

WASHINGTON METRORAIL SAFETY COMMISSION

Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Location: This meeting was conducted remotely as a publicly-streamed video conference.

These minutes serve as a guide to the video recording of the meeting available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3pBnAcxTYFI>. Commissioner questions and comments are captured in the video recording.

MINUTES

Agenda Item #	Items
Attendance	Commissioners present: Chair Christopher Hart and Commissioners Robert Bobb, Debra Farrar-Dyke, Suhair Al Khatib, and Michael Rush. Alternate Commissioner Robert Lauby participated as the second Virginia commissioner.
1.	Call to Order. Hart. Hart called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Roll call was taken by WMSC Counsel Brackett Smith, and a quorum was achieved.
2.	Safety Message. Richard David, Emergency Management Specialist/Safety Officer. David discussed being safe around cyclists, which is highlighted throughout May, National Bike Month.
3.	Approval of the minutes of the April 11, 2023, Public Meeting. Hart. Farrar-Dyke moved for approval of the minutes of the April 11, 2023, Public Meeting. The minutes of the April 11, 2023, Public Meeting were unanimously approved.
4.	Public Comments. Hart. Hart invited comments from members of the public who had joined the webinar audience. William Jackson shared his view of how WMATA regards the WMSC.

5.	<p>Chair’s Remarks. Hart.</p> <p>Hart previewed the day’s meeting, noting it would cover the WMSC’s ongoing safety oversight activities and consideration of final safety event investigation reports.</p>
6.	<p>CEO’s Remarks. David Mayer, Chief Executive Officer.</p> <p>Mayer spoke in detail about what the meeting would cover, including the WMSC’s oversight of train operator certification issues, Metrorail’s safety certification work on projects such as Potomac Yard Station, the potential use of Automatic Train Operation, and the staffing issues in the Rail Operations Control Center.</p>
7.	<p>7000 Series Railcar Update. Sharmila Samarasinghe, Deputy CEO and Chief Operating Officer</p> <p>Samarasinghe told commissioners that the WMSC continues to work with WMATA on an updated Return to Service plan and detailed the proposed changes.</p>
8.	<p>Audits. Ashley Rhodes, Program Coordination Specialist.</p> <p>Rhodes said the WMSC is working on draft reports of the Structures Audit and Roadway Maintenance Machine Audit. Further, the WMSC conducted interviews and field work for the Automatic Train Control and Signals Audit and has begun work on the Power Systems Audit.</p>
9.	<p>Corrective Action Plans (CAPs). Davis Rajtik, Audits and CAPs Program Manager.</p> <p>Rajtik noted that since the April 11 public meeting, the WMSC closed eight CAPs. There were 116 open CAPs as of the meeting date.</p>
10.	<p>Safety Certification Status Report. Tino Sahoo, Subject Matter Expert, Traction Power.</p> <p>Sahoo discussed projects that require WMSC concurrence prior to Metrorail activating them in passenger service, including the new Potomac Yard Station, Metrorail’s possible initiation of ATO, automatic door operation, and the future 8000 Series railcars.</p>
11.	<p>Safety Event Investigations. Adam Quigley, Investigations Manager; Natalie Quiroz, Investigations Analyst.</p> <p>The reports referenced below may be found at the following link: https://wmsc.gov/oversight/reports/.</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. W-0217 Red Signal Overrun, Improper Movement at Smithsonian Station – December 6, 2022 2. W-0218 Collision at New Carrollton Rail Yard – January 11, 2023 3. W-0219 Collision at Alexandria Rail Yard – January 7, 2023 4. W-0220 Evacuation for Life Safety Reasons at Alexandria Rail Yard – November 17, 2022 5. W-0221 Evacuation for Life Safety Reasons at Woodley Park Station – January 21, 2023 6. W-0222 Evacuation for Life Safety Reasons at Gallery Place-Chinatown Station – January 19, 2023 7. W-0223 Evacuation for Life Safety Reasons at Spring Hill Station – April 21, 2022 8. W-0224 Serious Injury at Medical Center Station – May 18, 2022 9. W-0225 Serious Injury at Anacostia Station – June 6, 2022 10. W-0226 Serious Injury at Braddock Road Station – June 26, 2022 <p>Lauby moved for the adoption of the seven reports. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
12.	<p>Resolutions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WMSC-R-2023-02 Resolution Adopting FY24 Work Program and Budget. Bobb moved for the adoption of the resolution and the motion passed unanimously. 2. WMSC-R-2023-03 Resolution Approving Audit Firm Selection. Lauby moved for the adoption of the resolution and the motion passed unanimously.
13.	<p>Adjournment. Hart adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.</p>