, PRTC

Good evening my name is Tonisha Belton and I'm a Dispatcher and I also wanted to speak on some of the comments that were made at the last meeting regarding the morale being low. I was notified that I would possibly be RIF'd from my job my morale has stayed the same I perform my duties as I've always come in here to the best of my ability and to say that the contractors are being bashed like Miss Bea just said we have a very well respected working relationship with our contractor or the operators is somebody that I deal with on a consistent basis. Whatever they need we're there for them when we need something we can also go to them and have them do extra work or move them to a trip that's not theirs that's what we do and I have a unique position being a PRTC dispatcher to just oversee things that go on that maybe First Transit dispatch may miss that's why I'm here and that's why it's important for our positions to remain, because the PRTC dispatch is a unique position. Thank you.

Markesha Smithen, PRTC

Hello my name is Markesha Smithen. I'm a Dispatcher here at PRTC. I would like to speak on a matter that was discussed in a previous meeting. I was one of the dispatchers that was on duty when the operator continued to Southhampton, Virginia. The operator passed 156 due to the inefficiencies and inaccuracies

of the software that we use to track the buses. There were late adherences for the bus, but when investigated, the operator was in the location of the route that he was assigned. Mr. Schneider stated that at the time the operator passed the exit there were two dispatchers and three other buses on the road. That statement was incorrect. The operator passed the exit at 7:09 beginning at 7 o'clock there are 26 MCIs that must start in Prince William County traveling to Metro Stations as well as the District. There are also 25 buses deadheading from the District coming back to the yard as well as 13 Links that's the total of 64 buses at that time. Mr. Schneider also stated the name of the alerts have been changed and now the alerts must be investigated before deleting, another statement that's incorrect. A late adherence continues to be a late adherence this can be deleted without any investigation. The software continues to give false information. Thank you.

Donald Hamilton, Citizen

Madam Chairman my name is Donald Hamilton I'm a former Dispatcher here. I just wanted to point out the obvious probably of that what we've been witnessing tonight and in the past few months is people of courage willing to speak truth to power uh at personal risk. This is good news and this is real news. The people have these people have no power there are people in the area that do have power, but not the courage to stand up for these people um the only power that these Dispatchers, Bus Monitors, and the others that have been selected for RIF have is there courage, their faith, their love, and their hope and I think they should be commended and admired for their courage and their integrity. Thank you.

Amber Maiden, Citizen

Amber Maiden, Alchemy Enterprises. I have been speaking to you all for the past four months about EEO compliance, about civil rights, about my very serious concerns as a citizen, about the rampant corruption, and I feel as though I have been largely ignored. None of you I have spoken to you for four months I have sent you all kinds of e-mails and none of you with the exception of Supervisor Anderson has even attempted to speak to me and say hey you know you're talking about some serious stuff I've heard you I've heard your concerns only qualify with regards to Supervisor Anderson she I guess attempted to reach out to me via her assistant Jake and I took it to my team and I considered it and my team I said should I talk to them and my team said no, that's disrespectful if Supervisor Anderson wants to speak to you about these issues she should call you up and speak to you about these issues. So after four months I'm frustrated but I'm not surprised I'm not surprised at all why because I know white people I know white people I know you all very well I know you probably better than you know yourselves I'll get to that momentarily. In this country when we start to talk about race black people go silent and they sit and seethe and white people look at you like a deer caught in the headlights most of them do then there are some white people who get to scheming and plotting and they start to say how can we shut this person up how can we put them down. My great-grandmother stood up to the Kentucky clan because she wanted her daughters who looked completely white to go to school with the other white kids in that community. She got her house burned down I know this country's history inside and out and I stand here before you on the graves of my ancestors and I'm not going anywhere. I have no doubt that there are plenty of people in this community who want me to sit down and shut up and disappear, I have no doubt that there are plenty of people in this community who want me dead but let's talk about something else non scholae sed vitae discimus does anyone speak Latin probably not that means we learn not for school, but for life that is the motto of my alma mater Hathaway Brown an extremely exclusive prep school extremely exclusive, Rockefellers are up in that joint. Okay so to get into that school you have to be one of two things very very rich or very very smart. I'll let you guess which one I am.

Madam Chair Anderson, Amber if you can kind of bring it to a close.

