

NEVADA COMMISSION FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE V&T RAILWAY
Minutes of the Wednesday, May 22, 2024 Meeting
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A regular meeting of the Nevada Commission for the reconstruction of the V&T Railway was held at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, in the Community Center Robert “Bob” Crowell Boardroom, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

The meeting video is available on Carson City’s website by clicking on the link below:
https://carsoncity.granicus.com/player/clip/2447?view_id=2&redirect=true

PRESENT: Chairperson David Peterson
Vice Chair Clay Mitchell (via WebEx)
Secretary Stephanie Hicks
Commissioner Michelle Schmitter

STAFF: Mihaela Neagos, Deputy District Attorney
Cherrie Bailey, Executive Assistant
Tamar Warren, Senior Deputy Clerk

1 – 3. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(9:08:24) – Chairperson Peterson called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Treasurer Leah Kruse was absent. Chairperson Peterson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

(9:09:21) – Chairperson Peterson entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

5. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE APRIL 24, 2024 MEETING

(9:09:35) – Chairperson Peterson introduced the item and entertained comments, edits, or a motion.

(9:09:51) – MOTION: Secretary Hicks moved to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2024 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schmitter and carried 4-0-0.

(9:10:27) – Chairperson Peterson announced that item 8 would be heard first.

6. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE V&T COMMISSION’S STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHECKS PAID APRIL 1-30, 2024.

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(9:14:58) – Chairperson Peterson introduced the item and referenced the information in the Staff Report which is incorporated into the record. There were no comments; therefore, he entertained a motion.

(9:15:30) – **MOTION:** Secretary Hicks moved to approve the payable checks from April 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schmitter and carried 4-0-0.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE V&T COMMISSION’S FISCAL YEAR (“FY”) 2023/2024 ADJUSTED BUDGET REPORTS, PERIOD ENDED APRIL 1-30, 2024.

(9:15:56) – Chairperson Peterson introduced the item and reviewed the Staff Report which is incorporated into the record. Commissioner Schmitter inquired about the credit card fees that were highlighted on the budget worksheet and Ms. Bailey noted that they were added late due to the Comptroller’s Office getting the budget out. She also confirmed for Chair Peterson that it would be reconciled at the next month’s review. There were no public comments.

(9:18:12) – **MOTION:** Secretary Hicks moved to approve the Budget Reports. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schmitter and carried 4-0-0.

8. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE V & T COMMISSION FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR (“FY”) 2025.

(9:10:36) – Chairperson Peterson introduced the item and entertained public comments first; however, none were forthcoming. Storey County Comptroller Jennifer McCain reviewed the final budget and highlighted the following changes that were requested by the Commission at its last meeting:

- The addition of a shuttle/van in Capital Outlay
- Moving the website expense to Professional Services
- Miscellaneous Contributions revenue would “counterbalance the van”
- Additional \$25,000 in Intergovernmental Support for the survey
- Additional \$4,000 in Professional Services for a shuttle driver
- Additional \$4,000 in Supplies and Services for shuttle maintenance/shuttle fuel
- The final insurance quote was lower; however, insurance was added for the shuttle

There were no additional comments; therefore, Chairperson Peterson entertained a motion.

(9:13:48) – **MOTION:** Secretary Hicks moved to approve the V&T Commission Final Budget for FY 2025. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schmitter and carried 4-0-0.

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Ms. McCain requested that the Board members sign the required copies of the budget and return them to Ms. Bailey.

9. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:

MONTHLY NON-ACTION ITEMS:

a. EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT UPDATE

(9:18:46) – Ms. Bailey reported that both Mark Twain Days and Mothers’ Day had been successful, noting that the latter even had two sold-out morning train rides, adding that the May 18 and May 19, 2024 rides were “a little light.” She also announced the upcoming Fathers’ Day activities which she noted were “almost sold out.” Chairperson Peterson praised everyone for all their work and noted that they had achieved their goals for the busy Mothers’ Day and Mark Twain Days events. Ms. Bailey noted that the upcoming weekend tickets were also “almost sold out.”

b. OPERATIONS/TRAINS REPORT

(9:22:44) – V&T Railroad (VTRR) Sales and Marketing Coordinator Candy Duncan noted that she had worked on the train the past weekend and had noticed most riders were out-of-towners, adding that the retail shop would be “ready to go for this weekend.” Ms. Duncan also noted that VTRR President Tom Gray was working on “making railbikes a reality.” Chairperson Peterson believed that they could become available in 2025. Ms. Duncan stated that the “Short Line Season” would start this upcoming Saturday, which meant there would be trains running every day. She also highlighted a broken door handle that needed to be addressed as the entire door would most likely need to be replaced.

c. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

1. COMMISSION MEETING ON JUNE 26, 2024, at 9:00 AM

(9:33:04) – Chairperson Peterson read the upcoming meeting date into the record.

10. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.

(9:30:25) – Commissioner Schmitter inquired about the ticket designs and Chairperson Peterson stated that they would be “a little bit smaller” and about 5,500 would be printed for now and the second design would be printed later in June.

(9:33:18) – Chairperson Peterson announced that the Territory Advisory Committee had met a week ago to discuss the Commission on Tourism grants and thanked Ms. Bailey for submitting a grant request for the Commission’s website design. He explained that the Committee had advised moving forward with the request without the maintenance component, and noted that he would update the Commission at the next meeting.

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(9:35:17) – Secretary Hicks updated the Commission on an upcoming meeting of the Government Affairs Committee at the end of May (interim session of the State Legislature) and highlighted an opportunity to present (with Storey County) to the Committee on May 30, 2024, at 9 a.m. regarding the history, challenges, concerns, and possible conversations on policies that could help the Commission. Ms. Hicks noted that a presentation had been submitted to the Committee and would be included in their agenda packet to be released on May 23, 2024. She also added that further discussion must be presented to the Carson City Board of Supervisors and the Storey County Board of Commissioners by Secretary Hicks and Vice Chair Mitchell respectively.

CLOSED NON-MEETING TO CONFER WITH OPERATIONS MANAGER AND COUNSEL.

This item did not take place.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

(9:38:00) – Chairperson Peterson entertained final public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

14. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO ADJOURN

(9:38:16) – Chairperson Peterson adjourned the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

The Minutes of May 22, 2024, Nevada Commission for the Reconstruction of the V&T Railway meeting are so approved on this 26th day of June 2024.

Stephanie A. Hicks
STEPHANIE HICKS, Secretary