

**GO VIRGINIA REGION 3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

The GO Virginia Region 3 Executive Committee met on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Call To Order

Chair Lail called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum

Chair Lail declared a quorum was present.

A. Region 3 Executive Committee Members

Members	In Person	Absent	Virtual
Timothy J. Clark	x		
E. Randolph Lail	x		
Charles H. Majors			x
Sherry Swinson			x
Lauren Willis	x		

B. Region 3 Staff in Attendance

Name/Organization	Organization
Bryan David - UVA Weldon Cooper Center	Region 3 Program Director
Liz Povar - RiverLink Group- virtual	Region 3 Contract Staff
Nancy Pool	Region 3 Contract Staff
Deborah Gosney-Southside PDC	Region 3 Support Org/Fiscal Agent
Julie Gill-Southside PDC-virtual	Region 3 Support Org/Fiscal Agent

C. Guests in Attendance

No guests in attendance (in-person or virtual).

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 September 15, 2021 Executive Committee meeting were received via email prior to the meeting and included in the meeting packet. **Timothy Clark made a motion that the minutes from the September 15, 2021 Executive Committee meeting be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Lauren Willis and approved by unanimous vote.**

6. Financial Reports

Deborah Gosney reviewed the Financial Reports that were included in the meeting packet for period November 1, 2021 to November 30, 2021. **Charles Majors made a motion that the Financial Reports for period ending November 30, 2021 be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Lauren Willis and approved by unanimous vote.**

OLD BUSINESS

7. Approved Projects

Prior to the meeting, and under separate cover from the agenda package, Bryan David provided the Executive Committee members with updated Project Progress Reports for the following:

- Bridge to Recovery
- GO TEC
- 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

8. Project Pipeline

The updated Project Pipeline was provided to Executive Committee members under separate cover prior to the meeting. Randy Lail asked members for questions or comments; there being none there was no discussion regarding the report.

9. 2021 Region 3 Growth and Diversification Plan Update – Final Review

The draft plan was distributed to Region 3 Council members previously for review and comment. Comments from Region 3 Council members were received through December 10th. Liz Povar distributed those comments to the Executive Committee before today’s meeting. This document reflects the revisions made based on input received to date. The Region 3 Council will consider the final Plan for adoption at the Council’s meeting on January 19, 2022.

Charles Majors made a motion that the Growth and Diversification Plan 2021 Update be submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development’s GO Virginia staff, thereby meeting the December 31, 2021 deadline; the motion was seconded by Lauren Willis and approved by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

10. Committee Reports

None.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR’S REPORT

11. New Projects

Presented for the Executive Committee’s information, two (2) statewide projects have been under development and will be brought forward through Project Review Committee for consideration by the Region 3 Council at its meeting on January 19, 2022.

A. The Virginia College Fund (VCF) – Gupton Initiative - This project is an Enhanced Capacity Building Project (planning) involving GO Virginia Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8. VCF's member institutions are located in Region 1, 2, 3, and 8. Virginia Commonwealth University's (VCU) College of Engineering in Richmond is the anchor partner institution with the Gupton Initiative and is located in Region 4. The VCF member institutions include Bluefield University (Region 1), Ferrum University (Region 2), Averett University (Region 3), and Eastern Mennonite University (Region 8). The project goal is to launch and demonstrate the sustainability of a career pathways partnership with VCU's College of Engineering to create a pipeline of internship and employment opportunities for students of the VCF member institutions. Liz Povar coordinated the project's development with the VCF organization and its member institutions, VCU, and staff from the GO Virginia Regions. Additionally, she is a member of the VCF Board of Directors and a graduate of Bluefield University. Mrs. Povar further discussed the project's scope of work, budget, timeline, and deliverables.

B. Mid-Atlantic Broadband Communities Corporation (MBC) Open Access Middle Mile Fiber Expansion Project -The project is a Statewide Competitive Project being undertaken by MBC, which will construct sixty-seven (67) miles of new open access, middle-mile fiber-optic broadband infrastructure to support critical economic development projects within GO Virginia Regions 3 and 4 and provide redundancy to MBC's existing network for increased reliability. The Region 3 localities to benefit from the project include Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward Counties. The Region 4 localities to benefit from the project include Dinwiddie, Greensville, and Prince George Counties and the City of Petersburg. A significant element of this project is using funding made available by the US Economic Development Administration's (EDA) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) appropriation. Details from a white paper prepared by MBC's CEO/President, Tad Deriso, outlining the project, budget, and economic development assets to be served by the project when completed was reviewed.

12. GO Virginia Region 3 2022 All Hands Meeting Status Report

Planning for the 2022 All Hands Meeting has progressed among Region 3 staff and Letterpress Communications. Tentatively, the meeting will be held March 31, 2022, with The Prizery again serving as the venue. Letterpress Communications will be engaged for event support, promotion, social media content and distribution, and “evergreen” video content; efforts will be made to identify and target emerging leaders from Region 3 to attend; staff is working to identify presenters and develop the budget. The event plans will be presented to the Region 3 Council at the January 19th meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURN

There being no additional business matters to go before the GO Virginia Region 3 Executive Committee, Chair Lail adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Deborah Gosney

[Deborah Gosney \(Mar 21, 2022 14:29 EDT\)](#)

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

Ernest R. Lail

[Ernest R. Lail \(Mar 21, 2022 13:38 PDT\)](#)

Ernest “Randy” Lail
Chair