



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Board

Mariia Zimmerman
Chairperson

919 East Main Street Suite 2400
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 303-8700
vapassengerrailauthority.org

MINUTES

Meeting of the Board of the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 10:30 AM

In-person Meeting

The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority Finance Committee Board held an electronic communications meeting on April 29, 2026.

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN PERSON

Patricia Doersch, Finance Committee Chair, Neal Crawford, John Delandro, Mariia Zimmerman, and John Watkins

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING ELECTRONICALLY

Darien Flowers, D.J. Jordan

MEMBERS ABSENT

Susan Spears

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS LISTENING ELECTRONICALLY

None

VIRGINIA PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY STAFF

DJ Stadtler, Michael McLaughlin, Laura Farmer, Joan Verbonitz, Michael Westermann, Selma Nuhanovic, Charlie Nelson, Rob Pinckney, Geoff Pelletier, Mary Estelle Douglas

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairperson Patricia Doersch presided and called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Mary Estelle Douglas called roll and confirmed an in-person quorum was present.

MOTION TO APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Neal Crawford and seconded by John Delandro to approve the previous board meeting minutes from January 14, 2026. The motion was carried unanimously, with the vote in

favor cast by Patricia Doersch, Neal Crawford, John Delandro, Darien Flowers, D.J. Jordan, John Watkins, and Mariia Zimmerman.

FY27 VPRA Budget

Presented by: Laura Farmer and Selma Nuhanovic

The FY27 budget, including capital, operating, and administrative costs, was reviewed. This included changes in sources and usage since the January board meeting.

John Watkins asked about an email that DJ Stadtler had sent to the board and its impact on the budget. DJ Stadtler responded.

Patricia Doersch asked about costs and the management reserve, and DJ Stadtler responded.

A motion was made by John Delandro and seconded by John Watkins to approve the recommendation of the FY27 VPRA Budget for Consideration by the VPRA Board.

The motion was carried unanimously with the vote in favor cast by Patricia Doersch, Neal Crawford, John Delandro, Darien Flowers, D.J. Jordan, John Watkins, and Mariia Zimmerman.

KEY PROJECT FUNDING UPDATES

Presented by: Mike McLaughlin, Rob Pinckney, and Geoff Pelletier

Information on projects with potential budget changes was reviewed.

UPCOMING FINANCING PLANS

Presented by: Laura Farmer

Laura Farmer reviewed upcoming VPRA financing plans.

John Watkins asked about debt sources, and Laura Farmer responded.

BYLAWS UPDATE PREVIEW

Presented by: Michael Westermann

Michael Westermann reviewed projected bylaws update recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

Patricia Doersch adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m. All presentations to the Finance Committee and meeting video can be found at <http://vpva.virginia.gov/about/board-meetings>.

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VPRA BOARD MEMBER REQUEST TO CHAIRPERSON FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION

I, Darrell Jordan hereby notify the chairperson of my intent to, and do hereby
(Name)

request to, participate remotely from California using electronic communication
(Remote Location)
means during the public meeting of VPRA Board Finance Committee scheduled on
(VPRA Board, or name of VPRA committee)

4/29/2026 for the following reason:
(Date)

- ☐ I have a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents my physical attendance; or
- ☐ a medical condition of a member of my family requires me to provide care that prevents my physical attendance; or
- ☐ my principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location; or
- ☒ I am unable to attend the meeting due to a personal matter, which is
a work business trip.¹
(Identify with specificity the nature of the personal matter)

This request is (for the chairperson to select):

- ☒ APPROVED
- ☐ DENIED

This form constitutes the record of notice, request, and approval or disapproval required for remote participation pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3708.3 and shall be recorded in the corresponding minutes of the VPRA Board or the name of the VPRA committee.

Signed by:
Maria Zimmerman 4/13/2026
86B82FCBCEC40F...

Chairperson Signature

¹ Remote participation based on a "personal matter" may not exceed the greater between two times and 25% of meetings, in each case, during a specific calendar year with respect to a specific public body. Meetings of the full VPRA Board and meetings of each committee will be measured independently.

VPRA BOARD MEMBER REQUEST TO CHAIRPERSON FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION

I, Darien Flowers hereby notify the chairperson of my intent to, and do hereby
(Name)
 request to, participate remotely from Seattle, WA using electronic communication
(Remote Location)
 means during the public meeting of Finance Committee scheduled on
(VPRA Board, or name of VPRA committee)
April 29, for the following reason:
(Date)

- ☐ I have a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents my physical attendance; or
- ☐ a medical condition of a member of my family requires me to provide care that prevents my physical attendance; or
- ☐ my principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location; or
- ☒ I am unable to attend the meeting due to a personal matter, which is
Full Time Job Required Travel.¹
(Identify with specificity the nature of the personal matter)

This request is (for the chairperson to select):

- ☒ APPROVED
- ☐ DENIED

This form constitutes the record of notice, request, and approval or disapproval required for remote participation pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3708.3 and shall be recorded in the corresponding minutes of the VPRA Board or the name of the VPRA committee.

Signed by:

86B82FCBCEEC49F... 4/9/2026
 Chairperson Signature

¹ Remote participation based on a “personal matter” may not exceed the greater between two times and 25% of meetings, in each case, during a specific calendar year with respect to a specific public body. Meetings of the full VPRA Board and meetings of each committee will be measured independently.