Ms. Maiden, well I have a lot, this is a filibuster I have a lot more to get to so we're going to talk about diversity what have I learned for life.

Madam Chair Anderson, Amber

Ms. Maiden, I've learned a lot about diversity.

Madam Chair Anderson, I'll give you another minute to complete.

Ms. Maiden, okay so you're shutting me down, is that what's happening?

Madam Chair Anderson, if you could bring it to closure for another minute or two.

Ms. Maiden, I really can't I really have so much to say that I think that you need to hear about diversity that is a buzz word the politicians love to use even though they have no idea what it means or how to effectively implement it within an organization. I would like to talk about it can I have another time then when I can come back to this issue because I really really think that you need to hear about it.

Madam Chair Anderson, well you're welcome to come back next month.

Ms. Maiden, can't do it in three minutes, so can I have some time next month to speak on this?

Madam Chair Anderson, our citizens' time is three minutes per person.

Ms. Maiden, but I'm not being heard any other way. I speak, I'm ignored, I send letters they're ignored, I send e-mails they're ignored.

Madam Chair Anderson, Amber I'm going to ask you to sit down.

Ms. Maiden, I read the write up with regard to the sexual harassment that has occurred. I am sick to my stomach. I look at the women at this table and I ask you what are you going to do it happened on your watch.

Madam Chair Anderson, Amber your time is complete.

Ms. Maiden, what are you going to do I'm not going to let this go.

Madam Chair Anderson, you're time is complete.

Ms. Maiden, I will be back I will get through this what I have written what I have prepared what I have to say.

Madam Chair Anderson, okay.

Nia Tuix, Citizen

Good evening, Nia Tuix Greater DC Chapter National Action Network. Madam Chairman and the Board. I have been saying also as we know for four or five months uh that the case against the PRTC thirteen from my assessment is based on racism and lies. Lies that have uh lies that were given to the employees of

why they should be RIF'd and those lies should be addressed and looked at because because they are lies they are not substantiated for people, homeowners, parents, taxpayers to lose their jobs uh based on the budget of PRTC and uh we do want a budget we do want to reach a solution that that uh the employees these great employees keep their jobs um because the lies that have been given to them why they should leave are are uh very detrimental. Then there's thirteen uh blacks and that's that's where the racism come in comes in. It is as if from my discovery and I'm not an attorney that the blacks are carrying the weight to balance a budget where you have top heavy individuals six seven digits they're making that could shave off uh if they're willing to make the sacrifice rather than rather than the issue we have at hand now. I hope that again the Board looks at uh better options to balance your budget and to keep the public happy we ride the buses and we want to continue to ride the buses and we believe that a resolution can be made rather than throw the thirteen out of a job as if the thirteen fifteen years they have put in means absolutely nothing. We strongly recommend that you look at the top heavy individuals and the ideas and go back and hopefully reconstruct a better plan especially one that does not fire people that are very dedicated and committed to the PRTC job force and I thank you for your time Madam Anderson.

Ken Jones, PRTC

How you doing, I'm Ken Jones I'm the Manager of the Dispatch Department um I come before you today to talk about um what I've been saying for the past couple of months that the language that was used to describe the Dispatch Department um and again it's in Mr. Schneider's proposal that he originally wrote and again it states that you know that the Dispatch Department and Dispatchers are inefficient, low performing, and lack accountability um I've asked before you know what an analysis was done to come to that conclusion and uh I know that there there hasn't been one because nothing in that statement is true, but the thing that really bothers me is that by Mr. Schneider writing those words he felt comfortable enough to include this in a proposal that went out publicly so that tells me that when he looks at me and he looks at my Dispatchers this is what he sees. These words is is what he sees when he looks at us and I can tell you from our performance I know for my performance for thirteen almost fourteen years here, I performed at a high level. I know you know Dispatchers have been here fifteen, thirteen years they performed at a high level. Do have there been mistakes made along the way in those thirteen years, yes everybody makes mistakes. Has there been critical mistakes made that has caused a disruption to service, absolutely not. If anything, the opposite is true and as far as Dr. Schneider said about us coming before you and pointing out the things that the contractor is not complying with and that being the reason for morale problems, that's not true. You'll never hear me bash an operator, because that's what I was. I started as an operator I have a huge amount of respect for the job that they do. It's not easy driving a bus with 57 passengers sometimes 70 passengers up the road and get them safely and not only that then you have to have conflict resolution skills as well, so it's not an easy job so you'll never hear me say anything negative about a bus operator. Morale problems that come with the bus operators do not emanate Dispatch. Actually, I have an excellent reputation and a great deal of respect from the operators, so I would just close by saying again that words make a difference, words matter, and you know it was pointed out earlier as some of the statements that were made at a previous meeting weren't true and the facts bear those out that Mr. Schneider made regarding the incident and and the investigation that was done by Mr. Collins. Integrity is something that's important when it comes to people respecting leaders, so I I just ask you again do your due diligence, take your time to uh to evaluate the situation before you make a decision. Thank you.

