



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR
**GROWTH &
OPPORTUNITY**
IN EACH REGION

VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD MEETING

June 24, 2019

1:00 PM

Richmond, Virginia

Members Present

The Honorable Brian Ball
Speaker M. Kirkland "Kirk" Cox
Benjamin J. Davenport II
Senator Janet D. Howell
Doug Juanarena
Deleage R. Steven Landes
The Honorable Aubrey Layne
Senator Thomas K. Norment
Senator Frank M. Ruff
Steven C. Smith
Todd A. Stottlemeyer
Lucia Anna "Pia" Trigiani
Marilyn H. West
Joe Wilson
John O. "Dubby" Wynne

Members Absent

Nancy Howell Agee
James W. "Jim" Dyke Jr.
Heywood W. Fralin
Delegate S. Chris Jones
Delegate Terry G. Kilgore
The Honorable Atif Qarni

Call to Order

Mr. John "Dubby" Wynne, Chairman of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity (GO Virginia) Board, called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Mr. Matt Weaver, Policy & Legislative Director for the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.

Public Comment

No comments were made by the public; the public comment period was then closed.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2018, meeting of the Board; the motion was properly seconded and passed.

After presenting the Regional Council membership changes, a motion was made to approve the Regional Council membership changes for regions 1, 2, 6, and 7; the motion was properly seconded and passed.

Director's Report

As part of the Administrative Approval Process, Mr. Erik Johnston, Director of DHCD, presented 7 Enhanced Capacity Building (ECB) projects, 5 of which were approved: Solar Jobs, Manufacturing and Utility-Scale Investment Playbook for SWVA from Region 1 on behalf of Appalachian Voices, Lonesome Pine RIFA Coordinator from Region 1 on behalf of Lenowisco PDC, Regional Career and Technical Education Study from Region 2 on behalf of Western Virginia Workforce Development Board, Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance sites Assessment Study from Region 2 on behalf of Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance, and Youth Entrepreneurship Program Resource from Region 9 on behalf of Fauquier County Department of Economic Development; 1 ECB was contingently approved: CCAM Business Plan from Region 4 on behalf of Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing; and 1 ECB project was deferred: Creating Region 4's Cyber Ecosystem from Region 4 on behalf of Virginia Commonwealth University. The CCAM project will not be executed until the CCAM business plan is approved by the VEDP Board and the project is supported by the Administration and Money Committee staff. Mr. Johnston also presented 1 Enhanced Capacity Building project that was not administratively approved: Cultivate Entrepreneurs Program from Region 5 on behalf of Retail Alliance Foundation.

Discussion regarding Region 2's Career and Technical Educational (CTE) Study requested staff ensure this effort is not redundant of other CTE endeavors in the state. Discussion regarding Region 4's Creating Region 4's Cyber Ecosystem application inquired about the source of matching funds and noted the precedent this application could set for other universities involved with the Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) to request funding for similar coordinating positions/plans. A motion to defer this application was made and properly seconded. This motion was passed.

Mr. Johnston then provided an overview of the per capita applications received; stating three of the nine regions submitted applications for consideration by the Board. There was one application regarding workforce: Southwest Virginia Livestock and Educational Center from Region 1 on behalf of Carroll County Industrial Development Authority. There was one application regarding entrepreneurship: Activation Capital from Region 4 on behalf of Activation Capital. There was also one application

regarding site development: Regional Business Park – Phase 2 Site Readiness (Tier 3) from Region 9 on behalf of Louisa County.

Mr. Johnston presented Region 1’s application for the Southwest Virginia Livestock and Educational Center. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the project. The motion passed. Mr. Johnston presented Region 4’s application for the Activation Capital project. Director Johnston noted that the application was originally submitted as a Regional Entrepreneurship Initiative (REI) application that required \$2:1 match. Because the project did not fit the criteria of this application, the application was repurposed as a per capita application, requiring a \$1:1 match. Director Johnston explained that the 1:1 match and 20% local match had not been secured yet, but that staff recommend approval contingent upon the applicant fulfilling the match requirements. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the project with the aforementioned contingencies. The motion passed. Mr. Johnston presented Region 9’s Regional Business Park – Phase 2 Site Readiness (Tier 3) application. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the project after discussion by the Board ensuring the importance of continued coordination with VEDP’s site prioritization efforts. The motion passed.

Mr. Johnston presented the Regional FY20 Capacity Building Budgets for Board approval with requested waiver of the match requirement. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve all nine regional council budges with the waiver of the match requirement. The motion passed.

Mr. Johnston provided a project expenditures and contract execution update. There was discussion of lessons learned and project performance.

The Board did not discuss any unfinished business items

Mr. Wynne provided an overview of the history of the GO Virginia effort, the successes and lessons learned to date and a charge to all Board Members to work together to make the program even more successful in the future. Mr. Wynn stated that since Board elections are not allowed until the next Board meeting in September due to the by-laws, he felt it best to formally resign as chair but remain an engaged Board member so that a new Chair could begin in the new fiscal year and not wait until September.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Mr. Wynne then formally resigned as Chairman of the Board. Mr. Davenport, Vice-Chairman, led the election for the new Chairman. Mr. Davenport nominated Mr. Thomas Farrell to succeed Mr. Wynne as Chairman. Mr. Davenport opened the floor for further nominations for Chairman. No other candidates were nominated. Mr. Davenport's motion was properly seconded and Mr. Farrell was unanimously elected Chairman of the Board.

Secretary Layne recommended to the Board that a formal recognition of Mr. Wynne's services to the Board be made. A motion was made and properly seconded to officially recognize Mr. Wynne at the September Board meeting. This motion passed.

Mr. Farrell nominated Vice-Chair Benjamin Davenport to continue serving as Vice-Chair to the Board. The motion was properly seconded and Mr. Davenport was unanimously reelected as Vice Chair of the Board.

Mr. Farrell announced that he has asked a four-member task force consisting of Mr. Wynne, Ms. Lucia Anna "Pia" Trigiani, Mr. Jim Dyke, and Mr. Davenport to spend time with the regional councils and to relay best practices to the councils. Mr. Farrell requested that GO Virginia staff work to set up a formal meeting for the task force and regional councils.

Reports

Todd Stottlemeyer reported on behalf of VRIC. Mr. Stottlemeyer discussed a report from Deputy Secretary Robby Demeria, the certification of Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) nodes and operational plans to be submitted to VRIC by August, and the establishment of working groups for the rollout of these nodes.

Mr. Davenport reported on behalf of the Broadband Taskforce. He relayed that the taskforce will reconvene in August and develop recommendations for the September Board meeting.

Future Board Meetings

Mr. Farrell advised Board members that the next meeting would be held Tuesday, September 10 at 1:00pm in House Room 1 of the Capitol Building.

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.