

**GO VIRGINIA REGION 3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 16, 2021**

The GO Virginia Region 3 Council met on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. utilizing Zoom virtual technology.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Call To Order And Chair's Opening Comments

Chair Lail called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Chair Lail welcomed everyone to the GO Virginia Region 3 Virtual ZOOM Council meeting. Due to the nature of the Declaration of a State of Emergency due to the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and pursuant to Code §2.2-3708.2, this meeting is being held by electronic communications, via the web platform ZOOM. The catastrophic nature of this declared emergency makes it impractical and unsafe to assemble a quorum in a single location. The virtual platform was selected to abide by the restrictions on public gatherings as stated in the Governor's Emergency Declaration and to protect the health of citizens. The required public notice and receipt of public comments was provided as outlined in the requirements of electronic meetings. The agenda items for this meeting are considered essential to the overall operation of GO Virginia Region 3.

2. Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum

Chair Lail declared a quorum was present.

A. Region 3 Council Members:

Members	Present	Absent	Members	Present	Absent
Timothy J. Clark	√		Karl N. Stauber	√	
E. Randolph Lail	√		Sherry Swinson		√
Charles H. Majors	√				

B. Region 3 Staff in Attendance:

Name/Organization	Organization
Bryan David – UVA Weldon Cooper Center	Region 3 Program Director
Liz Povar – Riverlink Group	Region 3 Contract Staff
Nancy Pool – Consultant	Region 3 Contract Staff
Deborah Gosney – Southside PDC	Region 3 Support Org/Fiscal Agent
Stephanie Creedle – Southside PDC	Region 3 Support Org/Fiscal Agent

C. Guests in Attendance:

Name	Organization
Brandon Hennessey	Longwood Office of Community & Economic Development

3. Public Comments

No written or verbal public comments were received.

4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Conflicts of interest potentially exist for activities benefiting and/or contracts issued to the following organizations and projects listed below:

Name	Organization(s)
Charles H. Majors	Mid-Atlantic Broadband, Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Danville Regional Foundation
Randolph Lail	Mid-Atlantic Broadband

5. Approval of Minutes

Chair Lail noted that the minutes of the May 3, 2021 Executive Committee meeting were received via email prior to the meeting and included in the meeting packet. **Charles Majors made a motion that the minutes from the May 3, 2021 Executive Committee meeting be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Karl Stauber and by roll call vote all members voted affirmatively. (Ayes: Clark, Lail, Majors, Stauber. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.)**

6. Financial Reports

Deborah Gosney reviewed the Financial Reports that were included in the meeting packet for period May 1 – May 31, 2021. **Charles Majors made a motion that the Financial Reports for period ending May 31, 2021 be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Karl Stauber and by roll call vote all members voted affirmatively. (Ayes: Clark, Lail, Majors, Stauber. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.)**

OLD BUSINESS7. Approved Projects Update

Bryan David provided updated Project Progress Reports for review prior to the meeting for the following projects:

- Bridge to Recovery
- GO TEC 2B

- Common Platform (Major Clarity)
- Genedge – Retooling Virginia Manufacturing for Strategic Industries
- Mid-Atlantic Broadband Communities Corporation (MBC) – Middle Mile Expansion for Economic Growth
- Virginia Small Business Development Centers
- Entrepreneurship Investment and Innovation Strategy

All projects are tracking as expected.

8. Project Pipeline

Bryan David provided an updated Project Pipeline Report for the Board's review. There are ten projects in the pipeline.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Committee Reports

Communications Committee – Bryan David provided an update on the status of the Letterpress Communications contract from 2020 and noted that it is set to expire on June 30, 2021. He has initiated discussions with Letterpress Communication about the current contract, however, these discussions are not at the point a recommendation is ready to be brought forward for consideration by the Executive Committee. Letterpress Communications has fully and professionally delivered its services under the current contract, and it is not anticipated there would any significant modification to its current terms and conditions. Mr. David noted that he and Sherry Swinson, the Communications Chair, believe these discussions can be concluded during the next several weeks. Accordingly, it is recommended that the current contract be extended until August 31, 2021. A recommended contract extension could then be presented to the Region 3 Council at its meeting on July 21, 2021 or alternatively to the Executive Committee at its meeting on August 18, 2021. **Charles Majors made a motion to approve the extension of the Letterpress Communications contract until August 31, 2021; the motion was seconded by Karl Stauber. By a unanimous vote, the project was approved. (Ayes: Clark, Lail, Majors, Stauber; Nays: None; Abstentions: None)**

10. FY2021-2022 Renewal of Support Services and Memorandum of Understanding with Southside Planning District Commission and Others

Bryan David reminded the Executive Committee that the Southside Planning District Commission serves as the Support Organization and Fiscal Agent for GO Virginia Region 3. The Region 3 Council renews the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) annually. The FY22 MOU – Addendum #4 was prepared in advance of the meeting for review. Mr. David noted there have been no material changes to the terms and conditions from the previous addendum.

