



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

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VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD MEETING

September 22, 2020

1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Members Present

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. Haywood Fralin  
Leah Fremouw  
Senator Janet D. Howell  
Doug Juanarena  
The Honorable Aubrey Layne  
Delegate Martha Mugler  
The Honorable Atif Qarni  
Senator Frank Ruff  
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

Nancy Howell Agee  
Steven C. Smith

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 four different entities.

Mr. Curry Roberts, President of Fredericksburg Regional Alliance, wrote in support of revision of GO Virginia guidelines to allow funding for the development of privately-owned sites for economic development purposes.

Mr. E. Randolph Lail, Chairman of the Region 3 Regional Council, wrote in support of extending Board Policy #11, which would extend reduced match requirements until May 31, 2021. Mr. Lail also wrote in support of allowing regions to reallocate \$500,000 worth of per capita funds for use in the Economic Resilience and Recovery (ERR) program.

Mr. Lewie Lawrence, Executive Director of Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, wrote in support of revision of GO Virginia guidelines to allow funding for the development of privately owned sites for economic development purposes.

Mr. Sid Banerjee, Chairman of the Region 7 Regional Council, wrote in support of extending Board Policy #11, which would extend reduced match requirements until May 31, 2021.

Public comment period closed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Farrell, introduced the consent agenda items to be voted on in a bloc, including the June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 meeting minutes and resolutions commending Regional Council chairs who stepped away from their positions of leadership. A motion was made by Ms. Trigiani and properly seconded by Mr. Wynne to approve the consent agenda items. The motion passed. (Yeas: Bagby, Ball, Davenport, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None; No-Vote: Howell, Barker)

Election of Officers

Mr. Erik Johnston opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Board. Mr. Davenport nominated Mr. Farrell for the position. That nomination was properly seconded by Mr. Torian. Hearing no other nominations, the floor was closed. Mr. Farrell was elected Chair. (Yeas: Ball, Davenport, Dyke, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None; No-Vote: Bagby, Barker, Farrell, Howell, Smith)

Mr. Farrell opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. Davenport nominated Ms. Agee for the position of Vice Chair. That nomination was properly seconded by Mr. Torian. Hearing no other nominations, the floor was closed. Ms. Agee was elected Vice Chair. (Yeas: Ball, Davenport, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Juanarena, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None; No-Vote: Bagby, Barker, Howell, Layne)

New Business

A motion was made by Mr. Stottlemeyer and properly seconded by Mr. Dyke to consider a resolution to extend Board Policy #11 for modified Per Capita match requirements until May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. The resolution passed. (Yeas: Bagby, Davenport, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None; No-Vote: Ball, Barker, Howell)

Director's Report

Ms. Sara Dunnigan, Deputy Director of GO Virginia and Economic Development at DHCD, provided the Board with an update on the progress of the Economic Recovery and Resilience Program.

Mr. Erik Johnston, Director of DHCD, presented Region 2's request to reallocate up to \$500,000 of Per Capita funds to each Region's ERR program. Mr. Johnston noted that this recommendation to accept this request from all GO Virginia regions comes at the recommendation of staff. A motion was made by Mr. Dyke and properly seconded by Mr. Juanarena to approve the request. The request was approved. (Yeas: Bagby, Davenport, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None; No-Vote: Ball, Barker, Howell, Torian)

Ms. Dunnigan presented 1 statewide competitive application regarding workforce development: Virginia Virtual Workforce from Region 4. Ms. Dunnigan noted the staff recommendation found in the board packet was to not approve the project as presented. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wynne and properly seconded by Mr. Ruff to approve the project with the contingency that a discovery/validation phase utilizing up to \$100,000 in grant funds be approved prior to the release of remaining funds. The motion passed. (Yeas: Barker, Davenport, Dyke, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Juanarena, Mugler, Ruff,

Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: Ball, Farrell, Torian, Trigiani, West; No-Vote: Bagby, Howell, Layne, Qarni)

Ms. Dunnigan presented 11 Per Capita applications regarding workforce development and site development: Ignite Tech Talent Pipeline from Region 1, William King Museum of Art – Digital Workforce Development from Region 1, Experiential Learning in Tech Employment Internship Program from Region 2, Hampton Roads Workforce Council Talent Pipeline Implementation Project from Region 5, Virginia Autonomy Workforce and Economic Development Program from Region 5, Germanna Community College Tech Talent Pipeline Project from Region 6, Governor’s Health Sciences Community Medi-Corps Program from Region 7, Lonesome Pine RIFA Project Intersection from Region 1, Amherst LYH Site Readiness from Region 2, Hampton Roads Economic Development Sites Readiness from Region 5, and Northern Virginia Biosciences Center from Region 7. Ms. Dunnigan noted that staff recommends 10 of the 11 projects with Region 5 indicating that they intend to resubmit Virginia Autonomy Workforce and Economic Development Program at the December Board meeting after incorporating the workgroup’s feedback into the application. A motion was made by Ms. Fremouw and seconded by Mr. Sullenberger to approve the 10 projects recommended by staff. The motion passed. (Yeas: Bagby, Ball, Davenport, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Juanarena, Mugler, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson; Nays: None; No-Vote: Barker, Howell, Layne, Qarni, Wynne)

Ms. Dunnigan presented 1 statewide ERR application regarding cluster scale-up: Virginia SBDC Cash Match CY2020-2021 from Region 7. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Dyke and properly seconded by Ms. Fremouw to approve the application. The motion passed. (Yeas: Ball, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Howell, Juanarena, Mugler, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None; Abstentions: Fremouw; No-Vote: Bagby, Barker, Davenport, Layne, Qarni)

Ms. Dunnigan presented 1 regional ERR application regarding cluster scale-up: New River Valley Covid-19 Business Continuity Team from Region 2. A motion was made by Mr. Dyke and properly seconded by Mr. Stottlemeyer to approve the application. The motion passed. (Yeas: Ball, Davenport, Dyke, Farrell, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Howell, Juanarena, Mugler, Ruff,

Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, West, Wilson, Wynne;  
Nays: None; No-Vote: Bagby, Barker, Layne, Qarni)

- Information Items            Ms. Dunnigan gave the Board a brief overview of all GO Virginia funded projects, of the grant oversight review process, and of all of the Enhanced Capacity Building and ERR Fast Access projects administratively approved by staff since the June Board meeting.
- Future Board Meetings      Mr. Farrell advised the Board that the dates for the 2021 Board meetings had been set for March 16<sup>th</sup>, June 15<sup>th</sup>, September 14<sup>th</sup>, and December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Adjournment                 Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.