APPROVED

At the November 13, 2008 Rail Advisory Board meeting, a motion to accept the minutes of the July 10, 2008 meeting was made by Richard Beadles, seconded by James Keen, and approved by the Rail Advisory Board members.

Minutes

Rail Advisory Board Meeting
Board Room
DMV Headquarters
2300 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA
July 10, 2008

Note – At the direction of the Board and the Director of DRPT, these summary minutes will reflect Action Items and Informational Requests to the Agency from the Board.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Wiley Mitchell Jr., Chairman
Richard Beadles
Dwight Farmer
Bruno Maestri
Peter Shudtz
Trenton Crewe, Vice Chairman
Sharon Bulova
James Keen
Gregory Marston

Matthew Tucker, Director, DRPT

Call to Order
The Rail Advisory Board Meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Chairman Mitchell.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda
Chairman Mitchell called the members attention to two items on the agenda, the presentation on the Statewide Rail Plan and the item under New Business on a discussion of rail policy issues based on the report of the Governor's Commission on Rail Enhancement for the 21st Century. A motion to accept the agenda of the July 10, 2008 meeting was made by Mr. Farmer and seconded by Ms. Bulova. The motion carried without opposition.

Adoption of Minutes
A motion to accept the May 16, 2008 minutes was made by Ms. Bulova and seconded by Mr. Crewe. The motion carried without opposition.

Public Comment
There were no public comments received by e-mail nor did anyone sign up to speak.

Nominating Committee and 2009 Meeting Schedule
Chairman Mitchell appointed Ms. Bulova, Mr. Maestri and Mr. Shudtz as the nominating committee for the January through June period of 2009. Ms. Bulova will serve as chair. As the Board member terms end on June 30, 2009, and new officers will be elected at the July meeting in accordance with the Guidelines adopted by the Board at the April 9, 2008 meeting.

APPROVED

After discussion, the motion was made by Mr. Keen that the schedule for the 2009 Board meetings be approved at the November 13, 2008 meeting. Ms. Bulova seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Director's Update

Director Tucker updated the Board on the schedule of statewide public meetings for the Draft Statewide Rail Plan and Rail Action Plan and the release of the documents. Mr. Tucker also provided information on the actions of the Commonwealth Transportation Board on the recommended program of projects for the Rail Enhancement Fund.

Director Tucker invited Frances Bourne from Amtrak's Government Affairs Department to update the Board on federal reauthorization and appropriations for the railroad. Ms. Bourne introduced Jay McArthur of the Planning Office who could answer questions. During her presentation, Ms. Bourne reviewed Amtrak's equipment and infrastructure needs.

Draft Statewide Rail Plan Overview

Kevin Page, Chief of Rail Transportation, gave a presentation to the Board on the status of the Statewide Rail Plan.

Information Items

This item was passed over due to time constraints.

Discussion of Rail Policy Issues

The Chair requested Ms. Bulova to review the work of the Governor's Commission on Rail Enhancement for the 21st Century. Mr. Beadles and Meredith Richards were also asked for comments, as they had been members of this Commission.

The Chair asked the members of the Board to review the report of the Commission and reply to him with their feedback for future discussion.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m. The next meeting of the Rail Advisory Board will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in the Discovery Room of the Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 West Broad Street.