



GO Virginia Region 2 Council Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2024, 1:00p.m.- 3:00p.m.

Carilion Children's Tanglewood Center, Mill Mountain Conference Room, 4348 Electric Road, Roanoke, Virginia, 24018.

Council members in attendance: Eddie Amos (Chair), Michelle Austin, John Capps, Whitney Czelusniak, Beverley Dalton (Vice-chair), Paul Denham, Michael Friedlander, Pat Huber, Bif Johnson, Marty Muscatello, Kim Payne, Debbie Petrine, John Putney, Amy Sebring, Ray Smoot, Luke Towles, Jacob Wright, Justin Yalung.

Council members attending remotely: Nathaniel Bishop, Kenneth Craig, Janice Crawford, Greg Feldmann, Vince Hatcher.

Staff in attendance: John Provo, Scott Tate, Quina Weber-Shirk, Rachel Jones, Julia Kell, Alyssa McKenney, Emmalee Wagner.

Public in attendance: Alec Brebner, Cody Anderson, Deborah Flippo, Elise Spontarelli, Lane Williams, Pam Bailey, Tamara Jamerson, Anne Herring, NEXUS MCX (Andy), Charlie Jewell, Quinton Nottingham, Megan Lucas.

The meeting convened at 1:01p.m. and adjourned at 2:31p.m.

Financials Review

Alyssa McKenney reviewed the financial reports included in the board packet. Council has a remaining balance of \$1,163,024 in per-capita funds. If the three proposals before council is approved, there will be a remaining balance of \$819,653.

Region 2 Data and Project Pipeline

Quina Weber-Shirk reviewed current outcomes for projects existing within the talent, entrepreneurship, and site development strategies. Council inquired on the availability of compared data regarding committed vs. realized project outcomes. Weber-Shirk responded that data is available and can be provided at the upcoming council meeting in April. Weber-Shirk continued with a review of the 9 possible proposals within the project pipeline.

Project Proposals

Career Pathway Development Initiatives for the Lynchburg Region

Scott Tate offered a brief overview of the new project proposal, "*Career Pathway Development Initiatives for the Lynchburg Region*", submitted by the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance. Megan Lucas, Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance, shared project deliverables and answered questions from



the council. Muscatello inquired on the involvement with the local school system in regard to the Educator Workforce Academy deliverable. Lucas clarified her team meets regularly with the superintendent and CTE instructors of the school system who are aware of this initiative and on board to implement these activities. Participation would not be restricted to teachers, as career counselors and similar positions would also gain access. Amos recommended this effort could serve as a blueprint for similar initiatives.

Council members recusing from the vote include Paul Denham and John Capps.

Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance's request totaled \$37,500 in Region 2 per-capita funds, with a total match of \$37,500.

Kenneth Craig motioned to approve this proposal, and Janice Crawford seconded. All were in favor and none opposed.

Data Analyst Training and Software Engineers Experience from Locality Data (DATA SEED)

Scott Tate offered a brief overview of the new project proposal, "*Data Analyst Training and Software Engineers Experience from Locality Data (DATA SEED)*", submitted by the Virginia Tech Department of Business Information Technology. Quinton Nottingham, Virginia Tech, shared project deliverables and answered questions from the council. Friedlander inquired on which students are targeted through this proposal. Tate responded they would target upper-level undergraduate students. Capps inquired on the toolkit included in the application to which Nottingham shared more details regarding that deliverable. Yalung recommended a similar initiative be implemented in the under-graduate level.

Virginia Tech Department of Business Information Technology's request totaled \$99,998 in Region 2 per-capita funds, with a total match of \$100,000.

Justin Yalung motioned to approve this proposal, and Marty Muscatello seconded. All were in favor and none opposed.

Special Updates

JLARC Report and Recommendations

John Provo reviewed highlights from the JLARC report with policy recommendations on the reporting of outcomes, eligibility revisions, and proposed flexibilities for accessing funds.

TPI Update

Quina Weber-Shirk shared a quick update on the first quarterly report for the Region 2 Talent Pathways Initiative.

Celebrate Success Events: Debrief and Marketing Update



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Quina Weber-Shirk shared photos and highlights from the 3 celebrate success events held in the NRV, Roanoke, and Lynchburg sub-regions throughout December and January.

Council Business

Council Membership

Chairman Amos recommended the reappointment of the following council members to serve an additional three-year term: John Capps, Michael Friedlander, and Pat Huber. Sandy Davis declined an invitation to serve an additional term. Pat Huber has agreed to serve through her retirement in December 2024.

Marty Muscatello motioned for the reappointment of John Capps, Michael Friedlander, and Pat Huber. Paul Denham seconded. All were in favor and none opposed.

Quarterly Project Reporting

Rachel Jones reviewed active project status, noting there are two current projects listed in yellow, meaning they did not meet one or more quarter 4 milestones and staff is monitoring. Expanding Welding Training Capacity and Jobs in the Roanoke Valley did not meet Q4 milestones due to continued delayed installation of equipment, however, all remaining equipment is scheduled for installation over Spring Break during the last week of March 2024. Center for Entrepreneurship did not meet Q4 milestones due to a delayed opening of their physical space within the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance. Project team expects the completion of all capital improvements to the space by the end of Q1. All other active projects are listed in green, meaning they have met quarterly milestones and are on track with their current deliverables.

Minutes

Council reviewed minutes from the Region 2 Council Meeting held on October 19, 2023. Chairman Amos asked if there were any corrections, additions, or questions regarding the minutes; there were none.

John Putney motioned to approve the minutes, with Beverley Dalton seconding. All were in favor and none opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:31p.m.