



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

VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD MEETING

March 16, 2021

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
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
Todd A. Stottlemeyer
Don Robin Sullenberger
Delegate Luke E. Torian
Pia Trigiani
Joe Wilson
John O. "Dubby" Wynne

Members Absent

Thomas F. Farrell II
Marilyn H. West

Call to Order

Ms. Nancy Agee, Vice 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 not received any submitted public comments.

The public comment period closed.

Consent Agenda

Ms. Agee introduced the consent agenda items to be voted on in a bloc, including the December 7, 2020 meeting minutes, updated 2021 Growth and Diversification Plan guidelines, and the Regional Council Annual Certification. A motion was made by Ms. Trigiani and properly seconded by Mr. Wynne to approve the consent agenda items. The motion passed (Yeas: Agee, Bagby, Ball, Barker, Davenport, Dyke, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Howell, Juanarena, Layne, Qarni, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None).

New Business

Mr. Erik Johnston, Director of DHCD, presented a proposed extension of Board Policy #10 which established the GO Virginia Economic Resilience and Recovery Program as well as a proposed extension of Board Policy #11 that modified GO Virginia program match requirements. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Dyke and properly seconded by Mr. Wynne to approve extensions of Board Policies #10 and #11 as a bloc. The motion passed (Yeas: Agee, Bagby, Ball, Barker, Davenport, Dyke, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Howell, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None).

Director's Report

Ms. Sara Dunnigan, Deputy Director of GO Virginia and Economic Development at DHCD, provided the Board with an update on the outcomes and impacts of the GO Virginia program since its inception.

Ms. Dunnigan presented 1 statewide competitive application regarding workforce development: Cybersecurity Job Creation System from Region 5. Ms. Dunnigan noted that staff recommended not approving the project as presented. After discussion, a motion was made by Senator Barker and properly seconded by Mr. Wynne to defer the application. The motion passed (Yeas: Agee, Bagby, Ball, Barker, Davenport, Dyke, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Howell, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Trigiani, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None).

Ms. Dunnigan presented 8 Per Capita applications regarding workforce development, site development and infrastructure, start up ecosystems, and cluster scale up: Federation of Advanced

Manufacturing Education from Region 4, Northern Virginia Community College Dual Enrollment Expansion Program for Information and Engineering Technology from Region 7, Virginia's Gateway Region Sites from Region 4, Richmond County Commerce Expansion from Region 6, Shenandoah Valley Sites Enhancement Program from Region 8, SIH LOCED R3 EII from Region 3, Northern Virginia Smart Region Initiative from Region 7, Energy Storage and Electrification Manufacturing Jobs from Region 1. A motion was made by Mr. Ruff and seconded by Mr. Davenport to approve the applications as recommended by staff as a bloc. The motion passed (Yeas: Agee, Bagby, Ball, Barker, Davenport, Dyke, Filler-Corn, Fremouw, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Trigiani [abstained from voting affirmative on SIH LOCED R3 EII], Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None).

Ms. Dunnigan presented 4 regional ERR applications regarding workforce development, startup ecosystems, and cluster scale-up: Virginia Restaurant and Hotel Workforce COVID Recovery and Upskilling Program from Region 4, Startup Stability Program from Region 5, Virginia Cyber Skills Academy from Region 7, and SBDC Digital Business Resiliency from Region 9. A motion was made by Mr. Wilson and properly seconded by Mr. Wynne to approve the applications as presented by staff. The motion passed (Yeas: Agee, Bagby, Ball, Barker, Davenport, Dyke, Filler-Corn, Fralin, Fremouw, Juanarena, Layne, Mugler, Qarni, Ruff, Stottlemeyer, Sullenberger, Torian, Trigiani, Wilson, Wynne; Nays: None).

Information Items

Ms. Dunnigan shared a letter of resignation from former Board member Steven Smith who stepped away from the board due to relocation to a neighboring state.

Ms. Dunnigan gave the Board a brief overview of all GO Virginia funded projects, of all of the Enhanced Capacity Building and ERR Fast Access projects administratively approved by staff since the December Board meeting, and of the Centurion Innovation Hub project that has been withdrawn by Region 7.

Future Board Meetings

Ms. Agee advised the Board that the dates for the 2021 Board meetings had been set for June 15th, September 23rd, and December 7th.

Adjournment

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