Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority Meeting DRAFT Minutes

March 24, 2025 3:00 p.m.

The following members were in attendance:

Authority Members in Attendance:

Marian Moskowitz, Chester County Commissioner, Chair
Tom DiBello, Montgomery County Commissioner, Vice Chair
Peter Urscheler, Phoenixville Borough Mayor, Treasurer
Scott France, Executive Director, Montgomery County Planning Commission, Secretary
David Hunter, Executive Director, Berks County Planning Commission
Eddie Moran, Mayor of Reading
Stephanie Henrick, Mayor of Pottstown
Matt Edmond, Executive Director, Chester County Planning Commission

Authority Members Absent:

Christian Leinbach, Berks County Board of Commissioners, Assistant Secretary

1. Call to Order

Marian Moskowitz, Chair of the SRPRA, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Recognize Chester County Appointment of Matthew Edmond to SRPRA Board

SRPRA Chair, Marian Moskowitz, recognized meeting attendee Matt Edmond, formerly Montgomery County Transportation Director, who is the new Executive Director of the Chester County Planning Commission, and who was appointed to the SRPRA Board by the Chester County Board of Commissioners at their March 19, 2025 meeting.

3. Adoption of February 24, 2025 Minutes

Marian Moskowitz called for any corrections to the minutes. There were no corrections to the minutes.

As there were no corrections to the minutes, Marian Moskowitz announced that the SRPRA's February 24, 2025 meeting minutes stand approved as presented.

4. Board Member Comments

There were no Board member comments.

5. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Dan Becker of Kozloff Stoudt Attorneys, legal counsel for the Authority, read the guidelines for making public comments. There were no public comments on the agenda.

6. Resolution to Authorize Amendment to Articles of Incorporation, and to file Articles of Amendment with the PA Dept. of State, and to take any actions associated therewith including advertisement—Action

The SRPRA's Executive Director, Tom Frawley, reported that the SRPRA Board approved a motion on December 23, 2024 to seek resolutions from the three organizing counties, and that all three counties

(Berks, Chester and Montgomery) have all unanimously adopted resolutions to amend the SRPRA Articles of Incorporation to extend the end date of the term of the Authority from June 15, 2025 to June 15, 2072.

Dan Becker explained that the resolution before the Board is to authorize the amendment to the SRPRA's Articles of Incorporation, to file Articles of Amendment with PA's Department of State, and to advertise for the Authority as required by law.

Marian Moskowitz added context by citing the origin of the Authority was a meeting among the three counties in 2019, followed by the incorporation of the Authority in 2022. She expressed thanks to everyone who has contributed to the progress to-date.

Marian Moskowitz motioned, Mayor Peter Urscheler seconded, all voted unanimously, and the motion was carried to authorize amendment to the Articles of Incorporation, file Articles of Amendment with the PA Dept. of State, and take any actions associated therewith including advertisement.

7. Committee Reports

a. Finance - Mayor Peter Urscheler, Chair

i. Committee Update

Mayor Peter Urscheler reported that the SRPRA Finance Committee met on March 19. Peter said that the FRA CIDP Grant Amendment Request Form (GARF) that Tom Frawley submitted on behalf of the SRPRA on January 13th remains in process. Once the form has been signed by FRA's representatives, reimbursements can resume.

Peter said that the SRPRA annual audit is almost complete.

ii. Motion to Pay Bills – Action

Peter indicated the Finance Committee recommends that the Board ratify the SRPRA's four prepaid bills paid between March 3rd, 2025 and March 15th, 2025 totaling \$147.77 and approve for payment the two invoices dated between March 1st and March 5th totaling \$17,031.20.

Peter Urscheler motioned, Mayor Stephanie Henrick seconded, all voted unanimously, and the motion was carried to approve the payments of prepaid and outstanding bills presented in the SRPRA's March 24, 2025 Board meeting packet.

Peter reminded attendees that the Finance Committee meetings are public and can be attended via Zoom. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on April 16th. He encouraged everyone interested to attend the meeting and said meeting information can be found on the SRPRA website, www.GoSRPRA.com.

b. Personnel – Comm. Moskowitz, Chair

i. Committee Update

Marian Moskowitz, SRPRA Chair and Personnel Committee Chair, reported that there were no updates from the Personnel Committee.

8. CIDP Update

Tom reported that despite freezes to funding related to the bipartisan infrastructure bill, the SRPRA project would proceed without disruption.

Tom said he would be meeting with Norfolk Southern this Thursday. He also recently received from

Amtrak a draft memo of understanding which will be required for Step 2.

9. <u>Executive Director's Report – Tom Frawley</u>

Tom and SRPRA Board member David Hunter attended and made a presentation at an APA webinar on March 5th. Tom presented on a panel at the spring update of the TMA of Chester County on March 17th and attended the March 20th All Aboard Lehigh Valley briefing in Easton.

10. Marketing Team Report - David Hunter

David Hunter, Chair of the Marketing Team, reported that SRPRA messages are appearing on Lamar Advertising's digital billboards.

David said that short video interview reels intended to add content and variety to the SRPRA's social media outreach are still being recorded. David added that a new Board photo will be taken at the April 28 SRPRA Board meeting in Pottstown, for use on the SRPRA's webpage.

11. Planning Team Report-Scott France

Scott reported that the team continues to coordinate with Tom Frawley, FRA and AECOM.

Scott announced that the April 28th SRPRA Board meeting will be held in-person in Pottstown on the Colebrookdale Railroad. Officials from DVRPC have been invited; they will provide an update on their current study of station locations in Pottstown.

12. Other Business

There was no other business discussed.

13. General Public Comment

Andrew Kline of Alsace Township, Berks County, said he was curious as to who was funding the cost of the billboards advertising the SRPRA project.

Tom Frawley replied that Lamar Advertising was providing advertising for the SRPRA free of charge as a public service announcement for the Authority to build awareness of the project.

14. Adjourn

Marian Moskowitz called to adjourn the meeting.

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Peter Urscheler motioned, Scott France seconded, and all voted unanimously, to adjourn the March 2025 meeting of the SRPRA Board.

Next Board Meeting

April 28, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. in the Borough of Pottstown at a location yet to be finalized.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Meehan