



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

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VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD MEETING

September 23, 2021

1:00 PM

Patrick Henry Building, East Reading Room  
1111 E. Broad St. Richmond, VA 23219

Members Present

Nancy Howell Agee  
Delegate Lamont Bagby  
Ben J. Davenport, Jr.  
Jim Dyke  
Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn  
W. Heywood Fralin  
Senator Janet D. Howell (Virtually)  
The Honorable K. Joseph Flores  
Leah Fremouw  
Eva Teig Hardy  
Doug Juanarena (Virtually)  
Delegate Martha Mugler  
Senator Frank Ruff  
Todd A. Stottlemeyer  
Don Robin Sullenberger  
Delegate Luke E. Torian  
Pia Trigiani

Members Absent

Senator George Barker  
The Honorable Atif Qarni  
Marilyn H. West  
Joe Wilson  
John O. "Dubby" Wynne

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 Senator Janet Howell and Mr. Doug Juanarena both participated virtually pursuant to the Board's electronic participation policy.

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.

Election of Officers

Mr. Erik Johnston, Director of DHCD, opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Board. Mr. Stottlemeyer nominated Ms. Agee for the position of Chair. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Davenport. On a motion made by Mr. Dyke and seconded by Mr. Stottlemeyer, the floor was closed. Ms. Agee was elected Chair.

Ms. Agee opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Board. Mr. Dyke nominated Mr. Stottlemeyer for the position of Vice-Chair. The nomination was seconded by Heywood Fralin. There were no further nominations. The floor was closed. Mr. Stottlemeyer was elected Vice-Chair.

Consent Agenda

Ms. Agee introduced the consent agenda items to be voted on in a bloc, including the June 23, 2021 meeting minutes, an amendment to Board Policy #12, an amendment to Board Policy #9, the approval of the Region 7 Budget, and the 2022 Board meeting schedule. A motion was made by Mr. Ruff and seconded by Mr. Stottlemeyer to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed.

Public Comment

Ms. Devening presented public comments submitted electronically to the Board prior to the meeting.

Ms. Bette Brand, representing Strategic Consulting LLC, wrote the Board to urge the Board to approve the Agricultural Innovation Center project.

Mr. Thomas Roberts, representing the City of Buena Vista, wrote the Board to urge the Board to approve the Agricultural Innovation Center project.

Dr. John Rainone, representing Dabney S. Lancaster Community College, wrote the Board to urge the Board to approve the Agricultural Innovation Center project.

Ms. Becky Freenal, representing The Advancement Foundation, wrote the Board to urge the Board to approve the Agricultural Innovation Center project.

Ms. Annette Patterson, representing The Advancement Foundation, wrote the Board to urge the Board to approve the Agricultural Innovation Center project.

Mr. Patrick Coady, representing the Eastern Shore Foundation, Inc., wrote the Board to urge the Board to approve the Maritime Entry-to-Employment Training (MEET) project.

The public comment period closed.

Director's Report

Ms. Sara Dunnigan, Deputy Director of Economic Development and Community Vitality at DHCD, presented 8 Per Capita applications regarding workforce development, site development and infrastructure, and start up ecosystems: ExperienceWorks from Region 3, Maritime Entry-to-Employment Training (MEET) from Region 5, Strengthening Southern Virginia's Economy by Expanding the Inventory of Shovel Ready Sites from Region 3, Lighthouse Labs Alumni Program from Region 4, 2030 Initiative from Region 7, Agricultural Innovation Center from Region 8, Mobilizing the Supply Chain with Critical Infrastructure from Region 1, and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Cluster Scale-Up from Region 4. A motion was made by Mr. Ruff and seconded by Mr. Dyke to approve the applications as recommended by staff as a bloc. The motion passed.

Ms. Dunnigan presented 2 Regional Economic Resilience and Recovery application in the workforce development space, New Kent County/RCC Welding Program from Region 4 and Tech Set from Region 7. A motion was made by Mr. Davenport and seconded by Mr. Stottlemeyer to approve the applications as presented by staff. The motion passed.

Reports

Ms. Lynn Seuffert, Senior Associate for Strategic Planning and Policy at the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, presented to the Board on the Virginia Talent Opportunity Partnership, which is a program created to expand paid and credit-bearing student internships and to facilitate the readiness of students, employers and institutions of higher education to participate in internship and work-based learning.

Information Items

Ms. Dunnigan gave the Board a brief overview of the enhanced capacity building projects and economic resilience and recovery fast access projects that were administratively approved since the June meeting of the Board.

Future Board Meetings

Ms. Dunnigan advised the Board that the next Board meeting date will be on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, but could be subject to change.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.