



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

VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD MEETING

December 7, 2020

1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Members Present

Nancy Howell Agee
Delegate Lamont Bagby
The Honorable Brian Ball
Senator George Barker
Ben J. Davenport, Jr.
Jim Dyke
Thomas F. Farrell II
Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn
W. Heywood Fralin
Leah Fremouw
Senator Janet D. Howell
Doug Juanarena
The Honorable Aubrey Layne
Delegate Martha Mugler
The Honorable Atif Qarni
Senator Frank Ruff
Steven C. Smith
Todd A. Stottlemyer
Don Robin Sullenberger
Delegate Luke E. Torian
Lucia Anna "Pia" Trigiani
Marilyn H. West
Joe Wilson
John O. "Dubby" Wynne

Members Absent

Call to Order

Mr. Thomas F. Farrell II, Chair of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity (GO Virginia) Board, called the meeting to order. It was noted that the meeting was held electronically in the form of a Google Meets presentation in accordance with § 2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia and as a result of Executive Order Number Fifty-One (2020) declaring a state of emergency due to novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

Roll Call

Ms. Andrea Devening, GO Virginia Program Analyst for the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.

Public Comment

Ms. Devening informed the Board that staff had received written public comment from two different entities.

Mr. Sid Banerjee, Chairman of the Region 7 Regional Council, wrote to urge the Board to approve two of the four proposed projects from Region 7 that were recommended for deferral.

Ms. Joanie Eiland, Vice Chair of Region 8 Regional Council, wrote to urge the Board to approve the Shenandoah Valley Sites Enhancement Program application from Region 8.

Public comment period closed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Farrell introduced the consent agenda items to be voted on in a bloc, including the September 22nd, 2020 meeting minutes and an extension to Board Policy #10, governing the Economic Resilience and Recovery (ERR) Program. A motion was made by Ms. Trigiani and properly seconded by Mr. Wilson to approve the consent agenda items. The motion passed. (Yeas: Agee, Ball, Barker, Davenport, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Howell, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Smith, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None)

New Business

Mr. Erik Johnston, Director of DHCD, gave a brief presentation reviewing a proposed amendment to Board Policy #9, which governs public investment in privately owned sites.

A motion was made by Mr. Davenport and properly seconded by Mr. Dyke to approve the amendments to Board Policy #9. The motion passed. (Yeas: Agee, Bagby, Ball, Barker, Davenport, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Howell, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Smith, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None)

Director's Report

Mr. Johnston thanked workgroup members that helped to review and give input on the proposed projects ahead of the Board meeting. It was noted that votes on projects would be held in blocks and that every Board member has the opportunity to remove any item from each block.

Ms. Sara Dunnigan, Deputy Director of GO Virginia and Economic Development at DHCD, presented 2 statewide competitive application regarding cluster scale up and startup ecosystems:

Virginia Bio Connect from Region 4 and Launching a Coastal Resilience Adaptation Economy from Region 6. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Sullenberger to approve both projects as recommended by staff. The motion passed. (Yeas: Agee, Bagby, Ball, Barker, Davenport, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Howell, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Smith, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None)

Ms. Sara Dunnigan presented 9 Per Capita applications regarding workforce development, site development, and start up ecosystems: Central Virginia Community College CTE Academy from Region 2, Hospitality to Technology from Region 7, Techinnovation and Equity in Computing Hub from Region 7, Wildwood Natural Gas Extension from Region 1, LaGrange Industrial Park Master Planning and Preliminary Engineering Report from Region 6, Shenandoah Valley Sites Enhancement Program from Region 8, 757 Collab from Region 5, Northern Virginia Smart Region Initiative from Region 7, and Venture Central from Region 9. It was noted that staff recommended approval of the projects from Regions 1, 2, 6, and 9 and deferral of the other 5 projects. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Smith and properly seconded by Mr. Sullenberger to approve the projects recommended by staff. The motion passed. (Yeas: Agee, Bagby, Ball, Barker, Davenport, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Howell, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Ruff, Smith, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None)

Ms. Dunnigan presented 1 regional ERR application regarding workforce development: Virginia Cyber Skills Academy from Region 7. It was noted that staff recommended deferral of the application. No motion was made to approve the application. The application was deferred.

Ms. Dunnigan presented the validation report from the Virginia Virtual Workforce project, which was approved at the September Board meeting for up to \$100,000 in funding contingent on the completion of a preliminary planning phase design to validate the project concept. After workgroup review of the planning phase design, staff recommended that the project not be approved and all remaining funds awarded in the September meeting be returned and made available for other projects. A motion was made by Mr. Wynne and properly seconded by Ms. Agee to not approve the implementation phase of the project and to return

any remaining funds to the Statewide Competitive pool. The motion passed. (Yeas: Agee, Bagby, Ball, Barker, Davenport, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Howell, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni Ruff, Smith, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None)

Ms. Dunnigan gave the Board a brief presentation on the progress and achievements that had resulted from the Economic Resilience and Recovery Program since its enactment by the Board in April 2020.

Mr. Bob Stolle, President and CEO for the Center for Innovative Technology (CIT) gave the Board a presentation on the Virginia Innovation Partnership (VIPA) and the various major programs that CIT utilizes.

Information Items

Ms. Dunnigan gave the Board a brief overview of Board activities in FY20, all GO Virginia funded projects, and of all of the Enhanced Capacity Building and ERR Fast Access projects administratively approved by staff since the June Board meeting.

Adjournment

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