

**Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium Authority
Board Meeting**

Tuesday, October 18, 2016 I 1:00 PM
Center for Advanced Engineering & Research
1173 Research Way, Forest, VA 24551

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER:

The Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium Authority (VNECA) Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Donald Hoffman at 1:00 PM.

The following VNECA Board Members were present: Donald Hoffman, Gary Tepper, Mary Alice Hayward, Bob Bailey, Pam Norris, John Capps, Al Christopher, Tim Stuller, Ganapati Myneni, and Woody Lawman.

The following VNECA Board Members were absent: David Christian, Regina Carter, Colleen Deegan, Srinath Ekkad, Maureen Matsen, Matthew Mulherin, Bill Briscoe, and Mark Troutman.

The following VNECA staff was present: Chris McDonald, DMME.

The following non-members were present: Eric Jenkins (Sulzer), Erica Gray (Sierra Club, Virginia Chapter), David Martin (Martin Images News), Alex Rohr (The News & Advance), Margaret Carmel (The News & Advance), and Tom Deponty (Areva).

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES:

Chairman Hoffman proposed adoption of the Meeting Minutes from the August 25, 2016 VNECA Board Meeting. John Capps moved for approval and was seconded by Tim Stuller. The Board unanimously approved the minutes

VIRGINIA NUCLEAR ENERGY CONSORTIUM UPDATE:

Marshall Cohen, Executive Director of the Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium (VNEC), provided an update on VNEC activities. Since the last VNEC update, the Consortium has adopted a 2016-2017 Strategic Plan, and all eight founding members of the Consortium renewed their membership for another year. The Consortium continues to support the Center for Advanced Engineering and Research (CAER) and is continuing to seek additional

funding. Additionally, the Consortium is continuing to focus on workforce development in Virginia, working to create a specific Energy Cluster, planning for a statewide nuclear energy career day, and building a jobs database on their website. Finally, the Consortium is working with the Virginia congressional delegation to increase congressional advocacy for nuclear issues, focusing on the impact of plant closures and the role of nuclear generation in meeting clean air goals, among other topics.

Chairman Hoffman noted that the Consortium had keyed in on a very important topic when it came to workforce development and education: the capability to accurately inform is critical. To that end, Chairman Hoffman noted that the Authority is available to help in any research and informational capacity they Consortium may needed moving forward.

UPDATE FROM GANAPATI MYNENI:

Ganapati Myneni, Deputy Vice Chair for Accelerator Driven and Molten Salt Designs, provided the Authority with a brief update on his plans to attend the 2017 International High-Level Radioactive Waste Management Conference (IHLRWM) in Charlotte, N.C. Dr. Myneni shared with the Authority four abstracts for the presentations he plans to make at the conference:

1. Virginia Permanent High Level Waste Plan: Ocean Dissolution Without Pollution
2. The Future of Nuclear Energy: Chemistry is the Problem, Accelerators the Solution
3. A Spontaneous Fission Neutron (SFN) Standard for High Level Waste
4. Why the WIPP Barrel Exploded and Implications for WIPP

The Abstracts will be circulated to all Authority members and posted on the Authority's website.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

Chairman Hoffman provided an update to the Authority on the status of nuclear energy in the states, noting again the premature shutdown of several more nuclear plants and the concern he has for their impact on baseload needs, electricity prices, and grid stability. Chairman Hoffman noted he had met with the staffs of both major Presidential candidates and was pleased to see nuclear energy was prominently positioned in both candidates' energy plans.

Chairman Hoffman further noted that he continues to meet with other Governor's across the United States to advocate for nuclear energy and for adopting a model similar to VNECA.

Finally, Chairman Hoffman noted that his work continues on National Assets Legislation. Since his last update to the Authority, Chairman Hoffman has secured the support of four more Congressmen, bringing the total to 39.

2016 ANNUAL REPORT:

Chris McDonald presented the Authority the updated draft of the 2016 VNECA Annual Report he had created based upon the submissions and edits of the Board Members following the Authority's August 25th Meeting. Members discussed and voted upon the individual edits and submissions, reviewing each individual page of the report. Al Christopher moved that the Authority vote on the updated report, pending compilation and inclusion of final edits by DMME staff. Ganapati Myneni seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously voted in favor of it. McDonald will send out the final, redlined copy to Staff members prior to publishing the report and providing to the requisite government entities.

NEXT STEPS:

Chris McDonald noted to the Authority that in the coming months, Board members would be required to submit their annual Conflict of Interest Disclosures. McDonald will contact the Office of the Attorney General about the due date of these disclosures (as well as any other relevant information) and will distribute accordingly to the Authority.

McDonald relayed to the Board Members that the Authority had been asked to present to the Workgroup established by Executive Order 57. Tentatively, the Authority is scheduled to present on December 31, 2016, though they may be asked to defer until the December or January meeting. Discussion was had as to what the Authority would present, and it was agreed that the Chairman would formally present the recommendations of the Annual Report to the Workgroup.

McDonald reminded the Board that their next meeting had previously been scheduled for December 8th, 2016. McDonald will follow up with the Board members individually to reconfirm the date.

A number of members noted that meeting in Lynchburg was a nice change of pace, and perhaps the Board should consider meeting in another new location in December. Chairman Hoffman proposed meeting in Northern Virginia, and the attending Members agreed. McDonald will work to secure a room at the Virginia Tech Research Center (or another similarly located location) and will follow up with the Board. The Board agreed to plan to meet at 12:00 PM.

Pam Norris offered meeting space at the University of Virginia for future meetings as well. The Board agreed to discuss this option at their December meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Hoffman opened the floor to the Authority members for any new business that had not been covered.

Mary Alice Hayward announced that at the end of the year she would be stepping down from her current role at Areva and in turn would be resigning from the Authority. Ms. Hayward stated she would attend the next meeting, but moving forward she will be formally recommending that her successor at Areva, Tom Deponty, be appointed to the Authority in her place. McDonald will relay the information to the Secretary of the Commonwealth and report back to the group.

Bob Bailey thanked the Board for traveling to the Center for Advanced Engineering & Research for their October meeting. He invited anyone interested – members and public attendees – to remain after the meeting for a tour of the facilities.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Having concluded official business, Chairman Hoffman opened the meeting up for public comment. The Board received comment from Erica Gray (Sierra Club, Virginia Chapter). Ms. Gray expressed her strong opposition to expanded nuclear energy due to her concerns about cost, storage, and safety. She did note that she advocates the exploration of safe, clean new technology, such as the technology that Ganapati Myneni and Dr. Charlie Bowman have presented on.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no additional business left, John Capps moved to adjourn and was seconded by Ganapati Myneni. After a unanimous vote, the Authority adjourned at 2:55 PM.