



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

GO Virginia Region 2

GO Virginia Region 2 Council Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2024, 1:00p.m.- 3:00p.m.

**Fralin Biomedical Research Institute, Room G-101A/B, 4 Riverside Circle,
Roanoke, Virginia, 24016.**

Council members in attendance: Doug Agner, Eddie Amos (Chair), Nathaniel Bishop, John Capps, Kenny Craig, Janice Crawford, Whitney Czelusniak, Beverley Dalton (Vice-chair), Paul Denham, Greg Feldmann, Michael Friedlander, Nanci Hardwick, Pat Huber, Bif Johnson, Fourd Kemper, Debbie Petrine, Ray Smoot, Luke Towles, Cathy Underwood, Richmond Vincent, Amy White, Jacob Wright.

Council members attending remotely: Kim Payne, John Putney, Amy Sebring, Justin Yalung.

Council members not in attendance: Don Halliwill, Mike Hamlar, Vince Hatcher, Marty Muscatello.

Staff in attendance: John Provo, Jemma Sabokrouh, Sarah Lyon-Hill, Rachel Jones, Emmalee Wagner, Julia Kell, Alyssa McKenney.

Public in attendance: Cody Anderson, Alec Brebner, Ruth Caul, Jason Ferguson, Bryan Jones.

The meeting convened at 1:02p.m. and adjourned at 2:35p.m.

Financials Review

Alyssa McKenney reviewed the financial reports included in the board packet. Council has a remaining balance of \$1,415,210 in per-capita funds. Alyssa then reviewed active project drawdown status.

Project Updates

Proposal Updates

John Provo reviewed proposal updates, noting Project VITAL has entered contracting phase, which should be finalized by the end of the calendar year. GMP Clean has also entered contracting phase.

Project Pipeline

Jemma Sabokrouh reviewed projects currently in the pipeline. There are 12 possible proposals that may come before council, including a childcare incentive program from United Way of Central Virginia, a Career Exploration proposal from New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Development Board, a site development planning project from NRV Regional Commission, and GOTEC in the New River Valley from Pulaski County Public Schools.

Special Updates

Project Spotlight: CVCC CTE Academy



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Jason Ferguson, Central Virginia Community College, came before the council to discuss project success and sustainability of the previously funded GO Virginia Region 2 Project, CVCC CTE Academy. Notable outcomes include 1,204 students trained through the life of the grant, as well as 761 credentials awarded in GO Virginia Region 2 target industry clusters.

TPI Update

Emmalee Wagner provided an update for the Region 2 Talent Pathways Initiative, noting all employer feedback has been incorporated and high impact project proposal recommendations have been shared with implementation partners. Project has received a no-cost extension through January 2025 in order to complete the final deliverable of talent pathway plans for the Life Sciences and Biotechnology and Transportation, Manufacturing, and Autonomy sectors.

Administrative Updates

Quarterly Project Reporting

Rachel Jones reviewed active project status, noting there are 2 current projects listed in yellow, meaning they did not meet one or more quarter 3 milestones and staff is monitoring. Center for Entrepreneurship was listed in yellow due to continued delays in the opening of their physical space within the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance. Project team expects to submit a no-cost extension following recommendations from a contractor. Industry 4.0 for the Automated- Connected-Electrified (ACE) Workforce as the project has fallen behind in metrics reporting for students trained. Region 2 staff have met with the project team to discuss a remediation plan. All other active projects are listed in green, meaning they have met quarterly milestones and are on track with their current deliverables.

Tableau Review

Rachel Jones reviewed the Region 2 online tableau dashboard, an interactive web- based portal representing real time project data regarding outcomes/impact of active and closed projects existing in the region.

Celebrate Success 2024

Jemma Sabokrouh highlighted Region 2's upcoming celebrate success events to be held Friday, November 1, from 4:30-6:00p.m. at the Virginia Tech Data and Decision Sciences building to celebrate success in the NRV sub-region, the Roanoke Celebrate Success event on Thursday, November 7, from 4:30-6:00p.m., in the STEM building at Virginia Western Community College, and the Lynchburg Celebrate Success event on Wednesday, November 13, from 4:30-6:00p.m., at Randolph College.

G&D Plan 2025 Process

Sarah Lyon-Hill reviewed the formal Region 2 Growth & Diversification Plan 2025 update, noting she will be hosting employer workgroup roundtables in the upcoming calendar year. The final updated plan is due to state staff by October 31, 2025.



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Council Business

Minutes

Council reviewed minutes from the Region 2 Council Meeting held on July 23, 2024. Chairman Amos asked if there were any corrections, additions, or questions regarding the minutes; there were none.

Pat Huber motioned to approve the minutes, with Debbie Petrine seconding. All were in favor and none opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35p.m.