



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

VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD MEETING

December 9, 2019

1:00 PM

Richmond, Virginia

Members Present

Nancy Howell Agee
The Honorable Brian Ball
Delegate M. Kirkland "Kirk" Cox
Ben J. Davenport, Jr.
Jim Dyke
Thomas F. Farrell II
W. Heywood Fralin
Leah Fremouw
Senator Janet D. Howell
Doug Juanarena
The Honorable Aubrey Layne
Senator Tommy Norment
The Honorable Atif Qarni
Senator Frank M. Ruff
Don Robin Sullenberger
Lucia Anna "Pia" Trigiani
Joe Wilson
John O. "Dubby" Wynne

Members Absent

Delegate S. Chris Jones
Delegate Terry G. Kilgore
Marilyn H. West

Call to Order	Mr. Thomas F. Farrell II, Chairman of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity (GO Virginia) Board, called the meeting to order.
Roll Call	Mr. Matt Weaver, Policy & Legislative Director for the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.
Public Comment	No comments were made by the public; the public comment period was then closed.
Consent Agenda	A motion was made to approve the consent agenda items presented to the Board which included September 10, 2019 Minutes, Regional Council Membership Changes and Technical Amendments to Broadband Policy; the motion was properly seconded and passed.

Member Senator Tommy Norment joined the meeting.

New Business

Mr. Farrell recognized Mr. Stephen Moret, President and CEO of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, to present on his organization's statewide site characterization and prioritization study. Mr. Moret relayed to the Board that VEDP conducted a characterization of 466 sites, collecting data on which tier each site falls into and the estimated cost of elevating those sites to higher tiers.

DHCD Director Erik Johnston was recognized to introduce the new Site Investment Policy to the Board. Mr. Johnston explained that the policy identifies how per capita and competitive funds would be utilized for site investments. Mr. Johnston emphasized the policy would be shared with regional councils and economic development stakeholders and could be amended if necessary, but noted that approving the policy today would allow site projects to seek funding with alignment of this new strategic analysis and data. After discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to adopt the policy. The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report

As part of the Administrative Approval Process, Mr. Johnston presented two projects that were approved by staff: CVTC Redevelopment Plan from Region 2 and the Richard Bland College Aeronautics Program from Region 4.

There were two per capita applications regarding workforce development and entrepreneurship: CampusRVA Phase 2 from Region 4 and Coastal Virginia Maritime Advancement Programs from Region 5. Mr. Johnston presented the Campus RVA Phase 2 project and stated that staff recommended this application for approval. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the project; the motion passed. Mr. Johnston then presented the Coastal Virginia Maritime Advancement Programs and stated that staff recommended this application for approval contingent on verification of the project's match. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the project contingent on verification of the project's match; the motion passed.

There were two per capita applications regarding startup ecosystems and cluster scale-up: the Centurion Innovation Hub from Region 7 and the Biotech Innovation Cluster Growth from region 9. Mr. Johnston presented the Centurion Innovation Hub and stated that staff recommended this application for approval.

Discussion ensued among the Board and Chairman Farrell deferred the application to be discussed later in the meeting. Mr. Johnston presented the Biotech Innovation Cluster Growth and stated that staff recommended this application for approval. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the project; the motion passed.

There were three per capita applications regarding regional entrepreneurship initiatives: Region One REI Coordinating Entity from Region 1, Region 2 Entrepreneurship Initiative from Region 2, and REI: 757 from Region 5. Mr. Johnston presented the Region One REI Coordinating Entity and stated that staff recommended the application for approval. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the project; the motion passed. Mr. Johnston presented the Region 2 Entrepreneurship Initiative and stated that staff recommended the application for approval. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the project; the motion passed. Mr. Johnston presented REI: 757 and stated that staff recommended the application for approval. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the project; the motion passed.

There was one competitive application regarding workforce: Virginia K-12 Computer Science Pipeline. Mr. Johnston presented the project and stated that staff recommended the application for approval. After discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the project; the motion passed.

Mr. Johnston outlined the project execution timeline that was included in the Board packet.

Mr. Johnston then detailed a memo from staff that removed the necessity for the Board to review and vote on membership changes to regional councils. He noted that staff would continue to verify the regional council requirements and then provide this information to the Board annually as part of a regional council certification process.

Mr. Johnston gave an update on staff's work on broadband application guidance. He noted that staff hoped to have the guidance complete before the next Board meeting and will soon be sharing with the regions and stakeholders.

course of FY 2019 and included a summary of the 2019 Annual Report.

GO Virginia Grantee Reports Mr. Travis Staton, President and CEO of United Way of Southwest Virginia presented to the Board the Ignite Internship Program, a program that was funded through GO Virginia and administered by United Way of Southwest Virginia.

Unfinished Business Mr. Farrell acknowledged the resolution language adopted by the Board at the September 10, 2019 meeting recognizing Mr. “Dubby” Wynne for his contributions to the GO Virginia program. The Resolution was presented to Mr. Wynne.

Mr. Farrell returned to consideration for Centurion Innovation Hub. After discussion, the Board agreed to submit questions to staff and to reconsider the application at the March meeting.

New Business Reports There was no new business. Mr. Todd Stottlemeyer gave an update on VRIC activities.

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

