



Southeast Corridor Commission

Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2020

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EST

Roll Call

Julie White conducted a roll call at 2:03 PM on September 28.

Present

Committee			
State	Commission Member / Proxy	Technical Committee Member	Others
DC	Jefferey Bennett (proxy)	<i>Not present</i>	-
Virginia	Michael McLaughlin	Emily Stock	Jennifer Wright, Shannon Valentine
North Carolina	Julie White	Eddie McFalls	David Howard, Eric Boyette
South Carolina	Brent Rewis	Doug Frate	-
Tennessee	Dan Pallme (proxy)	Amy Kasonovic	-
Georgia	Meg Pirkle / Carol Comer	Ashley Finch / Kaycee Mertz	
Florida	Rickey Fitzgerald (proxy)	Lauren Miller	-

Non-Voting	
FRA	Paul Nissenbaum, Randy Brown, Jessie Gatti
Consultants	Corey Hill (Kimley Horn), Emily Grenzke (Kimley Horn), Jessica Rossi (Kimley-Horn), Ben Chambers (Kimly-Horn) Brian Speight (Mott MacDonald)

Julie White began with introducing guests’ speakers of NCDOT Secretary Eric Boyette, NCDOT Chief Deputy Secretary David Howard, VDOT Secretary Shannon Valentine, and FRA Paul Nissenbaum. All guest speakers spoke on the importance of the SEC.

Old Business

Julie White welcomed everyone and addressed an edit from the July meeting minutes and asked if anyone had further edits. Julie White made a motion to approve the July Commission meeting minutes. Motion was moved by Dan Pallme, seconded by Meg Pirkle. Ayes from DC, VA, NC, SC, TN, GA.

New Business

Emily Grenzke presented on the Economic Impact of Rail scenarios key metrics and the initial results of the metrics. Emily Grenzke recommends to the group that a horizon year of 2055 to be used to align with the SE Regional Rail Plan.

Marston Raue presents the SEC Project Database and Grouping Process. Marston Raue opens the floor for questions and will cast a vote on the proposed groupings at the following meeting.

Emily Stock from VDRPT presents SEC Implementation Plan scope of work. Julie White made a motion to adopt the scope of work. Motion was moved by Meg Pirkle, seconded by Dan Pallme. Ayes from DC, VA, NC, SC, TN, GA.

Marston presents on major comments submitted by the states on additional stakeholders for the FRA Southeast Regional Rail Plan. Comments have been received from NC, SC, TN, GA, and City of Charlotte in conjunction with the Charlotte Regional Transportation Organization. The Commission is planned to publish the Plan in early January on the SEC website.

States presented on new or existing rail initiatives:

- Washington, DC: The final EIS signed for the Long Bridge. VRE is continuing to work on mid-day storage facility on New York Avenue.
- Virginia: Finalizing agreements with CSX and Amtrak fully executed by end of this year. Established a new passenger Virginia rail authority to implement passenger rail in the commonwealth. Board was just appointed and initiating a search for an Executive Director and staff to build out the organization.
- North Carolina: Received CRISI Grant to purchase the S-Line in NC. Working to get SOGR obligated for new train cars. Will replace existing Piedmont fleet. Updating State Rail Plan.
- South Carolina: In the process entering construction for upstate express adding rail capacity to the NS between Columbia and Inland Port Grier. Targeting for completion of 2023. State Rail and Freight Plan updates were approved and are in review at FRA and FHWA.
- Tennessee: Draft needs assessment of short lines will be received by end of the September. Port of Cates Landing received a \$7 million BUILD grant for a multi-modal inland center.
- Georgia: Working with FRA to FEIS rod to finalize the greenfield as the preferred scenario and receive signatures by late October. State Rail Plan for Georgia is in the final phases of the plan and plan to have a draft final to FRA this Fall.
- Florida: No updates
- FRA: No updates

Marston Raue asks the Committee for acceptable dates for next Commission meeting. It is decided January 5th at 10:00AM.

Scheduling of Next Meeting

January 5, 10:00AM meeting date/time was approved.

Additional Agenda Items

N/A

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 3:33 PM by Julie White.

Minutes prepared by: Marston Raue

Minutes submitted by: Meg Pirkle

Approved on: November 24, 2020

These minutes will be circulated to Commission nominees, Proxies, Technical Committee members, and other attendees for comments. Any comments received within ten days of distribution will be incorporated into a final version. These meeting minutes will be formally approved at the subsequent Commission meeting.