



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

W. Sheppard Miller, III
Chairperson

1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 482-5818
Fax: (804) 786-2940

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

June 18, 2024

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Laird **Seconded By:** All others present.

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Commending Mark H. Merrill

WHEREAS, Mark H. Merrill served as a member of the Commonwealth Transportation Board representing the Staunton District from 2020 to 2024, having been appointed in 2020 by Governor Ralph Northam; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merrill brought to his tenure on the Board a dedicated record of leadership in the nonprofit sector, having served as chief executive officer of Valley Health System in Winchester, Virginia, a not-for-profit health care system of critical importance to the region with a service area that includes 16 counties/cities and serves over 500,000 residents of Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland. During his tenure with Valley Health System, he oversaw 6 hospitals, including the region's only trauma center, multiple ambulatory care sites, a physician enterprise, home health agency, rehabilitation center and other health services, implementing numerous improvements that have added to the quality and safety of patient care in the region; and

WHEREAS, prior to Mr. Merrill's leadership role at Valley Health System, Mr. Merrill also served as Executive Vice President of Texas Health Resources in Arlington, Texas, and as President of Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas, Texas, all contributing to his thirty-five plus year career in complex and diverse health care organizations in both highly competitive sophisticated markets as well as rural communities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merrill has made significant contributions to his community, having served as Chair and Board member of the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association (VHAA) –which honored him with awards of excellence for his advocacy and efforts to preserve quality health care across the Commonwealth, and having also served on numerous other boards and associations, including the mid-Atlantic and South Central regional policy boards of the American Hospital Association, Go Virginia Region 8, the Shenandoah University School of Business Advisory Board, Our Health, the Blue Ridge Wildlife Center, regional boards of the United Way, the American Red Cross, and Senior Citizens of Greater Dallas, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Gillings School of Public Health – where he served as both board member and chair of the school’s foundation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Merrill diligently and tirelessly has played a significant role in transportation for the Commonwealth, serving on the Commonwealth Transportation Board, in his representation of the Staunton District as well as his work as a member of the Environmental Committee, the Innovation Committee, the Rail and Transit Committee, and the Revenue Sharing/ Transportation Alternatives Program Policy Committee, and

WHEREAS, in each of his roles on the Commonwealth Transportation Board, Mr. Merrill demonstrated a dedicated and thoughtful approach to transportation issues, with a thirst for information and a desire to thoroughly understand the data or policy informing a decision or conclusion; and

WHEREAS, in fulfilling his duties as a member of this Board, his leadership, commitment and insight have earned Mr. Merrill 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. Merrill 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 Mark H. Merrill 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 ventures.

####