



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

W. Sheppard Miller, III
Chairperson

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RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

June 21, 2022

MOTION

**Made By: Mr. Stant Seconded By: Mr. Coleman
Action: Motion carried, unanimously**

Title: Commending Stephen A. Johnsen

WHEREAS, Stephen A. Johnsen served as a member of the Commonwealth Transportation Board as an At-Large member representing rural Virginia from 2017 to 2022, having been appointed to fill an unexpired term by Governor Terry McAuliffe in 2017, and subsequently reappointed by Governor Ralph Northam in 2018; and

WHEREAS, prior to his appointment to the Board, Mr. Johnsen compiled a record of dedicated and longstanding commitment to the environment through his work with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), a leader in coastal and estuarine science and education for Virginia and the world; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure with VIMS, he oversaw the 2016 merger of the original VIMS Foundation Board and the VIMS Council to form a new VIMS Foundation Board, an effort for which he was awarded the Freeman Volunteer of the Year Award by VIMS, served as the new Board's first president for three years, during which time the VIMS campaign grew by more than \$10 million, and further worked with the VIMS Eastern Shore Lab, where he led an initiative to establish a fund for Eastern Shore students to pursue internships at the lab and gain exposure to marine science; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnsen's dedication to public service in the Commonwealth has been further demonstrated by his history of service in other key positions, including his service on the advisory board and foundation board of directors of the Eastern Shore Community College,

spearheading a fundraising campaign for the Montessori Children's House of Franktown, and serving on the board of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, in recognition of their commitment to the betterment of the Eastern Shore community, including the aforementioned roles and their pivotal role in securing for VIMS a sculpture by Eastern Shore artist David Turner, as well as bringing the research vessel "Peregrination" into the VIMS fleet, Mr. Johnson and his wife, Barbara Johnsen, Ed.D., were named Citizens of the Year by the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, in recognition of his distinguished records of service, support, advocacy and commitment on behalf of William and Mary and its schools, departments, units, organizations and boards, the William and Mary Alumni Association granted Mr. Johnsen an Honorary Alumnus award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnsen also brought to his service on the Board a significant record of achievement and leadership in the private sector, having served as president and CEO of the Flagship Group, Ltd., and executive vice president of commercial marine insurer Brown & Brown Insurance; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Commonwealth Transportation Board, Mr. Johnsen diligently and tirelessly served as a member, both in his representation of rural Virginia as an At-Large member and also in other significant roles, namely, as Co-Chair of the Board's Environmental Task Force, later renamed the Environmental Subcommittee, and as a member of the Board's Rail and Transit Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, in fulfilling his duties with this Board, his leadership, dedication, commitment and insight have earned Mr. Johnsen the admiration and respect of his colleagues and the staff at the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board wishes to express its appreciation to Mr. Johnsen for his years of service to this Board and to the Commonwealth.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Commonwealth Transportation Board, that the members of this Board hereby extend to Stephen A. Johnsen their highest commendation and gratitude for his years of outstanding service on behalf of the citizens of the Commonwealth and convey their best wishes to him in all his future undertakings.

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