



## GO VIRGINIA REGIONAL COUNCIL 9

AUGUST 8, 2022

COUNCIL MEETING

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

North Fork Meeting Center, 994 Research Park Boulevard, Charlottesville, VA 22911

Virtual meeting details were provided in the agenda

### MINUTES

**Council Members Attending In-Person:** Ray Knott, Atlantic Union Bank (Chair); Ethan Dunstan, UVA Community Credit Union (Vice Chair); Kim Blosser, Laurel Ridge Community College (formerly Lord Fairfax); Jim Cheng, CAV Angels; Tom Click, Patriot Industries; Brian Cole, LexisNexis Reed Tech; Jim Crozier, Orange County; Ed Dalrymple, Jr., Cedar Mountain Stone; Christian Goodwin, Louisa County; Yolunda Harrell, Taste of Home; Christine Jacobs, Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission; Patrick Mauney, Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission (Treasurer); Paige Read, Town of Culpeper; Felix Sarfo-Kantanka, Jr., Dominion Energy; Francoise Seillier-Moiseiwitch, Revalation Vineyards; Andy Wade, Louisa County; Jonathon Weakley, Madison County

**Council Members Attending Virtually:** Tony O'Brien, Fluvanna County

**Absent Council Members:** Rob Archer, Codebase Coworking; Antwon Brinson, Culinary Concepts AB; Pace Lochte, UVA Economic Development; Jean Runyon, Piedmont Virginia Community College; Ed Scott, EcoSeptix Alliance

**Staff:** Helen Cauthen, Thomas Best

**Guests:** Rose Deal, Orange County; Tracey Gardner, Madison County; John Loftus, Virginia Economic Development Partnership; Douglas Parsons, Fauquier County; Jennifer Schmack, Fluvanna County

#### I. Welcome

Ray Knott called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

#### II. Roll Call

A roll call vote was performed. An in-person quorum was established, as noted above.

#### III. Public Comment

Ray Knott asked if there were any public comments. Staff stated that no public comments had been received.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed, per the request of Jim Crozier of Orange County.

#### IV. Council Business – Action Item

Ray Knott stated the five Council business items would be discussed individually and voted on with one action. There were no motions to move any item out of the group for separate consideration.

a.) Meeting Minutes

There was no discussion about the Minutes.

b.) Treasurer Report

Patrick Mauney provided an overview of Region 9's finances through June 30, 2022, including these highlights:

- Region 9's Statement of Financial Position shows there is just under \$250 in the GO Virginia operating account. There is about \$116,000 in accounts receivable and a similar amount in accounts payable.
- Region 9's FY 2021 capacity building budget has been fully expended as of May 2022. FY 2022 capacity building funds have been just over 16% expended.
- Region 9's Statement of Income and Expense shows the amounts awarded and expended through June 30, 2022 for five GO Virginia projects with recent financial activity.

c.) Dashboard

Ray Knott noted the funding dashboard had been updated since the Council's last meeting. The per capita funding table at the top includes the two per capita proposals that were awarded at the last GO Virginia Board meeting in June. The two deferred proposals have been submitted and, if approved, will come out of the FY 2022 funding stream. The Economic Resilience and Recovery (ERR) funding table in the middle has been updated to include the ERR proposal awarded at the last GO Virginia Board meeting. This program was scheduled to expire at the end of FY 2022 and residual balances are no longer available going forward. Finally, the investment table at the bottom will be updated once projects are under contract.

d.) Director Report

There was no discussion about the Director Report.

e.) Memo: Request to Add Quarterly Remittance Clause to Project Contract

Patrick Mauney inquired about the need for this revision. Staff clarified this change was driven by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

***Brian Cole made a motion to approve the Council Business. Tom Click seconded the motion. The motion carried.***

**V. Electronic Meeting Policy – Action Item**

Ray Knott stated the proposed revision to the Electronic Meetings Policy aligns with a new law going into effect on September 1. The new law provides the limited option for regional bodies to host entirely virtual meetings when there is not a state of emergency. The number of all virtual meetings is limited, and the same policy applies to committees and task forces.

***Ed Dalrymple made a motion to approve the revised Electronic Meeting Policy. Ethan Dunstan seconded the motion. The motion carried.***

**VI. Updates from Committees and Task Forces, if any**

There were no committee updates. An updated task force membership list was included in the agenda.

**VII. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) – Update**

Patrick Mauney, Executive Director, Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission, updated that both the RRRC and the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission had their official kick-off meetings with the U.S. Economic Development Administration regarding their Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) planning process. The two offices will work closely together on request for proposal (RFP) development and hope to procure the same consulting team for both the planning district commissions' CEDS and the "super region" summary report the Region 9 Council is supporting. A drawdown schedule for GO Virginia funds will be determined after proposals are reviewed. The CEDS planning process also requires public-private sector collaboration and the Council will have an opportunity to participate in RFP review.

**VIII. Project Update – Statewide Projects**

Tom Click updated that the GENEDGE grant team is meeting every other month. The co-founder and CEO of Charlottesville-based Laser Thermal is scheduled to present at the next meeting, which took place on August 8. The team is currently working on strategies to closeout the grant to the extension date of June 2023.

A Virginia Small Business Development Center (SBDC) statewide project update was included in the agenda. Ray Knott stated those interested could contact Region 9 staff for Virginia Bio-Connect's most recent quarterly report.

**IX. Project Update – Accelerating Regionally Significant Sites**

Ray Knott stated the Accelerating Sites project is one year into a two-year grant and there are some adjustments being made to the drawdown schedule and milestones. Helen Cauthen, President, Central Virginia Partnership, updated that both Shannon Hill Regional Business Park in Louisa County and Wingspread Industrial Park in Culpeper County are making progress. Culpeper's Preliminary Engineering Report is complete and will be shared with the Partnership soon. Louisa County is currently focused on developing off-site utilities to better position Shannon Hill for Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) funding. Milestones are still expected to be met by the end of the grant period.

**X. Site Readiness:**

- **Region 9**

Helen Cauthen provided an overview of GO Virginia's site readiness activity in Region 9. Slides are posted with these Minutes at [www.GOVirginia9.org/calendar](http://www.GOVirginia9.org/calendar)

- **Site Readiness: Virginia Business Ready Sites Program**

John Loftus, Sites & Buildings Manager, Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), presented on the VBRSP. Slides are posted with these Minutes at [www.GOVirginia9.org/calendar](http://www.GOVirginia9.org/calendar)

- **What's Next?**

The Council engaged in a discussion about how GO Virginia can advance site readiness in Region 9, including potentially funding additional site characterization efforts, increasing engagement with local government officials to make them more aware of site selection activities, and supporting local economic developers.

**XI. Chair Update**

Ray Knott updated that staff has worked with DHCD to integrate feedback and resubmit the Tech Talent Retention and Carver Food Business Incubator proposals which will be reviewed by the GO Virginia Board in September. As approved at the last Region 9 Council meeting, the Chair signed a letter of support for Region 3's interregional Middle Mile Fiber Expansion project. Areas of focus for the next year include developing Region 9's project pipeline, especially as it relates to site readiness, exploring cluster mapping for Region 9's target sectors, and collaborating with stakeholders to identify and solve for talent gaps in the region.

**XII. Other Business**

Paige Read suggested the Council invite another representative from VEDP to present on the Virginia Talent Accelerator Program.

**XIII. Adjourn**

***Jim Crozier made a motion to adjourn. Paige Read seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.***