**GO Virginia Region 2 Council Meeting Minutes**

**April 28, 2023, 1:00p.m.- 3:00p.m.**

**Room G-102A, Fralin Biomedical Research Institute, 4 Riverside Circle, Roanoke, Virginia, 24016.**

Council members in attendance: Eddie Amos (Chair), Michelle Austin, Nathaniel Bishop, John Capps, Kenneth Craig, Janice Crawford, Whitney Czelusniak, Sandy Davis, Greg Feldmann, Fourd Kemper, Marty Muscatello, Kim Payne, Ray Smoot, Cathy Underwood, Richmond Vincent, Jacob Wright, Justin Yalung.

Council members participating remotely: Vince Hatcher, Debbie Petrine, John Putney, Amy Sebring.

Council members not in attendance: Beverley Dalton (Vice-chair), Paul Denham, Michael Friedlander, Don Halliwill, Mike Hamlar, Pat Huber, Luke Towles.

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

Public in attendance: Alec Brebner, Andrea Devening, Cody Anderson, Sara Dunnigan, Ellen Miller, Matt Busse, Mikel Griffin, Steve Critchfield, Joseph Dennie, Dwayne Yancey, Brian Hamilton.

The meeting convened at 1:03p.m. and adjourned at 2:57p.m.

***Financials Review***

Alyssa McKenney reviewed the financial reports included in the board packet. Council has a remaining balance of $1,051,997 in per-capita funds. If the proposal before council is approved, there will be a remaining balance of $727,997.

***Executive Committee Report: Nominations***

***New Members Nominations***

The Executive Committee recommends the appointments of Mr. Jacob Wright, member of the Alleghany Highlands School Board, and owner of Merry Go Round Farms, Ms. Cathy Underwood, President of Branch Builds, Ms. Whitney Czelusniak, with American Electric Power (AEP), Mr. Richmond Vincent, President and CEO of Goodwill of the Valleys, Mr. Greg Feldmann, President of Skyline Capital, and Mr. Bif Johnson, President and CEO of Hurt & Proffitt.

Justin Yalung motioned to appoint Jacob Wright, Cathy Underwood, Whitney Czelusniak, Richmond Vincent, Greg Feldmann, and Bif Johnson. Nathaniel Bishop seconded. All were in favor and none opposed.

***Executive Committee Nominations***

Chairman Amos then recommended Beverley Dalton assume the roll of Vice-chair, as well as the appointments of Michelle Austin and Paul Denham to join the Executive Committee.

Marty Muscatello motioned to approve the nominations of the Executive Committee. John Capps seconded. All were in favor and none opposed.

***Project Proposals***

***Falling Branch Corporate Park Phase II Regional Site Development***

John Provo offered a brief overview of the new project proposal, *“Falling Branch Corporate Park Phase II Regional Site Development”,* submitted by the Montgomery County Economic Development Authority. Brian Hamilton, Montgomery County Economic Development Authority, shared project deliverables and answered questions from the council.

Montgomery County EDA’s request totaled $324,000 in Region 2 per-capita funds, with a local match of $4,585,359.

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

***Talent Pathways Initiative***

John Provo provided a brief overview of the Region 2 proposal, *Talent Pathways Initiative*, submitted by Virginia Tech’s Center for Economic and Community Engagement. The Talent Pathways Initiative (TPI) is a new planning grant to help GO Virginia regions build better buyin from industry leaders and strengthen alignment with workforce and education in one or two priority industry clusters. One $250,000 TPI planning grant is available for each GO Virginia region. Quina Weber-Shirk answered questions from the council and advised on next steps.

Council members abstaining from the vote include Debbie Petrine.

John Capps motioned to approve the TPI initiative, and Janice Crawford seconded. All were in favor and none opposed.

***Council Business***

***Quarterly Project Reporting***

Rachel Jones reviewed active project status, noting there is one current project listed in yellow, meaning they did not meet one or more quarter 1 milestones and staff is monitoring. All other active projects are listed in green, meaning they have met quarterly milestones and are on track with their current deliverables.

***KPI Draft***

Quina Weber-Shirk reviewed a draft slide featuring proposed metrics for council review, with the goal of selecting featured metrics to highlight quarterly updates at each regional meeting.

***Marketing & Outreach Opportunities***

Quina Weber-Shirk then reviewed ongoing marketing opportunities including upcoming Speaker’s Bureau presentations, upcoming council meetings in Regions 1 and 3, and a Small and Rural Convening for Region 2 (a forum to explore proposal ideas that multiple localities may be interested in pursuing). Weber-Shirk then shared upcoming engagement opportunities for regional council members including a GO Virginia Region 3 All-Hands Meeting, speaking engagements with local elected officials, and a “Celebrate Success in Region 2” (a public event to celebrate the impact of more than 43 GO Virginia projects in Region 2, and collaborate for the future).

***Minutes***

Council reviewed minutes from the Region 2 Council Meeting held on January 27, 2023. Chairman Amos asked if there were any corrections, additions, or questions regarding the minutes; there were none.

Fourd Kemper motioned to approve the minutes, with Michelle Austin seconding. All were in favor and none opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:57p.m.