



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

**VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD MEETING**  
**September 10, 2024**  
**12:00 PM**

**The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research**  
**150 Slayton Avenue**  
**Danville, Virginia**

Members Present

Nancy Howell Agee  
Reggie Aggarwal  
Jim Cheng  
Ben J. Davenport, Jr.  
W. Heywood Fralin  
Leah Fremouw  
Kenneth Johnson  
John King  
Delegate Michelle Maldonado  
Senator Ryan McDougle – Virtual (Henrico,  
Virginia; principal residence is in excess of 60  
miles from the meeting)  
Emily O’Quinn  
Jon Peterson  
Delegate Don Scott  
Todd A. Stottlemeyer

Members Absent

The Honorable Steve Cummings  
Senator Creigh Deeds  
Cliff Fleet  
Delegate Terry Kilgore  
Senator L. Louise Lucas  
The Honorable Caren Merrick  
Fouad Qreitem  
Delegate Luke Torian

Call to Order Ms. Nancy Agee, Chair of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity (GO Virginia) Board, called the meeting to order.

Roll Call Mr. Cody Anderson, GO Virginia Program Administrator for the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.

Public Comment Ms. Agee opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. Ethan Dunstan, Chair of the GO Virginia Region 9 Council, spoke in support of the three VITAL projects that were approved with contingencies at the June 4 meeting of the Board. Mr. Dunstan noted that he was speaking on behalf of GO Virginia Regions 2, 4, and 9 at the behest of the Chairs of those Councils. Mr. Dunstan explained the critical nature of acting with expediency on getting the three proposals to the stage of final approval and under contract.

Mr. Anderson noted that the staff had received two written public comments, which were read aloud:

Mr. William Blair Okita, representing BioPCS Consulting LLC, wrote in support of the CvilleBioHub VITAL application from Region 9, which was approved with contingencies at the June 4 meeting of the Board.

Mr. Evan Edwards, representing CvilleBioHub, wrote in support of the CvilleBioHub VITAL application from Region 9, which was approved with contingencies at the June 4 meeting of the Board, noting the critical need for expediency in moving toward final approval of the project.

The public comment period was closed.

#### Consent Agenda

Ms. Agee noted that the consent agenda, including the June 4, 2024 meeting minutes, the FY25 Region 4 Capacity Building Budget, the Region 4 GO TEC Contract Modification, the 2025 Board Calendar, the Regional Council Certifications, and the Amended Board Policy #2: Electronic Participation Policy, would be voted on as a block.

Ms. O'Quinn requested that the June 4, 2024 meeting minutes be pulled from the block for individual consideration to address a clerical error.

Mr. Anderson explained that the error occurred in the proper documentation of Delegate Michelle Maldonado's full name, as is customary with documentation of the roll call of Board members. Mr. Johnson also requested that language be added to the June 4 meeting minutes that recorded his request for clarity on the term of the Vice Chair of Regional Councils and the subsequent response of staff that the term is a two-year term with the option of reelection for one additional one-year term. Mr. Anderson noted that both items would be addressed, and Ms. Agee

explained that the corrected minutes would be considered at the next meeting of the Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Stottlemeyer and seconded by Mr. Fralin to approve the remaining consent agenda items as presented. The motion passed (Y – Agee, Aggarwal, Cheng, Davenport, Fralin, Fremouw, Johnson, King, Maldonado, McDougle, O’Quinn, Peterson, Scott, Stottlemeyer; N – none).

Deputy Director’s Report Ms. Shara Gibson, Program Manager of GO Virginia at DHCD, presented the Board with 3 Per Capita applications regarding workforce development and site development and infrastructure: Regional Talent Strategies from Region 6, Western Lee Sewer Phase IA from Region 1, and Progress Park Lot 10 from Region 1.

Ms. Agee noted that the Board would vote on the proposed projects as a block.

Ms. O’Quinn requested that the Western Lee Sewer Phase IA project be removed from the block for separate consideration.

Ms. O’Quinn noted that the applicant requested that the Board take no action on the application and had requested that the project be tabled so that they could improve the application for a possible resubmission at a later date. The project was tabled without objection or further discussion.

A motion was made by Delegate Scott and seconded by Ms. O’Quinn to approve the remainder of the projects as recommended by staff. The motion passed (Y – Agee, Aggarwal, Cheng, Davenport, Fralin, Fremouw, Johnson, King, Maldonado, McDougle, O’Quinn, Peterson, Scott, Stottlemeyer; N – none).

Ms. Agee recognized Mr. Anderson to provide the Board with an overview of the JLARC report on GO Virginia and the status of addressing the report’s recommendations. Mr. Anderson provided a brief overview of the process JLARC took to review the program, and the processes the Board has put into place to address the recommendations and noted that the Board packet contained a detailed list of recommendations and the progress toward addressing them.

Program Performance and Evaluation Committee Report

Ms. Agee recognized Mr. Stottlemeyer, Chair of Program Performance and Evaluation Committee to provide a report on the Committee’s work.

Mr. Stottlemeyer noted that the Committee last met on August 19 in which two topics were discussed. First, the Committee reviewed and discussed changes to the performance metrics for projects the Board approves, which was in response to a recommendation in the JLARC report. Second, the Committee held discussions with the Office of the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to discuss an MOU being formed as part of the contingent approval of the three VITAL projects from June 4, 2024. Mr. Stottlemeyer noted the Board’s commitment to move forward with expediency so the projects can begin work.

Governance and Policy Committee Report

Ms. Agee recognized Ms. O’Quinn, Chair of the Governance and Policy Committee, to provide a report on the Committee’s work.

Ms. O’Quinn noted that the Committee had met twice since the last report of the Committee. Ms. O’Quinn explained that the work of the Committee has been focused on the array of JLARC recommendations that were delegated to the Committee. Ms. O’Quinn provided an overview of the resolved and ongoing recommendations under the Committee’s consideration.

Ms. O’Quinn introduced an amendment to Board Policy #4 – Growth of Traded Industry Clusters as a standing motion for Board consideration.

After discussion, a second was made by Mr. Johnson to approve Board Policy #4 as presented. The motion passed (Y – Agee, Aggarwal, Cheng, Davenport, Fralin, Fremouw, Johnson, King, Maldonado, McDougle, O’Quinn, Peterson, Stottlemeyer; N – Scott).

Regional Council Committee Report

Ms. Agee recognized Ms. Fremouw, Chair of the Regional Council Committee, to provide a report on the Committee’s work.

Ms. Fremouw noted that she had begun work in partnership with the GO Virginia Foundation to conduct a series of interviews with Regional Council leadership as well as the launch of a survey tool to gather feedback from the Regions. Ms. Fremouw noted that these efforts are in progress and recommendations for action will come before the Board once the effort is complete.

Ms. Fremouw concluded her remarks with an open invitation for any member to volunteer to join the Committee membership.

Information Items

Ms. Agee noted that in the Board Packet, members can find a list of DHCD administratively approved items.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

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