



**REGIONAL COUNCIL 9
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2017 – 11:30 AM**

**UVA Research Park, Town Center Two
1001 Research Park Boulevard, 4th Floor, Charlottesville**

Attendees: Brian Cole, Chair (LexisNexis), David Pettit, Vice Chair (Lenhart Pettit), Supervisor Fitzgerald Barnes (Louisa County), Chip Boyles (Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission), Suzanne Jessup Brooks (Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company), Steve Carter (Nelson County), Tom Click (Patriot Aluminum Products), Jim Cheng (CAV Angels), Ed Dalrymple (Dalrymple Holdings), Bryan David (Orange County), Supervisor Gary Deal (Culpeper County), Steve De Jong (Lohmann Specialty Coatings), Miles Friedman (Fauquier County), Ray Knott (Union Bank), Patrick Mauney (Rappahannock-Rapidan), Leigh Middleditch (McGuire Woods), Steve Ray (Piedmont Workforce Network), Ed Scott (EcoSeptix Alliance), Cheryl Thompson-Stacy (President Lord Fairfax Community College), Michael Straighttiff (Alternate for Teresa Sullivan, University of Virginia), Andy Wade (Louisa County)

Guests: Bill Shelton (Director of VA Department of Housing and Community Development), Marie Schiller (Comcast), Neil Williamson (Free Enterprise Forum), Megan Mathewson (NBC29), Pace Lochte (UVA), Aaron Richardson (Charlottesville Tomorrow), Christian Goodwin (Louisa County), Ann Mallek (Albemarle County), Jason Smith (Fluvanna County), Debora Flippo (Draper Aden), Craig Kotarski (Timmons Group), Jennifer Ridley (Comcast), Alicia Pitorri (Bank of America), Nathan Daugherty (Comcast)

Staff: Helen Cauthen, Phil Geer, Debi Pettry (Central Virginia Partnership)

I. Welcome & Introductions

Brian Cole opened the meeting and the Board went around the table and introduced themselves to one another. After introductions, Brian Cole welcomed Bill Shelton. Bill Shelton is Director of Virginia's Department of Housing & Community Development and has served as director for 18 years of his 38 year state government career. He is responsible for management and policy oversight of the agency which provides community development and housing program support, and his agency is staff to the GO Virginia Board.

II. GO Virginia Overview

Bill Shelton presented an overview of GO Virginia (see attached Power Point). GO Virginia is a bipartisan, business-led initiative that will provide a new framework for strengthening the economy in each Virginia region through enhanced collaboration by business, education, and local government that is incentivized and encouraged by the state. He explained that GO Virginia is built on the premise that regions are the organizing base for economic development. Virginia has been too reliant on federal spending and is losing high-paying jobs. GO Virginia is intended to provide a way to expand Virginia's economy and encourage an innovation-based economy.

Mr. Shelton explained the bill was passed by the General Assembly last session and became law on July 1,

2016. Final appointments to the GO Virginia Board were made in August, and the first GO Virginia Board meeting was in October. In December, that Board approved the boundaries for 9 Regional Councils. At the upcoming March meeting, Bill expects that most, if not all, Regional Councils will be certified and the guidelines approved for the Economic Growth and Diversification Plan. Grant funding may be awarded in April to start implementation.

Mr. Shelton mentioned that funding has been reduced from the original \$35 million. He stated that \$7.5 million has been added back by both Houses so that the total amount of funding is expected to be \$28.5 million for projects.

Mr. Shelton reviewed the process of project approval. Projects initially will be proposed to a Regional Council. The Regional Council will determine if the project fills a gap and/or is a strategic priority for our region, and send approved projects to the GO Virginia Board for consideration. In response to a question about who will be the fiscal agent for projects, Mr. Shelton replied that the support organization or one of the participating localities can handle the fiduciary responsibility. Mr. Shelton also shared that the Regional Council does not need to be set up as a legal entity. Regardless of structure, the Councils are subject to FOIA, with an exemption for economic development project deliberations, and meetings require public notice.

III. GO Virginia Timeline

Mr. Cole reviewed the GO Virginia timeline presented in the packet.

IV. Preliminary Approval of Bylaws

David Pettit reviewed the draft bylaws. There was much discussion about membership terms and filling vacancies. Mr. Pettit explained that staggered terms were required and pointed out that accepting a shorter term does not impact a member's ability to be re-appointed when their term expires. For example, Mr. Pettit explained that most one-year term members may reapply and likely be approved for a full three-year term. **After discussion of terms, a motion to approve the preliminary bylaws was made by Suzanne Brooks and seconded by Bryan David. Motion carried.**

V. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Brian Cole proposed that he would serve as Chair and David Pettit as Vice Chair until June 30, 2017. He opened the floor for any other nominations. No other nominations were made from the floor. **A motion to approve Mr. Cole as Chair and Mr. Pettit as Vice Chair was made by Bryan David and seconded by Steve Carter. Motion carried.**

VI. Letter of Intent

This document included in the packets details how the CVPED planning team went through the selection process of Regional Council 9. Any changes should be submitted to Helen Cauthen as soon as possible as the letter of intent is due on Friday, February 17. **A motion to approve the submission of the Letter of Intent to the Go Virginia Board was made by Leigh Middleditch and seconded by Suzanne Brooks. Motion carried.**

VII. Selection of Initial Administrative and Fiscal Agent

Helen Cauthen explained how the Partnership's region aligns with GO Virginia boundaries. She explained that Partnership is the fiscal and administrative agent for the Piedmont Workforce Network (PWN), which has the exact same footprint as Regional Council 9. The Partnership has facilitated GO Virginia to this point because the Partnership Board thought that it made sense for them to do it as a service to the region. The Partnership is offering to serve as the support organization for GO Virginia Regional Council 9. The Partnership does get a comprehensive audit in compliance with OMB's Uniform Guidance every year and is very comfortable with managing federal funds.

VIII. Next Steps

Brian Cole reviewed the “next steps” listed on the agenda. The Council was asked about the possibility of alternating meeting locations between PD-9 and PD-10 to share the travel burden among the members. Members of the Council agreed that the locations should alternate. Discussion ensued about Stephen Fuller of George Mason coming to speak to the Council about state economics and how to measure growth. Dr. Terry Flower may also be able to speak (heir apparent to Stephen Fuller).

IX. Adjourn

Brian Cole adjourned the meeting at 1:00 PM.