In addition, the Riverlink Group LLC, Elizabeth Povar, Consultant, and Nancy Pool, Consultant, are under contract for provision of administrative staff services to Region 3 Council and its Committees and Program Director, Bryan David. These Administrative Services Agreements expire June 30, 2021. The renewal of Administrative Services Agreements was provided prior to the meeting for review by the Executive Committee. There have been no changes to the terms and conditions from the original Agreements.

Mr. David recommended that the Executive Committee authorize the Chair to sign the FY22 Support Organization Memorandum of Understanding with the Southside Planning District Commission – Addendum #4 and to approve and authorize the renewal of the FY22 Administrative Services Agreements with Riverlink Group, LLC, Elizabeth Povar, Consultant and Nancy Pool, Consultant.

Karl Stauber made a combined motion to authorize the Chair, Randy Lail, to sign the FY22 Support Organization Memorandum of Understanding – Addendum #4 between GO Virginia Region 3 and the Southside Planning District Commission; to renew the Administrative Services Agreement between the Southside Planning District Commission and Riverlink Group, LLC – Elizabeth Povar, Consultant ; and to renew the Administrative Services Agreement between the Southside Planning Commission and Nancy Pool, Consultant. The motion was seconded by Charles Majors and by roll call vote all members voted affirmatively. (Ayes: Clark, Lail, Majors, Stauber; Nays: None; Abstentions: None)

11. Region 3 Growth and Diversification Plan 2021 Update

Bryan David updated the Executive Committee on the status of the Growth and Diversification Plan 2021 Update. He noted that four of the six stakeholder meetings have been held and have been very successful. The update and a timeline for completion of the update were included in the meeting package for review prior to the meeting.

As noted by Liz Povar, the development of the Growth and Diversification Plan 2021 Update is to:

- Understand changes in the economy since 2019
- Understand changes in the labor market
- Understand alignment of sites (Re: target sectors/employment)
- Use the data and stakeholder input to make recommendations for modifications to the G&D Plan for consideration by Council.

Brandon Hennessey, from the Longwood Office of Community & Economic Development, gave an update on empirical data as it relates to the Plan.

12. Per Capita Grant Application Status

The Executive Committee reviewed and approved a Per Capita application for the Southern Virginia Regional Alliance (SVRA) at its meeting on May 3, 2021. Bryan

David explained this was a business ready sites project which would elevate eleven (11) sites in the Virginia Economic Development Partnership's tier ranking system. The GO Virginia Region Per Capita amount requested and approved by the Executive Committee was \$1,534,900. Match included local government investments made for each of the eleven (11) sites along with a companion grant awarded by the Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission. The SVRA application was submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development's GO Virginia staff on May 7, 2021 for review and presentation to the GO Virginia State Board at its meeting on June 15, 2021 . Mr. David shared that after a series of communications with DHCD staff and the State Board work group during May, we learned on June 7 that the project was being recommended for deferral by State Board until the State Board's next meeting on September 23, 2021. This recommendation would be presented by DHCD GO Virginia staff to the State Board at its June 15 meeting. The basis for the staff's deferral recommendation was to "...allow for additional sites prioritization and budget refinement [by the applicant]". The Board discussed their concerns about the deferment of the application and how best to proceed in the future. A decision was made to schedule a meeting within two weeks with DHCD Staff to voice concerns.

13. Broadband Mapping Project

Bryan David reminded Committee members that the Region 3 Council approved the Broadband Mapping Project at its meeting on April 21, 2021. Since that time, Southside Planning District Commission staff has been proceeding with project development. Bryan David provided a status update on the Broadband Mapping Project and that 911 mapping may be an option.

OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURN

There being no additional business matters to go before the GO Virginia Region 3 Council, Chair Lail adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.



Deborah B. Gosney, Southside PDC
Support Organization/Fiscal Agent

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E. Randolph Lail
Chair

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