Cozy Bailey, Citizen

Good evening, my name is Cozy Bailey I'm the President of the Prince William NAACP and it is a pleasure to appear before you once again. It's been several months since I've appeared before you, but I've been following the issues surrounding the Dispatchers, I continue to read the minutes, and confer with people

who are involved in this. I can tell you as the President of the NAACP um one of our primary goals is to pursue social justice and if you look at the NAACP vision and mission, social justice for all people. My concern is first of all for these employees who are affected here, but for the entire community and I am very disappointed that this austere and august uh Commission has not come to a conclusion in closing this issue. You know my friend Ken Jones said take your time, I I urge you to not take your time, you've been doing this for four months it should be clear as I go upon you know come upon my experiences in large businesses and and having to make business decisions that perhaps the business plan is flawed, perhaps you need to go back and take a look at them and it's okay to do that because the purpose here is to improve transportation for the communities that you represent, so I would ask you to take a look at that. Never have I seen an organization where the employees continue to come before a Commission like this month after month after month, because they fill that they have no voice anywhere else. The plan may be flawed. I appreciate your listening to me, and I will continue to work with you to come to a solution. Thank you very much.

Jerry McIntosh, PRTC

My name is Jerry McIntosh. I'm the QA, one of a few. I'm going to start by saying that I have a lot of respect for these men and women of the Dispatch. Ever since this RIF has started and the letters were sent out, these men and women has been running PRTC with very little help, very little help.

Audience member, it's not right.

Mr. McIntosh, very little help.

Audience member, it's not right.

Mr. McIntosh, one thing I like about this is Ms. Lawson you ask questions.

Madam Chair Anderson, may I ask the audience to please, we're only listening to the person at the podium so please continue, and I'll give you a little extra time.

Mr. McIntosh, like I was saying is for the last and it's been around six months since November we've been coming up and coming up and coming up and all we ask ya'll to do is if they make a little mistake in Dispatch its I mean they are really they they got to go through it so everything that they have to do is done by themselves. When VRE calls, they gather those buses everybody else has gone home, they at home with the kids. That's truth. When we asked ya'll to look at the Wheels-to-Wellness you did its starting to go back to its normal self. All we asking you to do is take a look at the facts. We've asked ya'll over and over again to come down and meet us and see don't hear what nobody else is telling you. I go to the Pentagon I'm one of the only persons in this whole building that go everywhere that a OmniRide go and the local and when I talk to everybody we are concerned about people moving them from point A to point B safely. Ask questions, don't just go for anything.

Emory Large, First Transit

My name is Emory Large, I'm a bus Operator, Chairman of the Union, and I hate to see all of this come to like to this situation cause this all started out the fuel tax. This is all about money. You know like I said in December it's ya'lls' job to get this thing funded and do it right, okay ya'll cut us which we're hurting then I talked to uh Frank he said he's going to cut PRTC that's why he got rid of the other guy and hired Bob and now ya'll cutting that it's all because of money, okay. So, I don't understand I mean why even if you're having problems budgeting and doing this stuff right why do it, why go through all this. It's your job to

get this money together, pay these people correctly, treat them right, then everything's flowing. I started this job seven years ago and everything was great not perfect, but great and after a couple of years it just went straight down hill, turnovers went, I mean it's just 50 percent 40 percent turnover. It's amazing. A lot of accidents, because we're getting people here with no experience, so I would just like to thank you. I wish ya'll would think about if you're going to do this, do it right please.