



GO Virginia Region 2 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2023, 1:00p.m.- 3:00p.m.

Roanoke Higher Education Center, Room 701A, 108 N Jefferson Street, Roanoke, VA, 24016.

Executive Committee members in attendance: Eddie Amos (Chair), Beverley Dalton (Vice-chair), Sandy Davis, Ray Smoot.

Staff in attendance: John Provo, Rachel Jones, Alyssa McKenney.

Public in attendance: Brian Hamilton.

The meeting convened at 1:00p.m. and adjourned at 2:52p.m.

Executive Committee Nominations

Chairman Amos recommend 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, and Mr. Greg Feldmann, President of Skyline Capital, to represent the Roanoke Valley/Alleghany Highlands.

Beverley Dalton motioned to recommend the appointment of Jacob Wright, Cathy Underwood, Whitney Czelusniak, Richmond Vincent, and Greg Feldmann. Sandy Davis seconded. All were in favor and none opposed.

Beverley Dalton recommended the appointment of Mr. Bif Johnson, President and CEO of Hurt & Proffitt, to represent the Lynchburg subregion.

Sandy Davis motioned to recommend the appointment of Mr. Bif Johnson, President and CEO of Hurt & Proffitt. Beverley Dalton seconded. All were in favor and none opposed.

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

Sandy Davis motioned to appoint Beverley Dalton as Vice-chair, as well as the addition of two executive committee members, and Ray Smoot seconded. All were in favor and none opposed.

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.



Project Proposals

Falling Branch Corporate Park Phase II Regional Site Development

Rachel Jones 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 (EDA). Brian Hamilton, Montgomery County Economic Development Authority, shared project deliverables and answered questions from the committee. Ray Smoot inquired on the availability of an end-user for the site. Brian Hamilton stated there are currently 3 different companies interested in the site. Chairman Amos inquired if the applicant is seeking outside funding sources other than GO Virginia. Brian Hamilton stated the Town of Christiansburg provided \$300,000, and they have submitted an application to the Virginia Department of Transportation. Chairman Amos requested clarification of Montgomery County’s contribution to the project. Brian Hamilton stated Montgomery County provided \$5.4 million, however, the EDA has been negotiating with Atmos Energy for quite some time and have ultimately concluded Montgomery County will have to pay the additional \$530,256 to extend natural gas to the site, therefore, lowering Montgomery County’s total contribution.

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 recommend this proposal to the Region 2 Council and Beverley Dalton seconded. All were in favor and none opposed.

Region 2 Talent Pathways Initiative

John Provo offered a brief overview of the new project 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 buy in 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. Executive Committee members concluded they would return to the full council for guidance on the Region 2 Talent Pathways proposal.

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.

Minutes



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

GO Virginia Region 2

The committee reviewed minutes from the Region 2 Executive Committee Meeting held on December 20, 2022. Chairman Amos asked if there were any corrections, additions, or questions regarding the minutes; there were none.

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:52p.m.

DRAFT